

Scott.A.Milkey

From: Seigel, Jane <jane.seigel@courts.IN.gov>
Sent: Monday, June 29, 2015 12:12 PM
To: Alderete, Hilary; Bauer, Jenny; Brady, Linda; Cunningham, Chris; Goodman, Michelle; Heath, Dave; Hill, John (GOV); Hudson, Mary Kay; Karns, Allison; Kerl, Christine; Kidwell, Jenny; Koester, Randy; Landis, Larry (llandis@██████████); Lanham, Julie (COA); Lemmon, Bruce; Luce, Steve; McCaffey, Steve; McDonald, Devon; Moore, Kevin B; Powell, David N; Reynolds, David; Seigel, Jane; Sobecki, Ron; Watson, William
Subject: Justice Reinvestment Advisory Council Reminder - July 1, 2015

This is a reminder that the Justice Reinvestment Advisory Council will be meeting on Wednesday, July 1, 2015 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at 30 South Meridian St., on the 8th floor in Room 803. If you have not indicated whether or not you will be at the meeting, please let Jenny Kidwell know by responding to the following the link: <https://ijc.wufoo.com/forms/2015-jrac-meeting-july-1/>

I also want to remind you to give your feedback/comments about the DOC Grant Application instructions and the actual Grant Amendment Application to Julie Lanham at ilanham@idoc.in.gov as soon as possible—preferably today.

I am still in the process of developing the agenda but would ask that you bring your copy of HEA 1006 with you so that in addition to reviewing the DOC grant application process, we can also include in our time together a discussion about areas for policy development (i.e. we already determined that a definition of recidivism will be necessary); educational opportunities—for the Council and for other criminal justice stakeholders; and evaluation issues.

Once again, thank you for your time— I look forward to seeing you on Wednesday.

Jane A. Seigel
Executive Director
Indiana Judicial Center

Scott.A.Milkey

From: Duwve, Joan Marie <jduwve@iu.edu>
Sent: Friday, June 26, 2015 4:40 PM
To: Hill, John (GOV);Karns, Allison
Cc: Davis, Bridget M (GOV);Miller, Eric A;Adams, Jerome
Subject: ISDH Plan
Attachments: ISDH PLAN FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION AND RESPONSE ACTIVITIES
0626.docx

Hi, John and Allison,

I've attached our plan for Indiana, per your request. Please let me know if there is anything you would like me to explain further, or if you have ideas for additions to the plan.

All the best,
Joan

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Scott.A.Milkey

From: Schilb, Veronica J
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2015 3:18 PM
To: Pavlik, Jennifer L;Norton, Erin (Ladd);Brookes, Brady;McGrath, Danielle;Schlake, Josh;Cleveland, Bridget;Triol, Shelley;Lloyd, Matthew;Brown, Hannah;Hodgin, Stephanie;Brooks, Kara D;Crabtree, Chris
Subject: June 18th Bill Signing Guests

Hi everyone,

Below are the guests lists for the four ceremonial bill signings tomorrow. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks!

Veronica

SEA 94—Statute of limitations for rape (Crider)

- Randy Ewing (husband)
- Kathy Wendt (mother)
- Amanda Seats (friend who met him)
- Brent Eaton (friend)
- Katie Molinder (friend)
- Ruth Padawer (NY Times journalist)
- Bill & Lorraine Ewing (Randy's parents)

SEA 380—Crisis Intervention Teams (Stoops)

- Stephen McCaffrey, Mental Health America
- Matt Brooks, Indiana Council of Community Mental Health Centers
- Joshua Sprunger, NAMI
- Marianne Halbert, NAMI
- Marilyn Berry-Stamm, Nurse Family Partnership
- Barbara Thompson, NAMI
- Anthony Maze, FWPD
- Kimble Richardson, social worker
- Stephanie Quiring, social worker

HEA 1435—Alcoholic Beverage Prizes/Charity Auction Sales (Olthoff)

- Roger Frick, President of Indiana Association of United Ways
- Sue Reed, President of the Crossroads Regional Chamber of Commerce
- Karren Lee, Representing Nazareth Home, President of the Miller Beach Arts and Creative District
- Ana Grandfield: Non-profit Board of Trustees member of: Merrillville Rotary Club Charities, Inc., Lake County Public Library Foundation, Diocese of Gary Finance Council Board, and the Lakeshore Public Media Board
- Cheryl Davis, Calumet College of St. Joseph

HEA 1080—EMS Provider Death Benefit (Macer)

- Tom Hanify---Indiana Professional Firefighters Union
- Ryan Ballard---Wayne Township EMS
- Shane Hardwick---Wayne Township EMS
- Mike Thralls---Lifeline Critical Care Transport

- Nick Ball---Indianapolis EMS
- Jason Rogers---Delaware County EMS
- Jack Halloran---IHDC Policy Director

Veronica Schilb

Assistant Legislative Director
Office of Governor Mike Pence
317-232-4566

Scott.A.Milkey

From: Hill, John (GOV)
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2015 3:04 PM
To: Karns, Allison
Subject: FW: Updates and Request for Volunteers to Share Innovative State Practices

I think you are doing these calls. I was on a call this morning and updated the public safety directors (28 on the call) about Vivitrol. Just wanted you to know that NGA heard what we are already doing in this area.
John

From: McLeod, Jeffrey [mailto:JMcLeod@NGA.ORG]
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2015 2:59 PM
To: McLeod, Jeffrey
Subject: Updates and Request for Volunteers to Share Innovative State Practices

Governors Criminal Justice Policy Advisors,

During our monthly conference call next week on Thursday, June 25, I'd like to give you all the opportunity to highlight state activities that you think are particularly promising. I'm hoping three or four of you will volunteer to share new initiatives, innovative programs, or lessons learned that the rest of the group would be interested to learn about. Please let me know if you would like to contribute.

Also, I want to let you know that sometime in the next two weeks we will be holding a joint conference call for governors criminal justice policy advisors, homeland security advisors, and state public safety executives to examine civil unrest in Missouri, Maryland, and other states. We will follow up with more information, but wanted to get this on your radar.

Last, as many of you know, Thomas MacLellan recently left NGA after 16 years with the organization, and I'm happy to let you know that I'll be taking over his responsibilities as director of the Homeland Security & Public Safety Division. I look forward to working with you in my new capacity.

Thanks.

Jeff

Jeffrey S. McLeod
Director
Homeland Security & Public Safety Division
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Scott.A.Milkey

From: Gilson, Katie
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2015 8:30 AM
To: Ahearn, Mark;Anderson, Christopher M;Atkins, Chris;Atterholt, Jim;Bailey, Brian (OMB);Bauer, Zachary C;Berry, Adam (GOV);Betley, James;Bradford, Cale A;Brookes, Brady;Brooks, Kara D;Brown, Hannah;Bullock, Meredith;Cleveland, Bridget;Crabtree, Chris;Craig, Lindsey M;Czarniecki, Cary (Lani);Davis, Bridget M (GOV);Espich, Jeff;Evans, Benjamin P (GOV);Fernandez, Marilyn;Ferrell, Curtis L (GOV);Fritz, Pam (GOV);Froedge, Michael;GOV Communications;Hill, John (GOV);Hines, Adam;Hodgin, Stephanie;Jarmula, Ryan L;Johnson, David;Johnson, Matt (GOV);Joyner Burroughs (Cissel), Jackie;Kane, Kristen;Karns, Allison;Keefer, Sean (GOV);King, Michael C;Lloyd, Matthew;Mantravadi, Adarsh V;Marshall, Sara (Cardwell);McGrath, Danielle;Morales, Cesar (Diego);Neal, Michael;Neale, Brian S;Norton, Erin (Ladd);Pavlik, Jennifer L;Pitcock, Josh;Price, Kendra;Quyle, Lindsay;Reed, Katie;Roorbach, David;Rusthoven, Mark;Schilb, Veronica J;Schlake, Josh;Schmidt, Daniel W;Timmerman, Chad E (GOV);Triol, Shelley;Vincent, Micah;Wainwright, Jonah;Wall, Kathryn E;Whitaker, Steve;Hauer, Ian;Dowd, Jaclyn (DWD);Rosebrough, Dennis (LG);Bussis, Eric J (SBA);Fox, Joseph R (ISDH);Heater, Ryan;Gilson, Katie
Subject: RE: [Gov Clips] Howey
Attachments: 6-17-15 HPI Daily.pdf

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June 17, 2015 HPI Daily Wire sponsored by Associated Builders & Contractors

Wednesday, June 17, 2015 7:57 AM

BUTTIGIEG'S COMING OUT CREATES BUZZ, ELICITS SUPPORT: Mayor Pete Buttigieg's announcement Tuesday that he is gay drew a quick and largely positive response in local, statewide and even national political circles (Blasko, *South Bend Tribune*). It also positioned the first-term Democrat as the first openly gay executive in the state, and the highest elected official in Indiana to come out. "From my perspective ... Pete is the same exact guy today as he was yesterday," Jason Critchlow, chair of the St. Joseph County Democratic Party, said. "We supported him yesterday and we support him today." "I sent the mayor a note saying I'm in support of him," Common Council President Tim Scott, D-District 1, said. "I'm glad he's able to be who he is, and to me it doesn't affect the city or change the fact that we have work to do in the city." Both men described Buttigieg's decision to come out as "courageous" in light of still-evolving views on homosexuality. "Unfortunately, in this overcomplicated world, there can be ramifications for that," Scott said. "Unfortunately, there are some people that might think of it as a negative." Council member Derek Dieter, D-at large, said he felt the announcement would not impact council's ability to work with the mayor. Though he applauded the decision, he questioned the timing. "Why did this come out now," he said. "We need to answer that." A recent poll showed support for same-sex marriage in Indiana at 47 percent, compared with about 57 percent nationwide. Despite personal objections to homosexuality, Kelly Jones, the mayor's Republican opponent, applauded him. "Good for him for having the bits to come out of the closet, because not everyone is willing to come out," Jones said. Jones said her personal view on homosexuality is that it is a sin, "but ... I have several family members and friends that are gay and I could personally care less about their sexuality." In a joint statement, Indiana House Democratic leader Scott Pelath and Senate Democratic leader Tim Lanane described the mayor's announcement as "one more step in breaking down the terrible barriers that have needlessly divided so many of us for far too long." "We are proud to stand with Mayor Buttigieg today and forever," the pair said. "Change is coming, and it's about time." University of Notre Dame President the Rev. John Jenkins said in a statement Tuesday he is "grateful to Mayor Buttigieg for his admirably honest, thoughtful and very personal statement," according to The Associated Press. Jenkins said he endorses Buttigieg's call "that we find a way to address difficult and often divisive issues together and without acrimony." Mike Pence, who supported the law in its original form, could not be reached for comment on the issue Tuesday. His press secretary did not return a call and email from The Tribune. County Republican Party Chair Roy Saenz, in a statement, said only, "It is important that our elected officials work toward accountability, fiscal responsibility and government transparency."

MADISON CO. DECLARES HEP C EMERGENCY: A public health emergency has been declared in Madison County because of a sharp increase in the number of Hepatitis C cases being reported in the county (de la Bastide, *Anderson Herald Bulletin*). At the request of the Madison County Health Department, the Madison County Board of Commissioners on Tuesday approved a resolution for a declaration of the emergency. The resolution says a needle exchange program is the appropriate medical response to the Hepatitis C epidemic. As a result, the commissioners also approved submission of an application with the Indiana Department of Health to start such a program for intravenous drug users, similar to the program operating in Scott County in southern Indiana. The proposed budget for the needle exchange program for the remainder of the year is \$13,000, with funding provided by the county health department. "We're seeing a consistent increase in the reported Hepatitis C cases," said Kellie Kelley, public information officer for the health department. "We're confident that Madison County is in need of an innovative program." In 2013, there were 70 new cases of Hepatitis C identified in Madison County. That number increased to 130 in 2014. "So far this year we're looking at new cases of 130 or higher," Kelley said. Kelley said Madison County ranks third highest in the state for prescription drug overdoses, behind only Scott and Starke counties... Kelley said the long-range goal for the health department is to establish a one-stop referral program to offer services for HIV, Hepatitis C and the state health insurance program and substance abuse treatment.

COUNTIES COMPETE FOR REGIONAL CITIES MONIES: Indiana Counties have a big decision to make (Peterson, *WNDU-TV*). All across the state counties are forming coalitions like the one that saw St. Joseph, Elkhart, and Marshall Counties join forces. The county coalitions are forming Regional Development Authorities in order to compete for a grand prize grant of \$42 million from the State of Indiana. The Regional Cities Initiative is designed to transform the winning communities. "This is a huge opportunity that \$42 million is a 20 percent co-investment into larger portfolio projects which is actually a \$210 million investment right here in the region," said Regina Emberton, President of Michiana Partnership. The Regional Cities Initiative will offer two grand prizes of \$42 million. The money will fund a variety of economic development or quality of life projects designed to produce a population boom. "And this could be anything from entrepreneurial programs that are done, trails, infrastructure, it could be the South Shore connection to Chicago, enhancing that, the frequency of those trains and our connectivity through a 90 minute ride to Chicago," said Emberton. "The Metro Net and creating dark fiber connectivity throughout Elkhart and St. Joseph County as well as further in Marshall." Meantime, a coalition centered around Fort Wayne has a total of 11 member counties, including Kosciusco and LaGrange. It is the largest in the state, although Spokesman John Sampson said it wasn't designed to show "muscle."

REPUBLICANS FRET OBAMACARE REPEAL FALLOUT: Republicans who have been hoping that the Supreme Court will upend President Obama's health care law are now confronting an urgent and uncomfortable question: What if they win? Republicans in Congress would face an enormously complicated challenge to fashion an alternative, and they fear the fallout could lead to election losses if millions of Americans abruptly found themselves without health insurance (*New York Times*). If the court voids a federal rule allowing subsidies in states that use the federal insurance marketplace, many Republicans said, they would support a temporary continuation of subsidies for people with low or moderate incomes. "Our goal is to protect people, not the law," said Senator John Barrasso, Republican of Wyoming, who has been charged by his party with devising a possible legislative response to the court decision expected by the end of this month. Democrats denounced the proposals, saying they would increase the number of uninsured and drive up premiums. But Republicans said a full-scale replacement for the health law would not be their immediate objective. "This is not a long-term solution," Mr. Barrasso said. "We want to provide a temporary transition while this is relitigated in the 2016 elections — and give the new president time to come in and bring a new solution forward." Republicans mocked Mr. Obama for breaking his promise that "if you like your health care plan, you can keep it." Now Republicans fear that they will be blamed if people lose insurance because the Supreme Court rules for plaintiffs in the pending case, *King v. Burwell*. "Doing nothing is not an option," said Senator Bill Cassidy, Republican of Louisiana, who last week introduced a bill that would provide money to help people buy insurance with much less federal regulation. "We cannot sit idly by as millions of Americans lose their health insurance."

TRUMP BLASTS MEXICANS: Donald Trump dropped a verbal bomb on Mexico — don't send us your rapists, your druggies, your huddled losers yearning for a free ride in America (*New York Daily News*). "I will build a great, great wall on our southern border and I will make Mexico pay for that wall," Trump said Tuesday as he declared himself a Republican candidate for president. Trump said the Mexicans who have made their way el norte don't measure up to his standards. "When Mexico sends its people, they're not sending their best, they're sending people that have lots of problems," he said. "They're bringing drugs, they're bringing crime. They're rapists." A spokesman for the Mexican government said they would not comment on Trump's remarks. But Mexicans in New York City — both immigrant and U.S. born — had plenty to say. "It's like stand-up comedy when Donald Trump tries to talk about foreign policy and immigration," said Staten Islander Cesar Vargas, 31, who emigrated from Mexico as a child and is a lawyer. "Who is taking him seriously? I highly doubt anyone is."

DOE REPORT FINDS VOUCHER PROGRAM COSTS STATE \$40M: Indiana's school voucher program cost the state \$40 million in 2014-15, according to a report out today from the state Department of Education (Weddle, *WFYI*). The cost is a 153 percent increase from last year's report which found for the first time the program did not generate a savings. In the just completed school year 29,148 students received vouchers to attend 314 private schools worth \$115.9 million in state aid. Indiana's Choice Scholarship is considered to be the most expansive in the country due to its wide eligibility requirements. This is could be the last time the state department releases this report, since the new two-year budget no longer requires it. The controversial program has become the second largest school voucher program in the country in just four years. It allows a portion of the state funding that a public school receives when a student enrolls, instead be redirected towards tuition at a private school the student chooses to attend. Families must meet income and other eligibility requirements to qualify for a voucher. When the program began, many expected it to create an annual savings. Since vouchers are worth between 50 percent and 90 percent of the basic tuition support that a school district receives for each student, the expectation was the state would save money when only a portion of that money was given to a private school.

MILITARY SEXUAL ASSAULT BILL FAILS: New York Democratic Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand's proposed sexual-assault reform bill fell short of 60 votes necessary to move ahead in the U.S. Senate on Tuesday afternoon, with only 49 senators voting in support of the bill (*CNN*). The measure would establish an independent justice system to prosecute rape crimes in the military. Gillibrand has long been recognized as an advocate for legislation to remove responsibility for prosecuting sex crimes from the military chain of command and have them handled by an independent body. "American military, if they do these reforms, will have fewer dangerous criminals and far more heroes ... The brave men and women we send to war to keep us safe deserve nothing less than a justice system equal to their sacrifice " Gillibrand told *The Military Times* before Tuesday's vote. Military authorities objected to this proposal, asserting it would undermine their overall authority. President Barack Obama also sided against the measure.

HPI DAILY ANALYSIS: Donald Trump's entry into the Republican presidential field is an odious development. It takes a clown show into the freak show realm. His rant against Mexicans was one of the most intolerant assaults on a people we've witnessed in modern political times. - *Brian A. Howey*

TRUMP ENTERS GOP CIRCUS: Donald J. Trump, the garrulous real estate developer whose name has adorned apartment buildings, hotels, Trump-brand neckties and Trump-brand steaks, announced on Tuesday his entry into the 2016 presidential race, brandishing his wealth and fame as chief qualifications in an improbable quest for the Republican nomination (*New York Times*). Mr. Trump declared his candidacy in the atrium of the Trump Tower, the luxury skyscraper on Fifth Avenue in New York City, proclaiming that only someone “really rich” — like himself — could restore American economic primacy. “We need somebody that can take the brand of the United States and make it great again,” he said, repeatedly assailing China and Mexico as economic competitors, and pledging to be “the greatest jobs president that God ever created.”

NEIL YOUNG DENOUNCES TRUMP: Neil Young is not pleased with The Donald. Before his quixotic speech declaring his campaign for the 2016 Republican presidential nomination, Donald Trump entered the lobby of his Trump Tower office building in Manhattan Tuesday to Young’s “Rockin’ in the Free World.” Apparently, the nascent Trump campaign didn’t follow proper legal procedures (*Politico*). Elliot Roberts, Young’s longtime manager, told Mother Jones in a statement that Trump’s use of the song was not cleared by the artist. “Donald Trump’s use of ‘Rockin’ in the Free World’ was not authorized,” Roberts said, adding for good measure, “Mr. Young is a longtime supporter of Bernie Sanders.” The song was an odd choice for a Republican campaign. Released in 1989, Young’s lyrics touch on downtrodden and impoverished Americans disaffected after the election of Ronald Reagan’s vice president, George H.W. Bush, to the presidency in 1988. “We got a thousand points of light, for the homeless man,” Young sings, parodying Bush’s famous saying. “We got a kinder, gentler, machine gun hand. We got department stores and toilet paper, styrofoam boxes for the ozone layer.”

SWING STATE POLLS GOOD FOR RUBIO: Florida Sen. Marco Rubio appears to be giving Hillary Clinton the best competition among Republican presidential contenders in his home state and in Pennsylvania, in the latest Quinnipiac University poll of swing states released Wednesday (*Politico*). In a set of hypothetical 2016 matchups, Rubio draws closest to overtaking Clinton in two of the three states, including Florida and Pennsylvania. In Ohio, Gov. John Kasich prevails in a head-to-head matchup. By a count of 47 percent to 44 percent, Sunshine State voters said that they would support Clinton over Rubio in a hypothetical presidential matchup. Just 42 percent backed Jeb Bush, compared with 46 percent for Clinton in that hypothetical matchup, with both responses within the margin of error. By varying margins, voters in Florida, Ohio and

Pennsylvania back Clinton over Bush, New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee, Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker and Texas Sen. Ted Cruz. The worst news for Clinton in this poll comes from Ohio, where she trailed Kasich 47 percent to 40 percent and split with Kentucky Sen. Rand Paul, at 43 percent each. Clinton also grabbed 42 percent, compared with Bush's 41 percent, well within the margin of error.

JEB KNOCKS THE POPE: A day after pledging to run, and run hard, in every state, Jeb Bush started off with the relatively easy road through New Hampshire on Tuesday (Politico). He signed a potato, loosened up in front of a generally receptive town hall, and did a sit-down interview with Fox News Channel's Sean Hannity in which he played a word-association game about the other candidates (Marco Rubio: "good friend"; Donald Trump: "rich guy"; Ted Cruz: "very smart, fiery.") He also made some news, suggesting Pope Francis' call for a global effort to combat policy change risks politicizing religion. "I hope I'm not going to get castigated for saying this by my priest back home, but I don't get economic policy from my bishops or my cardinals or my pope," said Bush, a devout Catholic. He added that he wanted to see exactly what the pope recommended "before I pass judgment, but I think religion ought to be about making us better as people, less about things [that] end up getting into the political realm."

CLINTON PROPOSES APPRENTICESHIPS: As the millennial generation struggles to find jobs, Hillary Clinton is clearly targeting their vote Wednesday by outlining what she'd do to fight youth unemployment (*CNN*). The presidential candidate will use a forum at Trident Technical College in North Charleston to announce a plan that would use tax credits to incentivize businesses to hire apprentices. The plan would offer business a \$1,500 credit for every apprentice they hire, aides said, and that the program would hold business accountable for their apprenticeship program. The apprenticeships would be registered with either a federal or state program that would ensure standards were met.



REPUBLICANS PLOT TPA STRATEGY: House GOP leaders seeking to rebound after a surprise floor defeat on trade are zeroing in on a new strategy to grant President Obama fast-track authority (*The Hill*). The plan is to vote as soon as this week on the fast-track bill approved by the House on Friday but to leave aside a second part of the original package that was torpedoed by House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) and other Democrats. Decoupling fast-track from a separate program granting aid to workers displaced by trade would put pressure on the Senate to pass the legislation, a top priority for Obama that would allow him to complete negotiations on a sweeping trans-Pacific trade deal. If the House is successful, it will be up to Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) to get the bill through the upper chamber. McConnell, Obama and Speaker John Boehner (R-Ohio) have been discussing their options this week, and McConnell on Tuesday expressed optimism that fast-track, also known as trade promotion authority (TPA), will become law. "The Speaker and I have spoken with the president about the way forward on trade," McConnell told reporters. "It's still my hope that we can achieve what we've set out to achieve together, which is to get a six-year trade promotion authority bill in place that will advantage the next occupant of the White House as well as this one."

BENGAZI PANEL, BROOKS LOOKING INTO LONGTIME CLINTON AIDE: House Republicans probing the 2012 Benghazi attacks are turning their attention to a figure from Hillary Clinton's past as the Democratic frontrunner tries to sell voters on her ideas about the future (*National Journal*). On Tuesday, the GOP-led Select Committee on Benghazi will hold a closed-door, hours-long deposition of Sidney Blumenthal that will focus on the longtime Clinton family ally's email exchanges with Clinton about Libya while she was secretary of State...On the eve of the deposition, the Benghazi panel's GOP Chairman Trey Gowdy said that Blumenthal had provided the committee with about 120 new pages of his emails with Clinton. The messages were not included in the Clinton-Blumenthal emails that the State Department had already provided to the committee months ago, he said.

PRO-TRADE GROUP THANKS DELEGATION ON TPA 'YES' VOTES: David Thomas, President of the Trade Benefits America Coalition, released the following statement thanking U.S. Reps. Susan Brooks, Larry Bucshon, M.D., Luke Messer, Todd Rokita, Marlin Stutzman, Jackie Walorski, and Todd Young for voting in favor of bipartisan Trade Promotion Authority legislation (*Howey Politics Indiana*): "Reps. Brooks, Bucshon, Messer, Rokita, Stutzman, Walorski, and Young took a stand for Indiana job creators,

farmers, and workers by voting for bipartisan Trade Promotion Authority legislation. This legislation is critical for the United States to complete strong and enforceable trade deals that enable U.S. businesses and workers to compete in a global economy. We commend these Representatives for taking action that will help support economic opportunities for their constituents and communities."

General Assembly

INDUSTRY WANTS SUMMER STUDY TO EXPAND CO-GENERATION

PLANTS:Indiana Industrial Energy Consumers Inc., a consortium of more than two dozen companies, is pointing out Indiana electric rates have gone from being the 5th lowest in the nation in 2003 to the 26th lowest in 2014, according to data from the U.S. Energy Information Agency (Benman, *NWI Times*)...The consortium of large industrial customers will start by lobbying a joint Indiana Senate/House committee this summer on energy matters to expand opportunities for co-generation plants at their facilities, Terry said in a Tuesday briefing. Those plants produce both heat and electricity. They are generally seen as an environmentally friendly alternative to coal fired plants. But the companies also are discussing the possibility of much broader reforms that could increase competition in the marketplace for both industrial and residential customers.

INDIANA LATEST OF 38 STATES PENALIZING LEFT-LANE DRIVING: Clueless drivers across the country are getting pulled over -- not for speeding, but for going too slow in the passing lane, reports CBS News correspondent Adriana Diaz (*CBS News*). Indiana is the latest state to begin penalizing drivers for holding up traffic in the left lane. When its new law begins next month, drivers could get tickets for as much as \$500... At least 38 states have laws in place to fine for lingering in the left lane. In five states, fines can reach \$1000 and 22 states classify the violation as a misdemeanor.

SAWED-OFF SHOTGUNS SET TO BECOME LEGAL JULY 1st: It will soon be legal to manufacture, sell or own a short-barreled shotgun, sometimes called a sawed-off shotgun, in Indiana (Medsker, *WPTA-TV*). According to RTV6, the General Assembly approved a bill earlier this year to bring state law in line with federal regulations. According to State Sen. Jim Tomes (R-49), the law puts short-barreled shotguns, or those less than 18 inches in length, back into a category of firearms that require background checks and permits from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. Also associated with the law is a 10-year sentence enhancement for possessing a sawed-off shotgun while committing certain offenses. "You can saw off

the barrel but you'll spend 10 years in a federal penitentiary doing that. These guns are manufactured by licensed manufacturers and they're under heavy regulations," Tomes said. Between 2012 and 2014, one person was convicted and sentenced to prison in Indiana for possessing a sawed-off shotgun.



State

GOVERNOR: INDIANA DHS FOUNDATION AWARDS GRANTS - The Indiana Homeland Security Foundation has approved more than \$370,000 in grants to aid local public safety agencies statewide (*Howey Politics Indiana*). "On a fundamental level, these grants have the potential to change how public safety agencies go about their day-to-day operations," said Governor Mike Pence. "I'm proud to have a program in this state that helps to better equip the brave men and women who continue to work every day for our safety." Awards were given to 101 recipients in 61 counties. Recipients include local fire departments, emergency medical services, law enforcement and emergency management agencies in all 10 IDHS Districts. The focus of the foundation is to support the future of public safety and to provide grant funding to local agencies for critical needs across Indiana. Grants provide up to \$4,000.

GOVERNOR: PENCE'S SCHEDULE - 2:15 p.m. – Governor Mike Pence will visit the RV/MH Hall of Fame in Elkhart County, where he will ceremonially sign SEA 197, which allows an individual without a commercial driver's license (CDL) to transport an RV or towing vehicle to the dealership for sale. RV/MH Hall of Fame, 21565 Executive Parkway, Elkhart.

LT. GOVERNOR: ELLSPERMANN DESIGNATES WOLCOTT AS 'SHOVEL READY' - Lt. Governor Sue Ellspermann and local officials and representatives from the Indiana

Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA) announced the designation of the Mid-America Commerce Park as Indiana Shovel Ready Gold (*Howey Politics Indiana*). "In order for Indiana to move forward, communities like Wolcott, which are committed to developing community and economic advancement opportunities through a lot of planning, collaboration and hard work, are needed," Ellspermann said. "I look forward to seeing the job growth that will continue to take place in Wolcott's Mid-America Commerce Park as well as around White County and encourage new businesses coming to Indiana to consider growing their companies in and with this community." A site is declared "Shovel Ready" upon filling out an application and determining if the site has a base level of defined boundaries with a clear title, an established price, demonstration of executive level local government support, defined utility capacity, and provided documentation such as Phase I environmental assessment, ALTA survey, and wetland delineation.

STATEHOUSE: ZOELLER CALLING UPON FDA TO ACT ON E-CIGS - Indiana Attorney General Greg Zoeller is calling on the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to act on its proposal to add e-cigarettes to the Tobacco Control Act, enabling the agency to regulate these nicotine products similarly to other tobacco products and curb youth access to e-cigarettes (*Howey Politics Indiana*). The FDA proposed the regulation change over a year ago and the public comment period closed August 2014 with no subsequent action from the FDA. As it stands, e-cigarettes remain outside the FDA's authority to protect public health. While the FDA has refused to act, Zoeller said, youth use of e-cigarettes has skyrocketed and so have the public health concerns associated with these products "It's hard to believe we are willing to sit back and watch our children develop addictive smoking habits, after we've fought so hard to reduce youth smoking and tobacco use in America," Zoeller said.

STATEHOUSE: LAWSON TO SPEAK AT JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT - Indiana Secretary of State Connie Lawson is helping kids learn how to run their own business at Junior Achievement's BizTown Summer Camp on Wednesday, June 17 at 9:30 a.m. (*Howey Politics Indiana*). All week, students have been learning how to start and run their own business. On Wednesday, Secretary Lawson will speak with the students about the importance of financial literacy and how to register a business with the Secretary of State's office.

TRANSPORTATION: WORK BEGINS ON \$82M EXPANSION OF I-65 - Crews will begin working on the \$82 million expansion project on I-65 through Tippecanoe County (Kruczek, *WNDU-TV*). INDOT spokeswoman Debbie Calder says from the Wabash River

bridge to State Road 26 traffic will be down to one lane in the southbound direction. INDOT workers will begin construction on the outside shoulder...The entire I-65 expansion project is expected to be complete by November 2017.=

TRANSPORTATION: FED JUDGE RULES APPROVAL FOR ILLIANA INVALID - A U.S. District Court judge on Tuesday dealt what could be the fatal blow to the proposed Illiana toll road, ruling that the federal government's approval of the controversial project was invalid (Wronski, *Post-Tribune*). The Federal Highway Administration's 2013 endorsement of the bistate project was "arbitrary and capricious," and in violation of U.S. environmental law, according to the decision handed down by federal Judge Jorge Alonso. The purpose and need for the Illiana as outlined in the project's environmental impact statement are the result of a "faulty" analysis, the judge said, and thus the highway administration's decision to greenlight the project is invalid. The ruling could sound the final death knell for the proposed 50-mile toll road through Will County. The \$1.3 billion highway was intended to connect Interstate 55 near Wilmington with I-65 near Lowell, Ind.

ENERGY: INDUSTRY SAYS ELECTRICITY RATES HURT - Indiana's largest manufacturing companies are preparing to make the case for changes in the way Indiana regulates electric utility rates, which they say could restore the state's economic competitiveness (Benman, *NWI Times*). Indiana Industrial Energy Consumers Inc., a consortium of more than two dozen companies, is pointing out Indiana electric rates have gone from being the 5th lowest in the nation in 2003 to the 26th lowest in 2014, according to data from the U.S. Energy Information Agency. "We've lost that really nice economic competitiveness advantage we use to have," said Jennifer Wheeler Terry, legislative liaison for Indiana Industrial Energy Consumers. Perhaps even more alarming, neighboring states like Illinois and Ohio that once had higher average industrial electric rates than Indiana now have lower average rates, Terry said. Manufacturing companies included in the consortium with operations locally include Alcoa, ArcelorMittal, BP, Marathon Petroleum, Praxair and U.S. Gypsum. Companies with operations elsewhere include automakers Chrysler, Honda and Toyota; steelmaker NLMK; pharmaceutical company Eli Lilly; and jet-engine builder Rolls-Royce.

UTILITIES: FCC DEAL SHOULD BRING BROADBAND TO 66K RURAL HOOSIERS - Nearly 60,000 homes and businesses in rural Indiana should get better access to broadband under a deal announced by the Federal Communications Commission (*Associated Press*). The FCC says Frontier Communications Corp. has accepted \$22.8 million from the Connect America Fund to expand and support

broadband to Indiana customers. FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler called the program a step forward in efforts to ensure all Americans have access to modern broadband... Indiana counties receiving the most support for homes and businesses are Harrison, Franklin and Gibson with about 3,000 each.

Nation

WHITE HOUSE: PROGRESS AGAINST AL-QAEDA - Today's confirmation that the U.S. has killed Al Qaeda's second-in-command allowed the White House to declare a "major blow" against the group — a rare piece of good news about terrorism at a time when the Islamic State remains a potent threat. Al Qaeda has suffered several recent setbacks, experts and U.S. officials say, leaving the group founded by Osama bin Laden in a weakened state. "The U.S. government is in the business of killing terrorists — and this week, business is good," one defense official told POLITICO.

WATER: NASA SAYS AQUIFERS ARE BEING DEPLETED - The world's largest underground aquifers — a source of fresh water for hundreds of millions of people — are being depleted at alarming rates, according to new NASA satellite data that provides the most detailed picture yet of vital water reserves hidden under the Earth's surface (Washington Post). Twenty-one of the world's 37 largest aquifers — in locations from India and China to the United States and France — have passed their sustainability tipping points, meaning more water was removed than replaced during the decade-long study period, researchers announced Tuesday. Thirteen aquifers declined at rates that put them into the most troubled category. California's Central Valley Aquifer was the most troubled in the United States. It is being drained to irrigate farm fields, where drought has led to an explosion in the number of water wells being drilled. California only last year passed its first extensive groundwater regulations. But the new law could take two decades to take full effect. Also running a negative balance was the Atlantic and Gulf Coastal Plains Aquifer, which stretches across the southeast coast and Florida. But three other aquifers in the middle of the country appeared to be in relatively good shape.

ENVIRONMENT: 2015 GLOBAL TEMPERATURES BREAKING RECORDS - Just today, NASA released its global temperature data for the month of May 2015. It was a scorching 0.71°C (1.3°F) above the long-term average (*The Guardian*). It is also the hottest first five months of any year ever recorded. As we look at climate patterns over the next year or so, it is likely that this year will set a new all-time record. In fact, as of

now, 2015 is a whopping 0.1°C (0.17°F) hotter than last year, which itself was the hottest year on record.



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Local

CITIES: ROCKVILLE COUNCIL EYES FOOD-BEV TAX - The town council might adopt a one percent food and beverage tax (Schaefer, *WTHI-TV*). Council President Steven Waltz says funding issues leave them without much choice. "At the current level of funding without the tax it would take us over 100 years to repave the streets in town. With the food and beverage tax we could probably get the streets repaved within 30 years," Waltz said. So what exactly is a one percent food and beverage tax and how does it work? Well if you go to the local grocery and buy a loaf of bread the tax doesn't apply. But if you go to their deli and buy a sandwich it does. So if this sandwich is a dollar you pay a penny to the tax. Waltz says the tourist town doesn't tax their visitors in other typical ways and the only other options are cutting police and fire funding. Woods says tourists are not the majority of his business or even half. "There's such a drop in tourism in the wintertime that overall throughout the whole year's average 60 percent, at least 60 percent, of the tax for my establishment will be paid for by local dollars by local people," he said...The council can't take a vote until July 1st. The earliest the town could adopt it would be September.

CITIES: LAFAYETTE FOOD PANTRY OVERWHELMED BY DEMAND - Four times a week at least 100 people line up at Lafayette Transitional Housing to get help from its food pantry (Roberts, *WLF1-TV*). However, most of those people aren't Transitional Housing's usual clients. Since the organization expanded its hours this month to meet the need of the closing Mental Health America's Day Shelter, the office is overwhelmed with people. "It's been expanding at a rate that is astronomical," Lafayette Transitional Housing director Jennifer Layton said. She said next summer the food pantry, which is the largest in a 16-county area, will move to Food Finders Food Bank's new location on

Greenbush Street. However, Layton doesn't know how she can accommodate everyone in her office for another 365 days.

CITIES: LAFAYETTE GETS \$146K FED HOMELESS GRANT - A \$146,000 federal grant is helping the homeless get off the streets in the Lafayette area (Long, *WLFI-TV*). The Lafayette Board of Works and Safety approved a contract renewal for the Shelter Plus Care Program. Shelter Plus Care helps homeless people with mental illness, HIV and substance abuse problems. The program provides those in need with a permanent residence to make it easier for them to get the treatment and resources needed.

CITIES: ELKHART AEROSPACE FIRM PLANS TO ADD 121 JOBS - Kessington Machine Products was granted a seven-year tax abatement from the Elkhart Common Council to aid in a new expansion (*South Bend Tribune*). The company, which produces airplane parts, is investing \$17.2 million to increase productivity, according to the company. With the expansion will come the creation of 121 jobs through 2017 at its Elkhart County Road 6 location. Kessington will save a little more than \$754,000 with the tax abatement.

CITIES: TWO TEENAGE GRANGER BROTHERS DIE OF DRUG OVERDOSE - St. Joseph County authorities say two brothers from northern Indiana died Sunday morning of apparent drug overdoses after attending a party near their home in Granger (Wierks, *WXIN-TV*). The two men have been identified as Nick Savage, 19, and Jack Savage, 18. Officers were called to the brothers' home at 11:30 a.m. Sunday, June 14. Both Nick and Jack were unresponsive and declared dead at the scene. Police believe the men took a lethal combination of prescription drugs, but toxicology results still are pending. According to WSBT, two other men at the same party appeared to have suffered from overdoses, but they are expected to survive.

COUNTIES: NRDA CONDUCTS SURVEY ON REGIONAL CITIES PROJECTS - Northeast Indiana economic development groups have ended a survey designed to gauge the public's interest on proposed projects throughout 11 counties (Spieth, *WANE-TV*). The Northeast Indiana Regional Cities Plan included as many as 70 projects on which 691 people gave their opinions. The survey, which was put together by the Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership and Greater Fort Wayne, Inc., was available to the public from June 3 to June 15. The Northeast Indiana Regional Development Authority will use the information gathered from the survey to compete for a \$42 million grant in the Regional Cities Initiative. The initiative was introduced in May by

Gov. Mike Pence and state lawmakers. The program's goal is to transform Indiana's approach to economic development by creating dynamic communities that attract and retain talent. The Indiana Economic Development Corporation oversees the program.

COUNTIES: EVERYONE MUM AS FBI VISITS PORTER COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE - Agents with the Federal Bureau of Investigations went through the Porter County Board of Commissioners' office late Tuesday morning, but no one will say why they were there (Lavalley, *Post-Tribune*). Neither the commissioners nor county attorney Betty Knight would say why the agents were in the office, located in the county's administration building in Valparaiso, or what types of documents or information they may have been after – or acquired. A special agent with the FBI did not return a call seeking comment. Agents made frequent visits to county offices in late 2013 and early 2014 for a wide array of documents.

COUNTIES: ELKHART CONSIDERING PROPERTY TAX HIKE - Some Elkhart County property owners could see a slight bump in their property taxes next year (Pfund, *Elkhart Truth*). The Elkhart County Board of Commissioners on Monday, June 15, passed an ordinance that could allow the Elkhart County Council to raise the county's Cumulative Capital Development Fund tax, which could net the county additional revenues of up to \$730,000. The ordinance the commissioners passed was not an actual tax increase, Commissioner Mike Yoder emphasized. "We're paving the way for the council to have the option to consider this at budget time," Yoder said. The Cumulative Capital Development Fund was established by the county in the 1980s with the tax set at the maximum allowable rate, said Gordon Lord, an attorney with Yoder, Ainlay, Ulmer and Buckingham who advises the commissioners on legal matters. Money in the fund may be used by the county for a variety of purchases and projects including computers and computer software, bridges, roads and vehicles.

COUNTIES: RISE IN DEATHS SQUEEZING VANDERBURGH CORONER'S BUDGET - A rise in death cases and autopsies is stretching the funding at the Vanderburgh County Coroner's office very thin (Raatz, *WFIE-TV*). We're told more people in need of emergency care are coming to Vanderburgh County because of the available trauma centers. But if that person passes away in the county, no matter where they're from, the case goes to the coroner's office here. According to Chief Deputy Coroner Steve Lockyear, their case load is up 40 from this time last year. In fact, last month, close to half of the 31 cases the coroner's office worked were not from Vanderburgh County. It costs around \$2200 for an autopsy. The coroner's office doesn't receive any funding reimbursement for those flown in from Illinois or Kentucky. So

taxpayers in Vanderburgh County are footing the bill... Lockyear says the coroner's office has about \$60,000 left in their autopsy funds and that will not last much longer. A request for more funding is a possibility that could always be brought before the county council.

COUNTIES: EAST ALLEN SCHOOLS TO DRUG TEST STUDENTS - Students at East Allen County Schools will begin getting drug tested this upcoming school year (Spieth, *WANE-TV*). Students facing a random drug test includes those who play on sports teams, participate in extracurricular activities or drive to school. The East Allen County Schools board approved the measure Tuesday night at it's regular board meeting with a 5-2 vote. Board members Paullette Nellums and Arden Hoffman voted against it. District leaders have said they hope students will get the message that tobacco use, alcohol and drugs are not condoned... Students who fail the drug test would be suspended from extracurricular activities and driving to school for a third of the year. On second offense, students would be suspended of those privileges for half-year and a year for third offense. For the fourth offense, it would be high school career-long suspension.

COUNTIES: GIBSON APPROVES TIF FUNDS FOR FIRST RESPONDER EQUIPMENT - Gibson County commissioners have approved the county council's request for \$800,000 in tax increment financing money (Shirley, *WFIE-TV*). The request will now be passed to the redevelopment commission. If they approve it, county departments will use the money to buy new vehicles and dispatch equipment.

Sports

GOLDEN STATE CLAIMS NBA TITLE: An enchanted and astonishing season in which the Golden State Warriors bum-rushed their way into the NBA elite and mesmerized crowds throughout the country with a barrage of three-pointers and playground-approved layups came to a conclusion Tuesday night as Stephen Curry walked off the court at Quicken Loans Arena holding a shiny, gold Larry O'Brien trophy and hearing chants of "MVP" (*Washington Post*). The Warriors didn't enter this campaign expected to be NBA champions, but when Curry hesitated and tossed the basketball into the air — setting off a celebration of giddy, bouncing grown men — the ending could not have been more appropriate. The superior team beat the game's superior player with a 105-97 victory that secured the franchise's first title since 1975, ending a 40-year gap that ranks as the longest in NBA history.

FEDS PROBE ST. LOUIS CARDINALS FOR HACKING: Federal authorities are investigating whether officials from the St. Louis Cardinals hacked into the private computer systems of the Houston Astros, law enforcement officials said Tuesday (*Washington Post*). The security breach — in which Cardinals officials are alleged to have accessed a wide array of proprietary information — alarmed executives throughout baseball, some of whom characterized the case as potentially among the sport's worst scandals. Those officials said teams take extraordinary measures to protect information — including trade discussions, evaluations of players and scouting methods — and a rival team could gain "an extraordinary advantage" by tapping into such a database, one official said. "It's like the Coke formula," said one former executive, who requested anonymity because the investigation is ongoing. "You don't want Pepsi to have it."

Scott.A.Milkey

From: Mitcheff, Michael A
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2015 5:39 PM
To: 'Adam Rondeau'; Gipson, Monica (DOC); 'Steve Mccaffrey'; Lanham, Julie (COA); Basinger, James; Hill, John (GOV); Karns, Allison
Subject: RE: IN DOC - Vivitrol Project---These are releases eligible for vivitrol

Thank you Adam. I am optimistic about this.

Michael A. Mitcheff, DO MBA CCHP

Chief Medical Officer
Indiana Department of Correction
302 West Washington Street
Indianapolis, In 46204-2738
317 954-5959
email: mmitcheff@idoc.in.gov



“Leadership is a potent combination of strategy and character. But if you must be without one, be without the strategy.”- Norman Schwarzkopf

From: Adam Rondeau [mailto:Adam.Rondeau@Alkermes.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2015 3:08 PM
To: Gipson, Monica (DOC); 'Steve Mccaffrey'; Lanham, Julie (COA); Mitcheff, Michael A; Basinger, James; Hill, John (GOV); Karns, Allison
Subject: RE: IN DOC - Vivitrol Project---These are releases eligible for vivitrol

Monica,

Thank for sending out the numbers. This will be helpful as we work with the provider community to make sure there is an appropriate level of follow-on care/wraparound service available. Also, I would recommend a follow up call in late July or early August to touch base on progress and determine next steps.

Take care,

Adam Rondeau, R.N., BSN
Associate Director, Government Affairs and Policy
Alkermes, Inc.
852 Winter Street
Waltham, MA 02451
Cell: 586-
Fx: 866-380-9678
Adam.rondeau@alkermes.com
www.alkermes.com



From: Gipson, Monica (DOC) [<mailto:MGipson@idoc.IN.gov>]

Sent: Monday, June 15, 2015 12:58 PM

To: Adam Rondeau; 'Steve Mccaffrey'; Lanham, Julie (COA); Mitcheff, Michael A; Basinger, James; Hill, John (GOV); Karns, Allison

Subject: RE: IN DOC - Vivitrol Project---These are releases eligible for vivitrol

For July: Total releases is 818 and then 287 that have completed Addiction Recovery Classes.

Monica Gipson R. N.
Indiana Department of Correction
Director Of Medical and Clinical Health Care Services
Health Care Services Division
Office: 317-233-5736
mgipson@idoc.in.gov



-----Original Appointment-----

From: Salinas, Lisa

Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2015 12:59 PM

To: Salinas, Lisa; 'Adam Rondeau'; 'Steve Mccaffrey'; Lanham, Julie (COA); Gipson, Monica (DOC); Mitcheff, Michael A; Basinger, James; Hill, John (GOV); Karns, Allison

Cc: Wilson, Dana M

Subject: IN DOC - Vivitrol Project

When: Monday, June 15, 2015 8:30 AM-9:30 AM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).

Where: Dial 1-877-422-1931 and use conference code 2965458429.

Scott.A.Milkey

From: Gipson, Monica (DOC)
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2015 3:11 PM
To: Adam Rondeau;'Steve Mccaffrey';Lanham, Julie (COA);Mitcheff, Michael A;Basinger, James;Hill, John (GOV);Karns, Allison
Subject: Re: IN DOC - Vivitrol Project---These are releases eligible for vivitrol

You are welcome.
We will certainly schedule a follow up call!
Thank you Sir!

From: Adam Rondeau
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2015 3:08 PM
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Where: Dial 1-877-422-1931 and use conference code 2965458429.

Scott.A.Milkey

From: Kelley, Kristen <Kristen.Kelley@atg.in.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2015 11:31 AM
To: Neale, Brian S;Karns, Allison;Hill, John (GOV);Craig, Lindsey M
Cc: Hopkins, Larry;Robinson, Natalie (ATG);Whitmire, Matthew
Subject: Rx Task Force
Attachments: Task Force Members as of 6-1-15.xlsb; 2015 Legislative Recap for web.docx

Hi all:

It was a pleasure meeting with you yesterday and allowing us to share with you an oversight of our Task Force's accomplishments and goals. I am attaching a copy of our member list.

As we mentioned, our website, www.bitterpill.in.gov contains a huge resource of information. The format is not ideal and we are at the beginning stages of doing an entire website overhaul but you will be able to find the following information on the site:

- Under the "About your Task Force" tab you will find our Legislative Progress. This year's has not yet been posted but it is attached. Also under that tab under "News Room" – if you scroll to the bottom you can find our commercials that were aired.
- Under "Getting Involved" is information regarding medicine disposal including a list of drop off sites.
- Under "Clinical Resources" – info on naloxone for Law Enforcement, our prescriber toolkit and also our past symposium recaps.

We are also in the process of adding naloxone for lay persons. I'm not sure if you heard about this story that happened over the weekend. <http://www.indystar.com/story/news/2015/06/15/brothers-die-apparent-overdoses-party/71259820/>

This just breaks my heart. Hopefully we can start getting the word out quickly about this life saving drug and getting some funding to assist.

Again, the symposium is scheduled for October 28-29, 2015 at the Westin hotel. I will send you a calendar invite but we will make sure we pass on agenda and registration information when it becomes available.

Please let me know if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

Kristen Kelley
Director of the Indiana Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention Task Force
Office of the Attorney General
(317) 234-7135
www.BitterPill.IN.gov



NOTICE: This communication may contain privileged or other confidential information. If you have received it in error, please advise the sender by reply email and immediately delete the message and any attachments without copying or disclosing the contents. Thank you.

Rx Drug Abuse Task Force Committee List

| Salutation | First | Last | Title | Office/Agency | Email | Phone | Textable # | Role |
|------------|----------|------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------|------------|---------------------------|
| | Greg | Zoeller | Indiana Attorney General | Office of the IN Attorney General | | | | *Task Force Chairman |
| | Joan M. | Duwve, MD MPH | Chief Medical Officer | IN State Department of Health | jduwve@iu.edu | | | *Task Force Vice Chairman |
| | Natalie | Robinson | Education Program Director | Office of the IN Attorney General | Natalie.Robinson@atg.in.gov | 317-233-6143 | | *Task Force Coordinator |
| | Michelle | Sybesma | Coordinator | Professional Skills Consulting, Inc. | jms@SkillsConsulting.com | 317-258-5279 | yes | *Task Force Coordinator |
| | Kristen | Kelley | Coordinator | Office of the IN Attorney General | kristen.kelley@atg.in.gov | 317-234-7135 | yes | *Task Force Coordinator |
| | Chris | Lakich | Intern | OAG | christopher.lakich@atg.in.gov | | | |
| | Katie | Gasioroski | Intern | OAG | katie.gasiorowski@ [REDACTED] | | | |
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|------------|------------|------------------|--|--|--|-----------------|------------|---------------------------|
| | Greg | Zoeller | Indiana Attorney General | Office of the IN Attorney General | | | | *Task Force Chairman |
| | Joan M. | Duwve, MD MPH | Chief Medical Officer | IN State Department of Health | jduwve@iu.edu | | | *Task Force Vice Chairman |
| | Natalie | Robinson | Education Program Director | Office of the IN Attorney General | Natalie.Robinson[atg.in.gov | 317-233-6143 | | *Task Force Coordinator |
| | Michelle | Sybesma | Coordinator | Professional Skills Consulting, Inc. | jms@SkillsConsulting.com | 317-258-5279 | yes | *Task Force Coordinator |
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| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | Rep. Steve | Davisson | Legislator | IN General Assembly | stevedavisson@ [REDACTED] | 812- [REDACTED] | yes | Take-Back Committee Chair |
| NEW | Darren | Covington | Director | Medical Licensing Board | dcovington@pla.in.gov | | | Take-Back Committee Chair |
| | Josh | Anderson | Pharmacist | Crowders Pharmacy | josh@crowderspharmacy.com | 812-276-5782 | yes | Take-Back Member |
| | Derek | Green | IPA Board Member/Pharmacist | Indiana Pharmacy Alliance | Derek.green@fssa.in.gov | 812-459-2696 | yes | Take-Back Member |
| | Lisa | Paine Perez | Recycling & Household Hazardous W | Office of Pollution Prevention, IN Department of Environmental Management | LPerez@idem.IN.gov | 317-233-6660 | yes | Take-Back Member |
| NEW | Linda | Gurgel | Outreach Service Specialist | IN Office of the Attorney General - MFU | linda.gurgel[atg.in.gov | (219) 942-4471 | | Take-Back Member |
| | Mary Ann | Kozak | Director - Pharmacist | Rx Safe-Net and Purdue School of RPh | makozak@purdue.edu | | | |
| NEW | Randy | Miller | Executive Director | Drug Free Marion County | rmiller@drugfreemc.org | 317-254-2815 | | |
| | Kammin | Laura | Pollution Prevention Prog Spec | Indiana-Illinois Sea Grant | lkammin@illinois.edu | | | |
| NEW | William | Reid | Senior Director | Eli Lilly - Anti-Counterfeiting Operations | reid_william_s@lilly.com | 317-276-2746 | | Take-Back Member |
| | Patricia | Darbshire | Director, Introductory Pharmacy Practice - Purdue Univ | | darbishi@purdue.edu | 765-494-1380 | | |
| | Tim | Thomas | | Board of Pharmacy | tithomas@pla.in.gov | 317-753-4000 | | |

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|------------|----------|------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|-----------------------------|------------|--------------------------------|
| | Greg | Zoeller | Indiana Attorney General | Office of the IN Attorney General | | | | *Task Force Chairman |
| | Joan M. | Duwve, MD MPH | Chief Medical Officer | IN State Department of Health | jduwve@iu.edu | | | *Task Force Vice Chairman |
| | Natalie | Robinson | Education Program Director | Office of the IN Attorney General | Natalie.Robinson@atg.in.gov | 317-233-6143 | | *Task Force Coordinator |
| | Michelle | Sybesma | Coordinator | Professional Skills Consulting, Inc. | jms@SkillsConsulting.com | 317-258-5279 | yes | *Task Force Coordinator |
| | Mary | Horn | | DEA | Mary.V.Horn@usdoj.gov | | | |
| | Dan | Gillen | | DEA | daniel.j.gillen@usdoj.gov | | | |
| | Ashley | Crawford | | Board of Pharmacy | ACrawford1@pla.IN.gov | | | |
| Dr. | Deb | McMahan | | Allen County Health Dept. Officer | Deborah.McMahan@co.allen.in.us | 260-449-8734 & 260-403-3435 | | Education Committee Chair |
| | Abby | Kuzma | Chief Counsel, Director, Consumer | IN Office of the Attorney General Consumer Protection | abigail.kuzma@atg.in.gov | | | Education Committee Vice-Chair |
| | Tamara | Weaver | Deputy Attorney General | IN Office of the Attorney General Consumer Protection | tamara.weaver@atg.in.gov | | | Education Committee Liaison |
| | Philip | Zahm | Coroner | Huntington County | phil.zahm@huntington.in.us | 260-356-4488 | | Sub Committee Member |
| | Kristi | Dunigan | | Healthier Morgan County Initiative | kristi.dunigan2013@ [REDACTED] | 765- [REDACTED] | | Educational Member |
| | Lori | Croasdell | PT Coordinator | CEASe of Scott County | lcroasdell@ [REDACTED] | (812) [REDACTED] | | Educational Member |
| | Marion | Greene | Program Analyst | Center for Health Policy | msgreene@iu.edu | 317 278-3247 | | Sub Committee Member |
| | Jim | Mowry | Director | IN Poison Control Center | jmowry@iuhealth.org | 317-627-1489 | yes | Educational Member |

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| | Michelle | Sybesma | Coordinator | Professional Skills Consulting, Inc. | jms@SkillsConsulting.com | 317-258-5279 | yes | *Task Force Coordinator |
| | Cynthia | Stone | Director | IN Nurses' Association, Indianapolis | cylstone@iupui.edu | 317-372-2871 | yes | Educational Member |
| | Shelly | Symmes | CME Recognition Administrator | Indiana State Medical Association | ssymmes@ismanet.org | | | Educational Member |
| | John | McGoff, MD | Member | Indiana State Medical Lic. Board | jpmcgoff1@ | (317) | | Educational Member |
| NEW | Deepak | Azad, MD | President | Indiana State Medical Association | docazad@ | | | Educational Member |
| | Gregory | Eigner, MD | Associate Director | Fort Wayne Medical Education Program | geigner@fwmep.edu | | | Educational Member |
| | Tracey | Brooks | Assistant Chair | Department of Pharmacy Practice, Manchester University | tlbrooks@manchester.edu | 260-470-2657 | | Sub Committee Member |
| | Debbie | Cragen, NP | Nurse Practitioner | Eskanazi Medical | Cragenassociates@ | | | Sub Committee Member |
| | Dr. Mark | Gentry, M.D. | Chair | Indiana Section of American Congress of Obstetricians & Gynecologists | megentrymd@ | 317- | yes | Educational Member |
| | Dr. Amy | LaHood, M.D. | Co-Director | IN Academy of Family Physicians/ St. Vincent Residency Program | aclahood@stvincent.org | 317-294-3196 | | Educational Member |
| | Dr. Palmer | Mackie, M.D. | Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine | IU School of Medicine | pmackie@iupui.edu | 317-880-7061 | | Educational Member |
| | Dr. Michael | Whitworth, M.D. | Chairman | IN Pain Society | algosdoc@ | 812- | yes | Educational Member |
| | Courtney | Olcott, M.S., MPH | Community Prevention Specialist & Research Associate | Indiana Prevention Resource Center, Indiana University School of Public Health | coolcott@indiana.edu | | | Educational Member |
| | Dr. Ed | Kowlowitz, M.D. | Medical Director | Center for Pain Management | ekowlowitz@ | 317- | | Educational Member |
| | Donna | Wall, R.Ph. | | IU Health | dwall@iuhealth.org | | | Educational Member |
| | Rep. Gail | Riecken | State Representative | | griecken77@ | | | |
| | Dr. Dan | Roth, M.D. | Interventional Physiatrist | Summit Pain Management, Summit Physical Medicine | drdcroth1@ | 260- | | Sub Committee Member |
| NEW | Carol | Gelatt | Coordinated School Health Specailist | Dept of Education | cgelatt@doe.in.gov | | | |
| NEW | Jimmy | Ryser | | | jryser@iuhealth.org | 317-260-0020 | | |
| NEW | Dr. Teresa | Lovins, M.D. | Director | Indiana Academy of Family Physicians | tllovins@ | | | Educational Member |
| NEW | Sandra | Miller, CCS-P | Director, Practice Management | Indiana State Medical Association | smiller@ismanet.org | | | Educational Member |
| | Denise | Fields | Pharmacist | Express Scripts | denise1.fields@ | | | |
| | Beckett | Bob | DDS | Private Practice | rsbeckett1135@ | 260- | | |
| | Michael | Minglin | Chief Legal Counsel | Professional Licensing Agency | mminglin@pla.in.gov | 317-234-2011 | | Educational Member |
| | Rigo | Garcia | | Parkview Behavioral Health | rgar74@ | 219- | | |
| | Claudia | Hernandes | | Parkview Behavioral Health | claudiah1012@ | | | |

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| | Natalie | Robinson | Education Program Director | Office of the IN Attorney General | Natalie.Robinson@atg.in.gov | 317-233-6143 | | *Task Force Coordinator |
| | Michelle | Sybesma | Coordinator | Professional Skills Consulting, Inc. | jms@SkillsConsulting.com | 317-258-5279 | yes | *Task Force Coordinator |
| | Nicole | Harrington | Dir of Pharmacy Prof. Practices | CVS | Nicole.Harrington@CVSCaremark.com | | | |
| | Creamer | Christopher | Market Pharmacy Director | Walgreens | chris.creamer@walgreens.com | | | |
| | Welch | Peggy | Director of Intergovernmental Affairs | Office of the Lt Gov | pwelch@lg.in.gov | 812-325-7555 | | |
| | Thompson | Angela | | CAPNI | ARThomp@Hendricks.org | | | |
| | Susan | Day | Regional Relationship Manager | Fairbanks, La Verna Lodge and Hope Academy | SDay@Fairbanks.cd.org | 317-572-9401 | | |
| | Kim | Sharp | Director Pain Management | Community Physicians Network | KSharp2@ecomunity.com | 317-621-1281 | | |
| | Ozlem | Ersin | | Manchester College | ohersin@manchester.edu | | | |
| | Purviance | Donna | | Goodman Campbell | dpurviance@goodmancampbell.com | | | |
| | Steve | McCaffrey | President & CEO | Mental Health America (Indiana) | smccaffrey@mhai.net | 317-201-2603 | yes | Treatment Committee Chair |
| | Eden | Bezy | Substance Use Specialist, Maternal and Child Health | Indiana Department of Health | EBezy@indh.in.gov | (317) 234-3379 | | Treatment Committee Vice-Chair |
| | Dave | Bozell | | DM HA | David.bozell@fssa.in.gov | | | Treatment Member |
| | Sonya | Carrico | Director | Substance Abuse Services, Indiana Criminal Justice Institute | scarrico@cji.in.gov | 317-232-1289 | | Treatment Member |
| | Dr. Andy | Chambers, M.D. | Former Asst. Medical Director, | IN Department of Mental Health & Addiction | robchamb@iupui.edu | | | Treatment Member |
| | Zoe | Frantz | Program Director | Terre Haute Regional Behavioral Health | zoe.frantz@hcahealthcare.com | 317-514-2202 | yes | Treatment Member |
| | Jill | Matheny | Director | Indiana Addictions Issues Coalition | jfuqua@mhai.net | 317-638-3501 x 231 | | Treatment Member |
| | Kim | Manlove | Director, Indiana Addictions Issues Coalition | Mental Health America (Indiana) | kmanlove@mhai.net | | yes | Treatment Member |
| | Kim | Sharp | Manager | Spine Specialists | KSharp2@ecomunity.com | 317-528-6667 | | Treatment Member |
| | Karl | Stout | Chairman | Indiana Addictions Issues Coalition | wkstout@wksaa.com | 317-445-3037 | | Treatment Member |
| NEW | Dr. John | Ellis, M.D. | Medical Director | Managed Health Services (MHS), Ins Co serving the Medicaid population | JOELLIS@mhsindiana.com | 684-9478 x 20319 | | Treatment - NeoNatal |
| NEW | Stan | DeKemper | Executive Director | ICAADA | sdekemper@mhai.net | 317-923-8800 | | Treatment - NeoNatal |
| NEW per Zoe | Chuck | Clark | Sr. Vice President | Parkview Behavioral Health | | | | Treatment - NeoNatal |
| NEW per Zoe | Sherri | Jewett | CEO | Valle Vista Health System | | | | Treatment - NeoNatal |
| | Larry | Humbert | | | lhumbert56@ | | | Treatment - NeoNatal |

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| | Michelle | Sybesma | Coordinator | Professional Skills Consulting, Inc. | jms@SkillsConsulting.com | 317-258-5279 | yes | *Task Force Coordinator |
| | Mick | Schoenrad | Manager of Opiate Treatment programs | FSSA | Mick.Schoenradt@fssa.IN.gov | 317-232-7913 | | |
| | Dennis | Ailes | Addiction Services Bureau Chief | Division of Mental Health & Addiction, FSSA | dennis.ailes@fssa.in.gov | 317-232-7883 | | Treatment - NeoNatal |
| | Jessica | Skiba | Injury Prevention Epidemiologist | ISDH | jskiba@isdh.in.gov | | | Treatment - NeoNatal |
| New | Linda | Grove | | Centerstone Recovery | linda.grove-paul@centerstone.org | | | |
| | Aaron | Kochar | | Porter Starkes | akochar@porterstarke.org | | | |
| | Vance | Raham | MD | Private Practice | docrham@ | | | |
| | Harrigan | Heather | | Empower of Porter Co. | hharrigan@empowerpc.org | | | |
| | Tim | McClure | | IN Office of the Attorney General, Medicaid Fraud Control Unit | tim_mcclure@atg.in.gov | (317) 915-5335 | | Enforcement Committee Chair |
| | Jay | Federick | | NADDI | jfederick@columbuspd.com | | | Enforcement Committee Vice Chair |
| Senator | Ron | Grooms | | IN General Assembly | rgrooms@iga.in.gov | | | Enforcement Member |
| | Dan | Miller | | IN Prosecuting Attorneys Council Narcotics Div | <a href="mailto:Miller, Daniel R <DaniMiller@ipac.IN.gov>">Miller, Daniel R <DaniMiller@ipac.IN.gov> | 317-253-3026 | | Enforcement Member |
| | Mary Kay | Hudson | | IN Judicial Center | mk.hudson@courts.in.gov | 317-440-0931 | yes | Enforcement Member |
| | Chris | Johnson | | Family & Social Services Administration , Office of Medicaid Policy & Plan. | chris.johnson@fssa.in.gov | | | Enforcement Member |
| | Jessica | Krug | | Office of the Indiana Attorney General, Medical Licensing | jkrug@atg.in.gov | | | Enforcement Member |
| | Tom | McKay | | IN Drug Enforcement Officers Association | tmckay@dearborncounty.in.gov | | | Enforcement Member |
| | Allen | Pope | Director/Chief Counsel | Medicare Fraud Control Unit | allen.pope@atg.in.gov | | | Enforcement Member |
| | Michael | Rinebold | Director, Government Relations | IN State Medical Association | mrinebold@ismanet.org | 317-454-7718 | | Enforcement Member |
| | Grechen | Morris | Detective | Indiana State Police | GMorris@isp.IN.gov | | | Enforcement Member |
| NEW | Taya | Fernandes | | Medicaid Fraud - OAG | taya.fernandes@atg.in.gov | | | |
| Special Agent | Dan | Gillen | Assistant Special Agent in Charge | Drug Enforcement Administration, Indianapolis District Office | daniel.j.gillen@usdoj.gov | 317-613-4587 | | Enforcement Member |
| NEW | Zanetta | Nunnally | Compliance Officer | Board of Pharmacy | znunnally@pla.in.gov | | | |

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| | Michelle | Sybesma | Coordinator | Professional Skills Consulting, Inc. | jms@SkillsConsulting.com | 317-258-5279 | yes | *Task Force Coordinator |
| | Coffey | Judith | | Office of the Attorney General | Judith.coffey[atg.in.gov | | | |
| NEW | Bret | Busby | Detective | Anderson-Madison Co Drug Task Force | bbusby@madisoncty.com | (765)648-6653 | | Enforcement Member |
| | Vacant | | | | | | | Take-Back Member |
| | | | Deputy Attorney General | Office of the Indiana Attorney General | | | | INSPECT Committee Vice-Chair |
| | Allison | Taylor | Attorney | Hall Render, Representing IHA & Indidna Academy of Physicians | ataylor@hallrender.com | | | INSPECT Member |
| | Hannah | Brown | Government Relations Specialist | Hall Render, Representing, IHA & Coalition of Advanced Practice Nurses | hbrown@hallrender.com | | | INSPECT Member |
| | Andy | VanZee | IT Director | Indiana Health Information Technology, Inc., FSSA | Andrew.Vanzee@fssa.IN.gov | 317-696-5169 | | INSPECT Member |
| | Tami | Watson | Senior Detective | IN State Police | TWATSON@isp.IN.gov | 812-447-2823 | yes | INSPECT Member |
| | Brian | Wikle | Chief Executive Officer | Intercept Rx | brian@interceptrx.com | 317-219-8824 | yes | INSPECT Member |
| NEW! | Holly | Walpole | Co-Director | INSPECT, Indiana Professional Licensing Agency | hwalpole1@pla.in.gov | | | INSPECT Member |
| | Bill | Woodruff | Compliance Analyst | INSPECT, Indiana Professional Licensing Agency | wwoodruff1@pla.in.gov | (317) 234-5808 | | |
| NEW! | Dr. Eric | Wright, M.D. | Director | IUPUI Center for Health Policy | ewright28@gsu.edu | 317-274-3161 | | INSPECT Member |

SB 406 - Overdose Intervention Drugs. (AARON'S LAW)

This bill became effective on April 17, 2015, when signed by the Governor. Requires certain emergency personnel to report to the state department of health the number of times an overdose intervention medication is administered. Allows specified health care professionals with prescriptive authority to dispense, write a prescription, or prepare a standing order for an overdose intervention drug without examining the individual to whom it may be administered if specified conditions are met. Allows for an individual who is a person at risk, a family member, friend, or other individual or entity in a position to assist another individual who, there is reason to believe, is at risk of experiencing an opioid-related overdose, to obtain and administer an overdose intervention drug if certain conditions are met. Provides for civil immunity.

SB 534 – The requirement for other licensing boards to adopt rules compatible with the MLB rules for opioid prescribing.

Effective July 1, 2015. Rules for prescribing controlled substances. Requires the medical licensing board to adopt standards and protocols for the prescribing of abuse deterrent formulations. Requires, before March 1, 2016, the following boards to adopt rules concerning the prescribing of opioid controlled substances for pain management treatment: (1) the medical licensing board, concerning physician assistants; (2) the board of podiatric medicine, concerning podiatrists; (3) the state board of dentistry, concerning dentists; and (4) the Indiana state board of nursing, concerning advanced practice nurses. Requires each board to report before December 31, 2015, to the legislative council with a status report on the board's efforts to adopt the required rules.

SB 461 – Syringe Exchange Program.

Effective upon signature of Governor which was 5-4-15. Sets forth conditions in which a local health department, a municipality, a county, or a nonprofit organization may operate a syringe exchange program and expires the authorization of a program July 1, 2019. Before a qualified entity may operate a SEP, the local health officer or executive director must declare to the executive body of the county or legislative body the following: A) There is an epidemic of hepatitis C or HIV; B) that the primary mode of transmission of hep C or HIV in the county is through IV drug use; C) That a SEP is medically appropriate as part of a comprehensive public health response.

SB 464 Mental Health Issues

Effective July 1, 2015. Provides that addiction counseling, inpatient detoxification, case management, daily living skills, and long acting, nonaddictive medication may be required to treat opioid or alcohol addiction as a condition of parole, probation, community corrections, pretrial diversion, or participation in a problem solving court. Requires coverage under the Indiana check-up plan of nonaddictive medication assistance treatment drugs prescribed for the treatment of substance abuse. Authorizes the division of mental health and addiction (division) to approve before June 30, 2018, not more than five new opioid treatment programs if: (1) the programs are run by a hospital, a specified institution, or a certified community mental health center; and (2) the division determines that there is a need for a new opioid treatment program in the proposed location. Requires a prescriber who is prescribing methadone for the treatment of pain or pain management to indicate this treatment on the prescription or order. Establishes the mental health and addiction forensic treatment services account (account) within the statutes governing the division, rather than the statutes governing corrections (under current law). Provides that the division may use money in the account to fund grants and vouchers that are provided to the following for mental health and addiction forensic treatment services: (1) Community corrections programs. (2) Court administered programs. (3) Probation and diversion programs. (4) Community mental health centers. (5) Certified mental health or addiction providers. Allows the division to use money in the account as a state match under the Medicaid rehabilitation program and the Primary Health Coordination Program. Requires the division to provide an education and training program concerning involuntary commitment and medication assisted treatment. Specifies that an individual is eligible for such mental health and addiction forensic treatment services if the individual meets certain criteria and if reimbursement for the service is not available to the individual under a health insurance policy, a health maintenance organization contract, the Medicaid program, the Medicare program, or any other federal assistance program. Requires the division to survey and develop demographic research on individuals receiving services. Places restrictions on coverage under a health insurance policy and a health maintenance organization contract for methadone used in pain management.

SB 358 – INSPECT Oversight Committee

Signed by Governor on 4-30-15. Establishes the INSPECT Oversight Committee. Provides the committee's approval for the board to execute a contract with a vendor to administer the INSPECT program. Requires approval from the chairperson of the board of pharmacy to hire a director of the INSPECT program. Provides that if a dispenser's pharmacy is closed the day following a dispensing, the information required to be sent to the INSPECT program must be transmitted by the end of the next business day. Amends the definition of "medication assistance" in the administrative code for purposes of the rules concerning home health agencies.

HB 1448 Mental health drugs and coverage.

Effective July 1, 2015. Includes inpatient substance abuse detoxification services as a Medicaid service. Authorizes the office of Medicaid policy and planning to require prior authorization for addictive medication used as medication assisted treatment for substance abuse. Allows money in the forensic treatment services account to be used to fund grants and vouchers for licensed mental health or addiction providers. Requires information and training to judges, prosecutors, and public defenders concerning diversion programs, probationary programs, and involuntary commitment.

HB 1006 Criminal justice funding

Effective July 1, 2015. \$30 Million was appropriated to the Mental Health and Addiction Forensic Treatment Services account that is to be administered by the Division of Mental Health and Addiction (DMHA) with FSSA. DMHA shall give priority in awarding funding to programs that provide evidence based treatment for mental health and addiction or cognitive behavior intervention directly to individuals.

HB 1304 Various criminal law matters.

Effective July 1, 2015. Provides that addiction counseling, inpatient detoxification, and the administration of a federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved, nonaddictive medication for alcohol or opioid treatment may be required to treat opioid or alcohol addiction as a condition of parole, probation, community corrections, pretrial diversion, or participation in a problem solving court. Provides that the division of mental health and addiction may consider the administration of an FDA approved, nonaddictive medication for alcohol or opioid treatment as an alternative to methadone treatment. Repeals provisions allowing juvenile courts to modify disposition orders concerning truancy and runaways. Allows drug abusers or alcoholics charged with or convicted of certain felonies to request treatment for addictions. Provides that a convicted individual may be placed on probation if the individual requests to undergo substance abuse treatment. Provides for voluntary and involuntary treatment for drug addictions. Allows an alcohol and drug services program or the clerk of a court to collect fees concerning court established alcohol and drug services programs.

House Resolution 71 Resolution to the General Assembly that would request the federal centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to revise survey measures included in the Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS),

Information about a particular bill or the exact language may be found at <https://iga.in.gov/legislative/laws/2015/ic/> and click on bill and insert the bill number.

Scott.A.Milkey

From: Steve Mccaffrey <smccaffrey@thethirdhouse.com>
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2015 9:12 PM
To: Salinas, Lisa
Cc: Adam Rondeau;Lanham, Julie (COA);Gipson, Monica (DOC);Micheff, Michael A;Basinger, James;Hill, John (GOV);Karns, Allison;Wilson, Dana M
Subject: Re: IN DOC - Vivitrol Project

I have a lunch meeting with Kevin, but I will try to get on the call for a short time.

Steve

Stephen C. McCaffrey, JD
Principal



The Third House, LLC
1431 North Delaware Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202
317.201.2603
smccaffrey@thethirdhouse.com

IMPORTANT WARNING: This message is intended for the use of the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain information that is privileged and confidential, the disclosure of which is governed by applicable law. If the reader is not the intended recipient, or the employee or agent responsible to deliver it to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution of or copying of this information is strictly prohibited. Erroneous transmission or receipt of this information contained herein shall not constitute a waiver of any applicable privilege. If you have received this message by error, please notify us immediately and destroy the related message.

On Jun 5, 2015, at 3:45 PM, Salinas, Lisa <lsalinas@idoc.IN.gov> wrote:

When: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 11:30 AM-12:30 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).

Where: Dial 1-877-422-1931 and use conference code 2965458429.

Note: The GMT offset above does not reflect daylight saving time adjustments.

~~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*

Scott.A.Milkey

From: Hill, John (GOV)
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2015 12:38 PM
To: Karns, Allison;Neale, Brian S;Craig, Lindsey M;Triol, Shelley
Subject: FW: Vivitrol in Scott County Jail

No action but did want you to see this information in light of our meeting earlier this week.

From: Duwve, Joan Marie [mailto:jduwve@iu.edu]
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2015 12:28 PM
To: Fox, Joseph R (ISDH); Miller, Eric A
Cc: Adams, Jerome; Hill, John (GOV)
Subject: Vivitrol in Scott County Jail

Hi, Joey and Eric.

I wanted to provide you an update regarding the Vivitrol initiative in Scott County Jail.

I was finally able to arrange a meeting in Scott County with Prosecutor Jason Mount, Chief Deputy Prosecutor Chris Owens, Sheriff Dan McClain, Judges Duvall and Houser, and the probation staff to follow up on a possible extended release naltrexone (Vivitrol) program in the Scott County Jail. We had a great conversation about how vivitrol works and what it would take to start a pre-release vivitrol program in Scott County Jail, where about 90% of inmates engage in IDU. Everyone is clearly interested - the devil is always in the detail. We all have homework and I think the pieces will come together as we better understand the community mental health/addiction treatment response which is still unfolding. In the meantime, the Prosecutor, Probation staff and Sheriff are going to begin developing a protocol for identifying appropriate individuals, providing them with information about vivitrol, assessing those who express interest from both the mental health and medical perspective, and connecting candidates with insurance navigators and MH/A specialists so they have those services in place prior to discharge. I have been tasked with understanding what the coverage for vivitrol is under HIP 2.0, if/how presumptive eligibility for HIP 2.0 applies to newly released probates, and how to facilitate HIP 2.0 application prior to release from jail.

Paul Weidle from the CDC joined the conversation and brought up the possibility of routine HIV screening as part of the ongoing probation monitoring process, which was well-received.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Joan

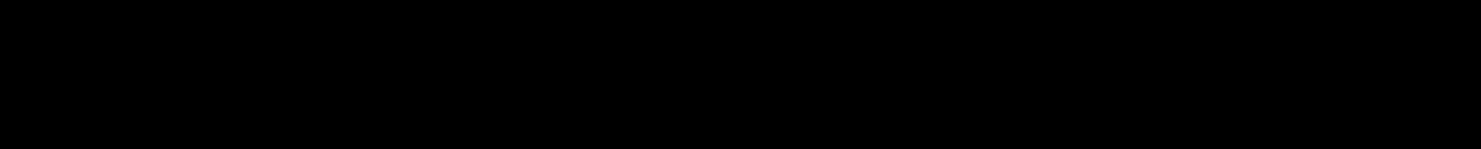
Joan M. Duwve, MD, MPH
Associate Dean for Practice
IU Fairbanks School of Public Health
714 N. Senate Ave. - Suite 200
Indianapolis, IN 46220
(317) 278-0754
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Chief Medical Officer
Indiana State Department of Health
2 North Meridian St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 233-7164 voice
(317) 233-7805 fax

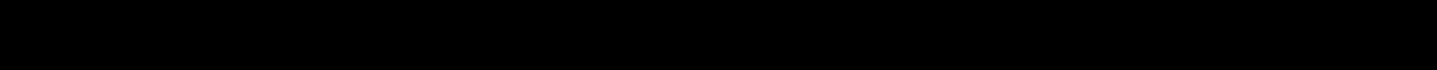
email: jduwve2@isdh.in.gov

Scott.A.Milkey


From: Neale, Brian S
Sent: Monday, June 01, 2015 11:26 AM
To: McGrath, Danielle; Hill, John (GOV); Brooks, Kara D; Lloyd, Matthew; Triol, Shelley
Subject: RE: TIME on Opioid Abuse



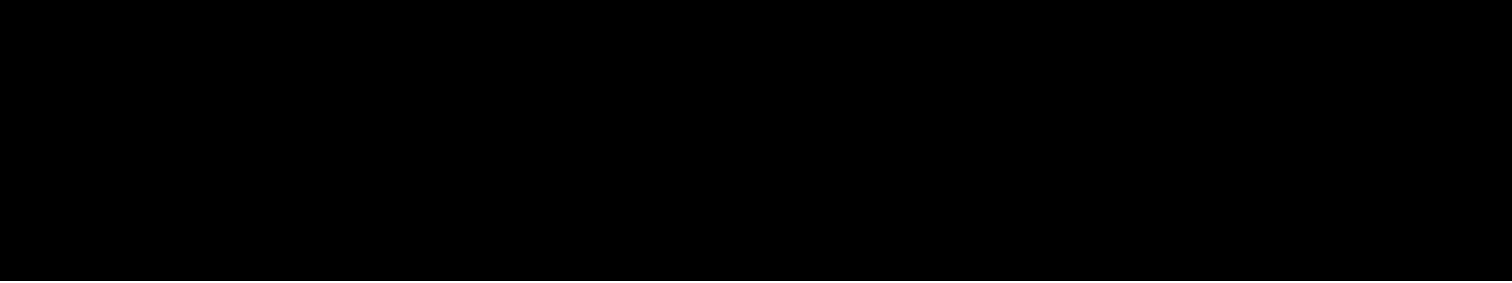
From: McGrath, Danielle
Sent: Monday, June 01, 2015 11:15 AM
To: Neale, Brian S; Hill, John (GOV); Brooks, Kara D; Lloyd, Matthew; Triol, Shelley
Subject: RE: TIME on Opioid Abuse



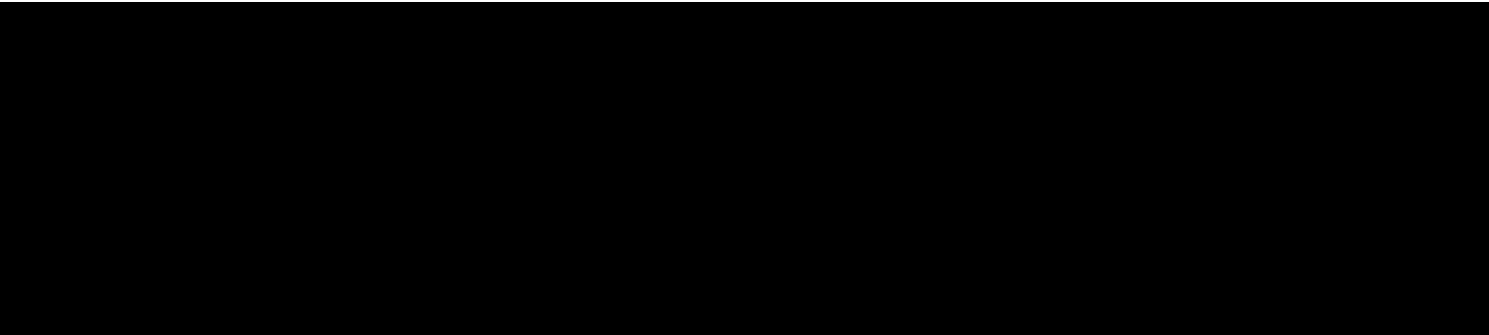
From: Neale, Brian S
Sent: Monday, June 01, 2015 11:14 AM
To: McGrath, Danielle; Hill, John (GOV); Brooks, Kara D; Lloyd, Matthew; Triol, Shelley
Subject: RE: TIME on Opioid Abuse




From: McGrath, Danielle
Sent: Monday, June 01, 2015 11:10 AM
To: Hill, John (GOV); Neale, Brian S; Brooks, Kara D; Lloyd, Matthew; Triol, Shelley
Subject: RE: TIME on Opioid Abuse

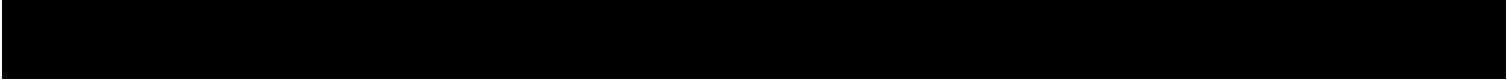


From: Hill, John (GOV)
Sent: Monday, June 01, 2015 10:41 AM
To: Neale, Brian S; Brooks, Kara D; Lloyd, Matthew; Triol, Shelley
Cc: McGrath, Danielle
Subject: RE: TIME on Opioid Abuse

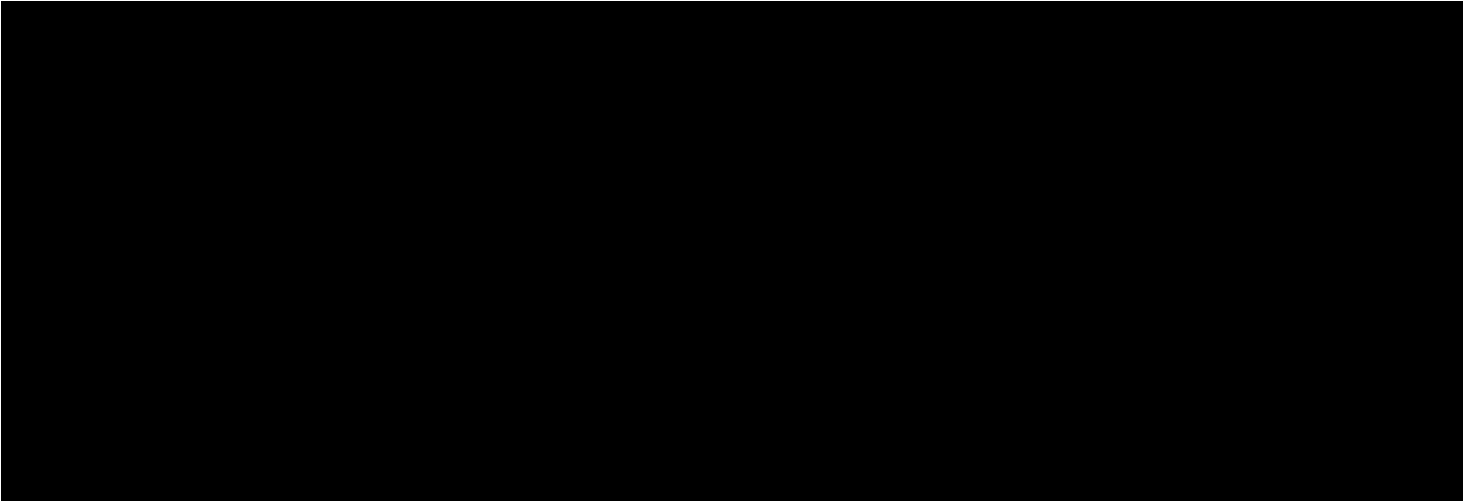




From: Neale, Brian S
Sent: Monday, June 01, 2015 10:12 AM
To: Brooks, Kara D; Lloyd, Matthew; Triol, Shelley
Cc: Hill, John (GOV)
Subject: RE: TIME on Opioid Abuse



From: Brooks, Kara D
Sent: Monday, June 01, 2015 10:00 AM
To: Lloyd, Matthew; Triol, Shelley
Cc: Neale, Brian S
Subject: FW: TIME on Opioid Abuse



From: Calabresi, Massimo - Time U.S. <massimo.calabresi@time.com> [<mailto:massimo.calabresi@time.com>]
Sent: Monday, June 01, 2015 9:22 AM
To: Brooks, Kara D; Calabresi, Massimo - Time U.S. <massimo.calabresi@time.com>
Cc: Simmons, Libby
Subject: Re: TIME on Opioid Abuse

Kara,
My story is set to close this Wednesday, possibly on the cover. Is it correct to say Gov. Pence opposes needle exchanges on principle but faced with the health crisis in Scott County he made an exception? On what principle is his opposition based? That needle exchanges create a free incentive for abusers to continue abusing drugs? Or how should I describe his opposition?
Thank you,
Massimo

--
Massimo Calabresi
Time Magazine
202.861.4023

From: <Brooks>, Kara D <kbrooks@gov.in.gov>
Date: Tuesday, April 28, 2015 at 1:42 PM

To: Massimo Calabresi <massimo.calabresi@time.com>

Subject: RE: TIME on Opioid Abuse

Governor Pence is not available but I can connect you with the state health department as they will be able to provide better expertise and insight. Let me know.

From: Calabresi, Massimo - Time U.S. <massimo.calabresi@time.com> [<mailto:massimo.calabresi@time.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2015 1:18 PM

To: Brooks, Kara D

Subject: Re: TIME on Opioid Abuse

Hi Kara,

The thesis of the piece is that while America knows it has a drug problem, it doesn't know how to get clean. The science is unclear when and whether to put people on prescription narcotics and when to take them off, which means communities, doctors and policymakers are often left guessing how to get the opioid problem under control.

So I'd like to get his take on why we still have a national epidemic of opioid abuse years after it was first identified; how he's tried to address it in Indiana; and what his frustrations with the ongoing crisis are.

Thanks,

Massimo

--

Massimo Calabresi

Time Magazine

202.861.4023

From: <Brooks>, Kara D <kbrooks@gov.in.gov>

Date: Tuesday, April 28, 2015 at 1:04 PM

To: Massimo Calabresi <massimo.calabresi@time.com>

Subject: RE: TIME on Opioid Abuse

Hi Massimo,

I need to check on this. What exactly do you want to cover or ask the Governor?

Thanks.

Kara

From: Calabresi, Massimo - Time U.S. <massimo.calabresi@time.com> [<mailto:massimo.calabresi@time.com>]

Sent: Thursday, April 23, 2015 11:45 AM

To: Brooks, Kara D

Subject: TIME on Opioid Abuse

Kara,

I cover Washington for TIME, and knew Gov. Pence back when he was head of the RSC in the House here—my old friend David McIntosh introduced us. I've written a longer piece for the magazine that will close May 13 on the ongoing opioid abuse epidemic in the U.S. and wanted to see if I might speak with the Governor briefly for it.

The thesis of the piece is that while America knows it has an opioid problem it doesn't know how to get clean because there is no good science to guide doctors on when and whether to use opioids to treat long-term pain.

I'm considering replacing my current lede with one on the Scott County crisis, and thought it would be important to try and talk to Gov. Pence for that. Would you have time to talk this afternoon?

Thanks in advance,

Massimo

--

Massimo Calabresi
Senior Correspondent
Time Magazine
202.861.4023

Please be alert for any emails that may ask you for login information or directs you to login via a link. If you believe this message is a phish or aren't sure whether this message is trustworthy, please send the original message as an attachment to phishing@timeinc.com.

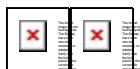
Scott.A.Milkey

From: Basinger, James
Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2015 7:57 AM
To: Mitcheff, Michael A
Cc: Lanham, Julie (COA); Lemmon, Bruce; Hill, John (GOV); Karns, Allison; Gipson, Monica (DOC); Koester, Randy
Subject: Re: Vivitrol

Great idea I will have ken send it out for informational purposes.

"Sent from my mobile. Please excuse the brevity, spelling and punctuation."

James Basinger Jr.
Deputy Commissioner
Indiana Department of Correction
[302 W. Washington Street,](#)
[Room E-334](#)
Indianapolis , IN 46204
[317.232.5723](#) office
[812. \[REDACTED\]](#) cell
jbasinger@idoc.in.gov



On May 28, 2015, at 07:54, Mitcheff, Michael A <MMitcheff@idoc.IN.gov> wrote:

Really, more jails need to consider this for sure. Would be a great article to send to the sheriffs and their staff

Michael A. Mitcheff, DO MBA CCHP
Chief Medical Officer
Indiana Department of Correction
302 West Washington Street
Indianapolis, In 46204-2738
317 954-5959
email: mmitcheff@idoc.in.gov

"Leadership is a potent combination of strategy and character. But if you must be without one, be without the strategy."- Norman Schwarzkopf

-----Original Message-----

From: Lanham, Julie (COA)
Sent: Wednesday, May 27, 2015 9:46 PM
To: Mitcheff, Michael A; Lemmon, Bruce; Basinger, James; Hill, John (GOV); Karns, Allison; Gipson, Monica (DOC); Koester, Randy

Subject: Vivitrol

Md. county jail gets grant to start injectable heroin treatment in jail

<http://www.correctionsone.com/correctional-healthcare/articles/8557242-md-county-jail-gets-grant-to-start-injectable-heroin-treatment-in-jail/>

Sent from my iPhone

Scott.A.Milkey

From: Mitcheff, Michael A
Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2015 7:55 AM
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Subject: RE: Vivitrol

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Michael A. Mitcheff, DO MBA CCHP
Chief Medical Officer
Indiana Department of Correction
302 West Washington Street
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Sent from my iPhone

Scott.A.Milkey

From: Hill, John (GOV)
Sent: Wednesday, May 27, 2015 9:53 PM
To: Lanham, Julie (COA)
Subject: RE: Vivitrol

Thanks Julie.

Sent from my Windows Phone

From: [Lanham, Julie \(COA\)](#)
Sent: 5/27/2015 9:45 PM
To: [Mitschiff, Michael A](#); [Lemmon, Bruce](#); [Basinger, James](#); [Hill, John \(GOV\)](#); [Karns, Allison](#); [Gipson, Monica \(DOC\)](#); [Koester, Randy](#)
Subject: Vivitrol

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Sent from my iPhone

Scott.A.Milkey

From: Karns, Allison
Sent: Wednesday, May 27, 2015 6:14 PM
To: Hill, John (GOV)
Subject: FW: HEA 1006 Alternative Funding Opportunities

FYI

From: Trent Glass [mailto:trent.glass@iga.in.gov]
Sent: Thursday, May 21, 2015 12:16 PM
To: 'Gregory Steuerwald'; Eric Sears
Cc: Landis, Larry (llandis@██████████); Powell, David N; Cunningham, Chris; Brady, Linda; Macek, Heather; 'Borchelt, Jennifer'; 'Steve Luce (sluce@indianasheriffs.org)'; Karns, Allison; Northam, Sabra (Sabra); 'Stephanie Yeager (Stephanie@indianacountycommissioners.com)'; 'dbottorff@indianacounties.org'; Seigel, Jane; Hudson, Mary Kay; 'Pat McGuffey'; smccaffrey@mhai.net; 'ctelliott@bosepublicaffairs.com'
Subject: HEA 1006 Alternative Funding Opportunities

All,

I hope that everyone's enjoying their time after session. Rep. Steuerwald asked that I send the following information to you all regarding other various funding opportunities that are available in assisting with the implementation of House Enrolled Act 1006.

Link to Website: <http://csgjusticecenter.org/reentry/online-tools/funding/>

Twenty (20) Funding Opportunities:

1) Bureau of Justice Assistance US Department of Justice

- Call for Applicants to the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program. The Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program provides states and units of local governments with funding for state and local initiatives, technical assistance, strategic planning, research evaluation (including forensics), data collection, training, and other activities.

2) Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

- Call for Applicants: Smart on Juvenile Justice: Community Supervision Training and Technical Assistance. The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention is now accepting applications from entities interested in providing training and technical assistance to sites selected under the FY15 Second Chance Act Smart on Juvenile Justice: Community Supervision Initiative.

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Please feel free to contact us at any time with questions, comments or feedback.

Thank you!

Trent Glass

Policy Analyst

Indiana House Republicans

200 West Washington Street

Indianapolis, IN 46204 Rm. 401-6

W: (317) 234-3825

C: (317) [REDACTED]

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Sent: Wednesday, May 27, 2015 6:14 PM
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Subject: FW: HEA 1006 Alternative Funding Opportunities

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C: (317) [REDACTED]

Scott.A.Milkey

From: Hill, John (GOV)
Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2015 2:15 PM
To: Mitcheff, Michael A
Cc: Karns, Allison; Lanham, Julie (COA); Lemmon, Bruce; Basinger, James
Subject: RE: Vivitrol

Thank you, Dr. Mitcheff. Based on the research I have read, and the medical professionals like yourself with whom I have spoken, I think it is a quite viable option.

From: Mitcheff, Michael A
Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2015 1:56 PM
To: Lanham, Julie (COA); Hill, John (GOV); Karns, Allison
Cc: Lemmon, Bruce; Basinger, James
Subject: RE: Vivitrol

The literature has been very positive when utilized in this group. Nationally we are seeing a decrease in criminal behavior related to addiction and decrease in recidivism. The drug company has agreed to provide the injection they would receive in the IDOC gratis. Medicaid does cover the vivitrol injections and wrap around services.

Michael A. Mitcheff, DO MBA CCAP
Chief Medical Officer
Indiana Department of Correction
302 West Washington Street
Indianapolis, In 46204-2738
317 954-5959
email: mmitcheff@idoc.in.gov



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To: Hill, John (GOV); Karns, Allison
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Subject: Vivitrol

Good afternoon:

We are having a phone conference with Adam Rondeau and Steve McCaffrey related to Adam’s offer to provide initial injections of Vivitrol, specifically for Scott County returning parolees who have opiod addiction issues. They are working with county officials to offer the same with releasing county jail offenders and probationers. They are on the verge of announcing this but have been waiting on the Prosecutor to end a jury trial he is participating in prior to the

announcement. The Commissioner wanted to insure that you were aware of their offer and had the opportunity for input prior to us moving forward.

If you and/or Allison would like to participate in the next conference call we're having, you are more than welcome to do so. Just let me know and I'll forward the conference number and date. They have also suggested that they would consider doing this on a statewide basis with the understanding that Medicaid can be used once the offender leaves prison if he/she qualifies. We have all agreed that it would be important to be able to insure that wrap around treatment services are available in the releasing communities and that parole can follow up to insure treatment and continued Vivitrol use is available.

We are excited about the possibilities and would welcome any comments or thoughts you have related to this initiative. Thank you!

Julie Lanham
Executive Director of Re-entry and Programs
317 233-4789 Office
317 [REDACTED] Cell

Scott.A.Milkey

From: Hill, John (GOV)
Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2015 2:14 PM
To: Lanham, Julie (COA);Karns, Allison
Cc: Lemmon, Bruce;Mitcheff, Michael A;Basinger, James
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Thank you, Julie. Yes, I think we (one of us) should be on the call. I appreciate the efforts to move ahead on this.

From: Lanham, Julie (COA)
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Cc: Lemmon, Bruce; Basinger, James
Subject: RE: Vivitrol

The literature has been very positive when utilized in this group. Nationally we are seeing a decrease in criminal behavior related to addiction and decrease in recidivism. The drug company has agreed to provide the injection they would receive in the IDOC gratis. Medicaid does cover the vivitrol injections and wrap around services.

Michael A. Mitcheff, DO MBA CCHP
Chief Medical Officer
Indiana Department of Correction
302 West Washington Street
Indianapolis, In 46204-2738
317 954-5959
email: mmitcheff@idoc.in.gov



“Leadership is a potent combination of strategy and character. But if you must be without one, be without the strategy.”- Norman Schwarzkopf

From: Lanham, Julie (COA)
Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2015 1:42 PM
To: Hill, John (GOV); Karns, Allison
Cc: Lemmon, Bruce; Mitcheff, Michael A; Basinger, James
Subject: Vivitrol

Good afternoon:

We are having a phone conference with Adam Rondeau and Steve McCaffrey related to Adam’s offer to provide initial injections of Vivitrol, specifically for Scott County returning parolees who have opiad addiction issues. They are working with county officials to offer the same with releasing county jail offenders and probationers. They are on the verge of announcing this but have been waiting on the Prosecutor to end a jury trial he is participating in prior to the announcement. The Commissioner wanted to insure that you were aware of their offer and had the opportunity for input prior to us moving forward.

If you and/or Allison would like to participate in the next conference call we’re having, you are more than welcome to do so. Just let me know and I’ll forward the conference number and date. They have also suggested that they would consider doing this on a statewide basis with the understanding that Medicaid can be used once the offender leaves prison if he/she qualifies. We have all agreed that it would be important to be able to insure that wrap around treatment services are available in the releasing communities and that parole can follow up to insure treatment and continued Vivitrol use is available.

We are excited about the possibilities and would welcome any comments or thoughts you have related to this initiative.
Thank you!

Julie Lanham
Executive Director of Re-entry and Programs
317 233-4789 Office
317 [REDACTED] Cell

Scott.A.Milkey

From: Pontones, Pamela
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2015 10:07 AM
To: Keefer, Sean (GOV);Neale, Brian S;Carter, Doug;Hill, John (GOV);Karns, Allison;Adams, Jerome;Walthall, Jennifer;Miller, Eric A;Duwve, Joan Marie;Logsdon, Art;Lovchik, Judith;Christenson, Lee;Sarvis, Megan;Perez, Andrea;Reel, Amy;Turney, Amanda;Black, Preston;Carnes, Brian;Fox, Joseph R (ISDH);Joint Information Center
Subject: ISDH HIV Daily Reports
Attachments: ISDH Daily HIV Outbreak Report 5 8 2015.pdf; ISDH Daily HIV Outbreak Report 5 11 2015.pdf

Please see attached from yesterday, May 11, and revised from Friday, May 8. We are classifying contacts slightly differently for easier tracking and measurement of success.

Let me know if you have any questions/corrections.

Thanks,
Pam

PAM PONTONES, MA
State Epidemiologist/Director, Epidemiology Resource Center

Epidemiology Resource Center
Indiana State Department of Health
317.233.7861 office
317. [REDACTED] mobile
317.234.2812 fax
ppontones@isdh.in.gov
www.StateHealth.in.gov



Confidentiality Statement:

This message and any attachments may be confidential. If you are not the intended recipient, please 1) notify me immediately; 2) do not forward the message or attachment; 3) do not print the message or attachment; and 4) erase the message and attachment from your system.

Indiana Daily HIV Outbreak Report 5/8/2015, 1600hrs

The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH), in collaboration with local health departments, local government officials, community partners, other state agencies, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), is currently investigating an outbreak of HIV in southeastern Indiana, focused in Scott County.

The ISDH currently reports the following data associated with this outbreak:

Case numbers as of close of business today:

- 151 confirmed cases of HIV
- 0 preliminary positive cases awaiting confirmation
- 151 total positive tests
- 0 indeterminate cases
- 0 cases less than 18 years of age at time of confirmatory diagnosis
- 3 cases among pregnant women at time of confirmatory diagnosis
- 119 HIV cases (80%) co-infected with hepatitis C as of 5/4/2015

Information on cases less than 18 years of age and pregnant women must be kept confidential to avoid individuals being identified.

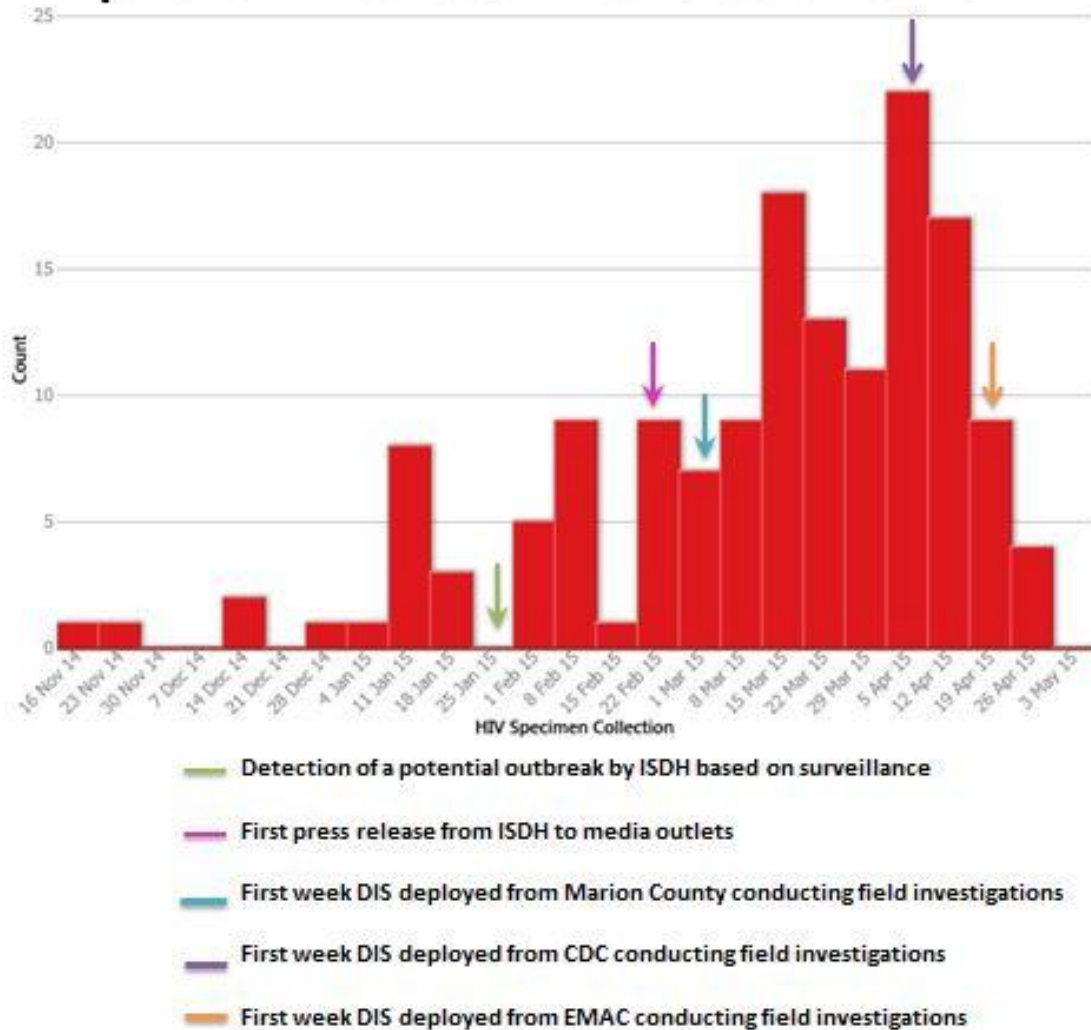
Contact numbers as of 5/7: 469 total contacts linked to outbreak

- 348 of 469 (74%) contacts have been located and offered testing
- 151 positives, 211 negatives, 80 other category (below)

| | | |
|-----------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| a. | Unable to locate | 40 (50%) |
| b. | Refused testing | 24 (30%) |
| c. | Out of jurisdiction | 2 (3%) |
| d. | Other reason† | 14 (18%) |

- 41 remaining to be contacted and investigated.
- Priority for contact tracing is given to contacts of persons with acute HIV infection, pregnant women, and contacts named by >5 cases
- Positivity rate among named, tested contacts as of 5/6/2015: 39%

Epidemic Curve 5.8.2015



| Community Outreach Center Service Summary | | |
|---|---------------|---------------------------|
| COC Service | Total for 5/7 | Running Total through 5/7 |
| Total Services | 25 | 1045 |
| Visitors | 13 | 557 |
| Insurance Enrollments | 7 | 240 |
| Drivers License/State ID | 1 | 87 |

| | | |
|---|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Vital Records | 2 | 158 |
| Immunizations | 6 | 211 |
| Mental Health | 0 | 63 |
| Care Coordination | 5 | 44 |
| HIV Testing | 3 | 215 |
| Department of Workforce Development | 1 | 27 |
| Scott County Needle Exchange | | |
| Exchange | Total for 5/7 | Running Total through 5/7 |
| COC New | 1 | 110 |
| COC Return | 4 | 75 |
| Mobile New | 0 | 29 |
| Mobile Return | 5 | 55 |
| Total Participants (New and Returned from COC and Mobile) | | 269 |
| Needles Collected (Excl. Community Collection) | | 7892 |
| Needles Dispensed | | 11879 |
| Community Collection | | 2207 |

Noteworthy developments this date in the investigation and response:

- Lifespring/Turning Point have scheduled start dates for anyone requesting addiction support services.
- Conducted walk-through of care coordination plan with HIV+ inmates at Scott County Jail with Sheriff McClain. Ten of 16 inmates were linked to care this week; remaining six are scheduled for 5/12.
- Resource card describing substance abuse services will be created and given to DIS for distribution in the community. CDC Communications staff are developing “You Are Not Alone” brochure with resource information on all services.
- INDOT has placed trucker information at travel plazas in Taylorsville and Henryville.
- Call held with CDC and other research labs to determine next steps in phylogenetic testing and comparing main genetic sequence identified in this outbreak with national genetic databanks.
- AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF) entered into two-year contract with City of Austin and Dr. William Cooke to be HIV care provider in community. IU Health will transition patients from emergency model developed under the Executive Order to AHF. Ancillary services, care coordination, substance abuse support will still be provided. IU Health will build transition plan and continue to provide care to patients throughout the process. AHF physicians will need to enroll in Indiana insurance plans.
- Representatives from HRSA HIV/AIDS bureau will arrive week of 5/20 to visit Indianapolis and Scott County, much like the CDC visit 4/27-28. Will align with Surgeon General’s visit to maximize resources.

Indiana Daily HIV Outbreak Report 5/11/2015, 1600hrs

The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH), in collaboration with local health departments, local government officials, community partners, other state agencies, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), is currently investigating an outbreak of HIV in southeastern Indiana, focused in Scott County.

The ISDH currently reports the following data associated with this outbreak:

Case numbers as of close of business today:

- 153 confirmed cases of HIV
- 0 preliminary positive cases awaiting confirmation
- 153 total positive tests
- 0 indeterminate cases
- 0 cases less than 18 years of age at time of confirmatory diagnosis
- 3 cases among pregnant women at time of confirmatory diagnosis
- 135 HIV (88%) cases co-infected with hepatitis C as of 5/11/15

Information on cases less than 18 years of age and pregnant women must be kept confidential to avoid individuals being identified.

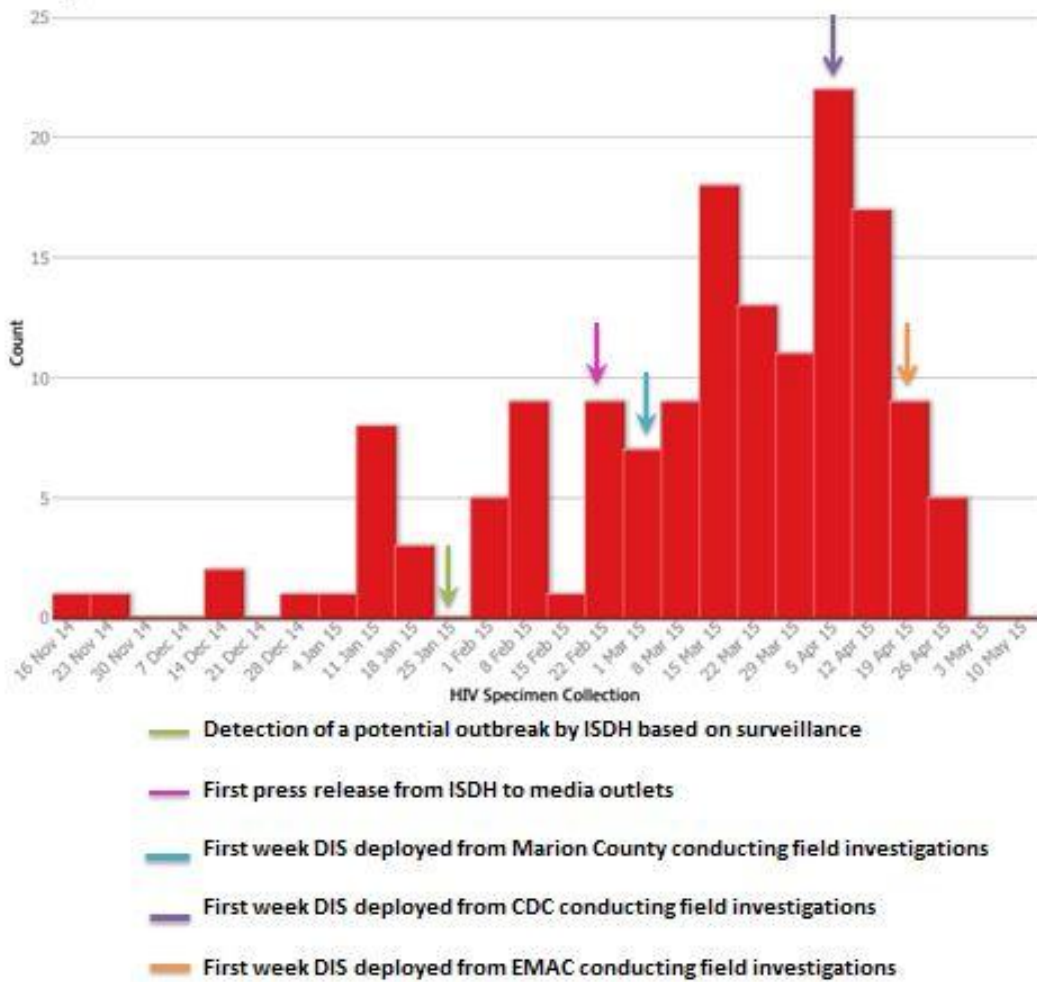
Contact numbers as of 5/9: 467 total contacts linked to outbreak

- 368 of 467 contacts have been located and offered testing
- 152 positives, 214 negatives, 27 refusals, 86 other category (below)

| | | |
|-----------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| a. | Unable to locate | 45 (52%) |
| b. | Refused testing | 27 (31%) |
| c. | Out of jurisdiction | 1 (1%) |
| d. | Other reason† | 13 (18%) |

- 13 remaining to be contacted and investigated.
- Priority for contact tracing is given to contacts of persons with acute HIV infection, pregnant women, and contacts named by >5 cases
- Positivity rate among named, tested contacts as of 5/9/2015: 39%
- Average number of unique contacts per case: 8 (range 0-80)

Epidemic Curve 5.11.2015



| Community Outreach Center Service Summary | | |
|---|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| COC Service | Total for 5/9 | Running Total through 5/9 |
| Total Services | 18 | 1113 |
| Visitors | 11 | 608 |
| Insurance Enrollments | 2 | 250 |
| Drivers License/State ID | 1 | 90 |
| Vital Records | 2 | 167 |
| Immunizations | 8 | 231 |
| Mental Health | 0 | 67 |
| Care Coordination | 2 | 49 |
| HIV Testing | 3 | 230 |
| Department of Workforce Development | 0 | 29 |
| Scott County Needle Exchange | | |
| Exchange | Total for 5/9 | Running Total through 5/9 |
| COC New | 1 | 113 |
| COC Return | 3 | 81 |
| Mobile New | 1 | 30 |
| Mobile Return | 3 | 64 |
| Total Participants (New and Returned from COC and Mobile) | | 288 |
| Needles Collected (Excl. Community Collection) | | 8262 |
| Needles Dispensed | | 13001 |
| Community Collection | | 2207 |

Noteworthy developments this date in the investigation and response:

- Next Scott County Sustainment meeting was held at 6:00 p.m. at the Community Outreach Center. Reconsidering local leader of sustainment effort with possible shift to Scott County Health Department. Sheriff McClain developed organizational chart with current structure.
- Scott County HD submitting request to end Sunday COC operations and scale Saturday down to 12-4 p.m.; supporting service data to be submitted as well.
- Lifespring representative will now attend press briefings. JIC working on two releases for this week. Requesting that ISDH OPA/JIC develop information highlighting the accomplishments achieved to incorporate into future media briefings; Dr. Jen Walthall and Dr. Joan Duwve will co-author this op-ed piece.
- Scheduling series of calls to determine AHF capacity to provide medical care and create transition plan from IU Health physicians. IU Health will continue to provide jail medical services and collaborate with CDC on PrEP.
- Call scheduled with AIT Laboratories to discuss providing routine toxicology testing services for those enrolled in vivitrol program.
- Meeting today with ISDH, DMHA, and IU School of Medicine on creating substance abuse center and cost estimates.

Scott.A.Milkey

From: Allen, Mary
Sent: Friday, April 24, 2015 7:55 AM
To: Hill, John (GOV);Karns, Allison
Subject: Fwd: Indiana EBDM State Policy Team - April 1 Meeting Record and Data Questionnaire
Attachments: 4.1.2015 EBDM agenda.docx; ATT00001.htm; Data Analysis Template Final.docx; ATT00002.htm; 4.1.2015 state team meeting record DRAFT.docx; ATT00003.htm

FYI.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Hudson, MK" <mk.hudson@courts.IN.gov>
Date: April 23, 2015 at 8:47:18 PM EDT
To: "David, Steven" <steven.david@courts.IN.gov>, Chris Cunningham <ccunningham@grantcounty.net>, "Goodman, Michelle" <michelle.goodman@courts.IN.gov>, "Lanham, Julie (COA) (jlanham@idoc.in.gov)" <jlanham@idoc.in.gov>, "Mason, Derrick" <derrick.mason@courts.IN.gov>, "Wonnell, Robin" <RWonnell@cji.IN.gov>, "Seigel, Jane" <jane.seigel@courts.IN.gov>, "dpowell@ipac.in.gov" <dpowell@ipac.in.gov>, "Kevin.Moore@fssa.IN.gov" <Kevin.Moore@fssa.IN.gov>, "Bauer, Jennifer" <jennifer.bauer@courts.IN.gov>, "Long, Chad" <chad.long@courts.IN.gov>, "blemmon@idoc.in.gov" <blemmon@idoc.in.gov>, "Andrew Cullen (Andrew.Cullen@uwci.org)" <Andrew.Cullen@uwci.org>, "Spitzer, Mark E." <mspitzer@grantcounty.net>, "Allen, Mary" <MLAllen@cji.IN.gov>, Mimi Carter <cartermm@cepp.com>, "Knox, Sandy" <Sandy.Knox@courts.IN.gov>, "Miller, Daniel R (DaniMiller@ipac.IN.gov)" <DaniMiller@ipac.IN.gov>, Larry Landis <llandis@>, "McCoy, Cindy" <cmccoy@grantcounty.net>, "candacebacker@" <candacebacker@>, "jay@sagamoreinstitute.org" <jay@sagamoreinstitute.org>, "sluce@indianasheriffs.org" <sluce@indianasheriffs.org>, "kblomquist@icadvinc.org" <kblomquist@icadvinc.org>, "dbottorff@indianacounties.org" <dbottorff@indianacounties.org>, "Brady, Linda" <lbrady@co.monroe.in.us>, "JamBrown@dva.IN.gov" <JamBrown@dva.IN.gov>, "Harper, Teresa" <tharper@co.monroe.in.us>, "Chad Lewis (chad.lewis@jeffersoncounty.in.gov)" <chad.lewis@jeffersoncounty.in.gov>, "Matt.Light@atg.in.gov" <Matt.Light@atg.in.gov>, Stephen C McCaffrey <smccaffrey@mhai.net>, "Greg Steuerwald (gsteuerwald@shwlawyers.com)" <gsteuerwald@shwlawyers.com>
Subject: Indiana EBDM State Policy Team - April 1 Meeting Record and Data Questionnaire

Dear Indiana EBDM Policy Team Members-

Please find attached a draft record from the team's first meeting held April 1. I apologize for not getting this out more quickly - I intend to have them out to you within a week of future meeting dates. For those present at the April meeting, please review the attached and let me know if you have any additions or corrections. Within the record I have noted areas in which team members committed to action items surrounding team membership.

As discussed in April, I have attached a data questionnaire for each team member to complete to the extent this information is available to you. **Please follow the highlighted instruction on page 1** when completing this form. The team will be discussing the questionnaire results in May, so please bring your completed form with you.

The next state team meeting date is **Friday, May 8, 2015, from 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm** at the Indiana Judicial Center. Please let me know if you are not able to attend.

Thank you and have a great weekend!

Mary Kay Hudson
Director of Court Services
Indiana Judicial Center
30 South Meridian Street, Suite 900
Indianapolis, IN 46204
317 234 0106 desk
317 233-3367 fax

**State of Indiana
EBDM Phase V
Indiana EBDM Policy Team Meeting: April 1, 2015**

Meeting Goals

The goals of this meeting are to:

-) Provide an opportunity for policy team members and their EBDM TA Provider to become acquainted and establish their working relationship,
-) Provide information on the EBDM Initiative, including its history and NIC's goals and expectations of Phase V participating sites,
-) Conduct activities designed to build a solid foundation for the policy team's work together (i.e., address level of collaboration, stakeholder representation, ground rules),
-) Articulate the specific roles and responsibilities with respect to the policy team, others involved at the state and local levels, and the TA Provider,
-) Develop a plan for technical assistance and a meeting schedule, and discuss the state's EBDM Kickoff Meeting, and
-) Determine next steps, specifically as they relate to preparations for the next policy team meeting and the EBDM Kickoff Meeting.

Agenda

- 1:30 pm Welcome; Introductions and Icebreaker

- 1:50 pm EBDM Initiative Background and Goals of Phase V
 -) History of EBDM
 -) EBDM Principles
 -) Goals and Roadmap of Phase V
 -) EBDM Resources

- 2:30 pm Setting the Stage for Success
 -) Establishing a baseline on collaboration: *Working Together: A Profile of Collaboration Survey*
 -) Activity: Previous experiences with collaboration: what worked/didn't work?
 -) Activity: Stakeholder analysis based on the EBDM decision points
 -) Activity: Establishing our team's ground rules and operating norms

- 3:15 pm Defining Roles and Responsibilities in the EBDM Initiative
The TA Provider
-) Policy Team Members
 - o Chairperson
 - o Vice-Chair
 - o Team member
 - o Other
 -) State Team Coordinator
 -) EBDM Capacity Builders
 -) Discussion: cross-team coordination
- 3:45 pm Plan for Technical Assistance and Developing a Policy Team Meeting Schedule
-) NIC-supported TA
 - o Duration
 - o Methods (on-site and off-site)
 -) June in-state kick-off meeting
 - o Purpose
 - o Participation
 - o Scheduling
 -) Policy team meeting schedule (with TA Provider, without TA Provider)
- 4:15 pm Next Steps
-) Preparation for the next policy team meeting
 - o Meeting date, time, location
 - o Pre-meeting assignment
 - Values exercise
 -) Preparation for the in-state kickoff meeting
- 4:30 pm Adjourn

MEETING RECORD

Indiana EBDM State Policy Team Meeting
April 1, 2015 1:30 – 4:30 pm @ the Indiana Judicial Center

Facilitator:

Mimi Carter, Center for Effective Public Policy

Team Members Present:

Kerry Hyatt-Blomquist, Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Linda Brady, Probation Officers Professional Association of Indiana, CPO Monroe County
George Brenner, Continuing the Care
Andrew Cullen, United Way of Central Indiana
Chris Cunningham, Grant Correctional Services
Justice Steven David, Indiana Supreme Court
Michelle Goodman, Indiana Judicial Center
Jay Hein, Sagamore Institute
Mary Kay Hudson, Indiana Judicial Center
Julie Lanham, Indiana Department of Correction
Chad Lewis, Jefferson County Prosecutor and Local Policy Team Chair
Derrick Mason, Division of State Court Administration
Cindy McCoy, Grant Correctional Services
Dan Miller, Prosecuting Attorneys Council
David Powell, Prosecuting Attorneys Council
Jane Seigel, Indiana Judicial Center
Bill Wilson, Indiana Sheriff's Association (for Steve Luce)
Robin Wonnell, Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (for Mary Allen)

Team Members Absent:

Mary Allen, Indiana Criminal Justice Institute
Jenny Bauer, Indiana Judicial Center
Dave Bottorff, Association of Indiana Counties
James Brown, IN Department of Veterans Affairs
Judge Teresa Harper, Monroe Circuit Court
Larry Landis, Public Defender Council
Matt Light, Office of the Indiana Attorney General
Steve Luce, Indiana Sheriff's Association
Steve McCaffery, Mental Health America Indiana
Kevin Moore, Indiana Division of Mental Health and Addiction
Representative Greg Steuerwald

Meeting Goals:

- Provide an opportunity for policy team members and their EBDM TA Provider to become acquainted and establish their working relationship,
- Provide information on the EBDM Initiative, including its history and NIC's goals and expectations of Phase V participating sites,
- Conduct activities designed to build a solid foundation for the policy team's work together (i.e., address level of collaboration, stakeholder representation, ground rules),
- Articulate the specific roles and responsibilities with respect to the policy team, others involved at the state and local levels, and the TA Provider,
- Develop a plan for technical assistance and a meeting schedule, and discuss the state's EBDM Kickoff Meeting, and
- Determine next steps, specifically as they relate to preparations for the next policy team meeting and the EBDM Kickoff Meeting.

Meeting Summary:

- Mimi Carter facilitated an icebreaker with team members present and provided a summary of the National Institute of Corrections activities surrounding the Evidence Based Decision Making Initiative to date.
- Members completed a collaboration survey and discussed previous experiences with collaboration surrounding what worked and did not work. Mimi will compile and present the survey results at the next meeting.
- Members discussed current state team membership and identified individuals to approach with an invitation to participate (see below for team member assignments).
- The members developed a list of the state team's ground rules and operating norms (see attached).
- Mimi Carter reviewed the proposed technical assistance timeline and schedule, including the June 11-12, 2015, EBDM kickoff meeting for the state and local teams.
- Mimi Carter advised members of the **next meeting date**, which is **May 8, 2015**, from **1:00 – 4:00 pm at IJC**.

Discussion Items and Action Items:

1. Setting the Stage for Success

Discussion and Activity:

Members discussed prior experiences with collaboration and described what influenced the success or failure of those collaborations. Members completed a survey on their views regarding collaboration.

Discussion: Members reviewed the current state team membership and identified roles not currently represented on the state team. Mary Kay Hudson reported that Senator Steele is not able to serve as a state team member. Members discussed a need to include more legislators, a member of the parole board, a representative from the Indiana Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) and a representative from the governor's office as members of the state team.

Action Items:

Andrew Cullen and **David Powell** agreed to identify and contact legislators that may be willing to serve as team members. Andrew and David will secure commitments from those willing to participate and advise them of the May 8 meeting date.

Julie Lanham will contact Gwen Horth, Indiana Parole Board Chair, and invite her to serve as a state team member.

Derrick Mason will contact Chief Michael Diekoff, Bloomington Police Department, and invite him to serve as a representative of IACP.

David Powell will contact Allison Karns, Policy Director for Public Safety, and invite her to serve as a representative of the governor's office.

Discussion:

Team members developed a list of ground rules for all future state team meetings (see attached).

2. Defining Roles and Responsibilities in the EBDM Initiative

Discussion:

Mimi Carter reviewed the roles and responsibilities of team members in the EBDM initiative. Mimi stated her role is to guide the team through the EBDM process and facilitate meetings. She will attend the state team meetings and may attend some subcommittee meetings.

The policy team chair will serve as the meeting convener and will serve as the point of contact for inquiries regarding the state initiative. The vice-chair will serve in the role of chair when the

chair is unavailable. Team members nominated Justice David to serve as the state policy team chair and David Powell to serve as vice-chair. Both accepted the nominations.

Team members will attend the state team meetings as scheduled, follow the ground rules established by the team, and serve as liaisons to their respective agencies. Mary Kay Hudson will serve as the state team coordinator and will coordinate the meeting logistics and develop the meeting record. Mary Kay will coordinate the activities of the capacity builders and activities among the state and local site coordinators.

3. Plan for Technical Assistance and Developing a Policy Team Meeting Schedule

Discussion:

Mimi Carter reviewed the state team meeting schedule (see below for meeting dates), which will be held approximately once per month until March 2016 and will include the two-day state and local team kick off in June. All state team meetings will be scheduled for three hours. Mary Kay Hudson has sent Outlook invitations out to the team for each of these dates.

All seven teams (state and six locals) will participate in the June kickoff meeting. The meeting will be held at Jonathan Byrds in Greenwood. The agenda will likely run from 9 am – 4:30 pm both days. Mimi suggested the team consider coordinating an activity for the evening.

David Powell suggested that Chad Lewis convene each of the six local prosecutors at the June meeting. Mimi will assist Chad in gathering this group at the meeting.

David Powell stated that the annual prosecutors meeting is scheduled the week after the June kickoff and recommend that the state team develop an EBDM presentation for that conference.

4. Next Steps

Discussion:

Mimi reminded members of the next meeting date, May 8, 2015, at IJC. She advised members that in May the team will have a discussion about values that will serve as a prelude to a discussion on team goals.

Action Item:

Prior to the next meeting, Mimi/Mary Kay will send the team data questions to each EBDM decision point (see attached). Members should review and complete the questions as they are able in preparation for the next meeting.

Next Meeting:

May 8, 2015 at 1 pm – 4 pm at the Indiana Judicial Center

Future Meeting Dates:

June 11-12, 2015 9 am – 4:30 pm both days (state and local team kickoff)

July 20, 2015 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm

September 15, 2015 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm

October 13, 2015 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm

November 13, 2015 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm (note time change)

January 11, 2016 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm

February 8, 2016 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm

March 7, 2016 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm

Attachments:

April 1, 2015, meeting agenda

Indiana EBDM state team ground rules

EBDM decision point data questions

Indiana EBDM State Policy Team Ground Rules

- Raise your hand
- Absolute honesty
- Respect confidentiality- what is stated here says here
- Develop a signal for “off track” conversation
- No “triangulation” – no meeting after the meeting
- Include humor
- Strive for consensus; but votes may be necessary
- Have a bias for action – a process that is relevant and applied
- Respect for one another
- There are not stupid questions/ ask all questions
- Avoid labeling
- Respect the messenger
- Hear all viewpoints
- Respond to Mary Kay

- Do what you say you are going to do
- Be clear about homework
- Create meeting records, show clearly action items, circulate quickly and invite clarification
- Don't "reply all" when not needed
- State and end on time
- Designees are ok when necessary, but not if you have lost interest (don't need placeholders)
- Designees can make commitments

DRAFT

Data Collection Template EBDM Team Assignment

Purpose and General Instructions

The purpose of the Data Collection Template is to *begin* the process of collecting data and information *at the local level* that will inform your team's mapping and policy and practice analysis. The table that follows includes questions pertaining to each of the EBDM decision points. This is by no means an all-inclusive list of data questions, but instead, a jumping off point.

Most jurisdictions will be challenged to answer some—maybe many—of these questions. At this point in time, we encourage documentation of those data that are available, rather than beginning a new data collection effort for information that is not readily available at the present time.

Instructions for Local Policy Team Members

During the April policy team meeting, or during the period of time between the April and May policy team meetings, teams are encouraged to review the questions on the tables that follow, identify which data are available by placing a checkmark next to those items, and identify the team member(s) that are best suited to answer specific questions.

During the May EBDM Policy Team Meeting, teams will be asked to discuss the information they believe they are able to collect without too much difficulty, and develop a plan to collect the information that is fairly readily available, and bring it to the June 2015 EBDM In-State Kickoff Workshop.

Instructions for State Policy Team Members

Review the data questions on the pages that follow. Place a checkmark next to those that state agency data systems can address for or with the local policy teams.

During the May EBDM Policy Team Meeting, teams will be asked to discuss the information they believe they are able to collect without too much difficulty, and develop a plan to collect the information that is fairly readily available, and bring it to the June 2015 EBDM In-State Kickoff Workshop.

Note: All data questions pertain to Calendar Year 2014 (CY2014) unless otherwise stated. If a question calls for comparative data, use CY2014, CY2013 and CY2012 where possible.

| Decision Point/ Questions | Who/what entity is responsible for collecting this data? | How/where is this data collected/recorded (e.g., electronically, paper/pencil, web-based, other) | How is this data managed/stored/analyzed? (e.g., custom database/system database, Excel, SPSS, Paper files, other) | How frequently are data findings reported and to whom are they reported? |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| <p>Arrest</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many police departments are there in the jurisdiction? 2. In CY2014, how many arrests did each department make? 3. Of the arrests made (by department), what was the percentage breakdown of bookings vs. citation releases? 4. In CY2014, what percent of call for service related to specific areas of concern (e.g., mental health, domestic violence, gang activity, gun violence, sexual assault, etc.)? Provide comparative data if available. | | | | |
| <p>List here other data questions you are interested in answering.</p> | | | | |

| Decision Point/ Questions | Who/what entity is responsible for collecting this data? | How/where is this data collected/recorded (e.g., electronically, paper/pencil, web- based, other) | How is this data managed/ stored/analyzed? (e.g., custom database/system database, Excel, SPSS, Paper files, other) | How frequently are data findings reported and to whom are they reported? |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| <p>Pretrial</p> <p>5. In CY2014, what was the ADP of the pretrial population in the jail? By risk level?</p> <p>6. In CY2014, what was the average LOS in the jail for the pretrial population? By risk level?</p> <p>7. How many individual defendants were held in the jail on pretrial on March 1, 2015?</p> <p>8. Of those held pretrial on March 1, 2015, what was the lowest, highest and average bond amount by risk level?</p> <p>9. Of those held pretrial on March 1, 2015, what was the distribution of time held (e.g., 20 people held 1 day, 30 people held 2 days, etc.)?</p> <p>10. On average, how many people are on pretrial release at any given time? By risk level?</p> | | | | |
| <p>List here other data questions you are interested in answering.</p> | | | | |

| Decision Point/ Questions | Who/what entity is responsible for collecting this data? | How/where is this data collected/recorded (e.g., electronically, paper/pencil, web- based, other) | How is this data managed/ stored/analyzed? (e.g., custom database/system database, Excel, SPSS, Paper files, other) | How frequently are data findings reported and to whom are they reported? |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| <p>Diversion and Deferred Prosecution</p> <p>11. In CY2014, how many people were diverted? Provide comparative data if available.</p> <p>12. In CY2014, what was the risk level of individuals who were diverted? Provide comparative data if available.</p> <p>13. In CY2014, what percentage of cases were felony charges vs. misdemeanors? Provide comparative data if available.</p> <p>14. Of those diverted, how many successfully completed their diversion requirements?</p> <p>15. For those individuals who did not successfully complete diversion, what were the reasons for failure?</p> <p>16. What percent of those completing the diversion program were rearrested within 1 year, 2 years, and 3 years after discharge?</p> | | | | |
| <p>List here other data questions you are interested in answering.</p> | | | | |

| Decision Point/ Questions | Who/what entity is responsible for collecting this data? | How/where is this data collected/recorded (e.g., electronically, paper/pencil, web- based, other) | How is this data managed/ stored/analyzed? (e.g., custom database/system database, Excel, SPSS, Paper files, other) | How frequently are data findings reported and to whom are they reported? |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| <p>Charging/Pleas</p> <p>17. In CY2014, how many individuals' cases were nolo prosequi?</p> <p>18. In CY2014, what percentage of cases were pled from felony to misdemeanor?</p> <p>19. In CY2014, in what percentage of cases were victim impact statements received?</p> <p>20. In CY2014, how many cases were settled by plea? By trial? Provide comparative data if available.</p> <p>21. For cases settled by plea, on average, how much time elapsed between when charges were filed and the case was settled by plea?</p> <p>22. Of cases pled in CY2014, in what percentage of cases did judges not accept all aspects of the plea agreement?</p> <p>23. Of cases pled in CY2014, what percentage were immediately discharged from the system when the plea was accepted (e.g., time served)?</p> | | | | |
| <p>List here other data questions you are interested in answering.</p> | | | | |

| Decision Point/ Questions | Who/what entity is responsible for collecting this data? | How/where is this data collected/recorded (e.g., electronically, paper/pencil, web-based, other) | How is this data managed/stored/analyzed? (e.g., custom database/system database, Excel, SPSS, Paper files, other) | How frequently are data findings reported and to whom are they reported? |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| <p>Sentencing</p> <p>24. In CY2014, what percent of misdemeanors/felons were sentenced to prison? Jail without probation? Jail and probation? Probation? Other community-based dispositions?</p> <p>25. What percent of convicted felons were sentenced within the sentencing guidelines (if applicable)?</p> <p>26. In CY2014, how many sentenced individuals were placed on community supervision? By risk level? Provide comparative data if possible.</p> <p>27. What is the average length of community-based supervision? By risk level?</p> | | | | |
| <p>List here other data questions you are interested in answering.</p> | | | | |

| Decision Point/ Questions | Who/what entity is responsible for collecting this data? | How/where is this data collected/recorded (e.g., electronically, paper/pencil, web- based, other) | How is this data managed/ stored/analyzed? (e.g., custom database/system database, Excel, SPSS, Paper files, other) | How frequently are data findings reported and to whom are they reported? |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| <p>Local and State Institutional Intervention</p> <p>28. In CY2014, what was the average daily population of the local/regional jail? Provide comparative data if possible.</p> <p>29. In CY2014, how many inmates attended/completed each jail program?</p> <p>30. In CY2014, what was the per diem cost of a jail bed? Provide comparative data if possible.</p> <p>31. What percent of sentenced jailed inmates re-enter the jail within three years of release?</p> <p>32. In CY2014, how many inmate discipline reports were filed? What were the three most common behaviors that resulted in disciplinary action? By gender? Provide comparative data if possible.</p> | | | | |
| <p>List here other data questions you are interested in answering.</p> | | | | |

| Decision Point/ Questions | Who/what entity is responsible for collecting this data? | How/where is this data collected/recorded (e.g., electronically, paper/pencil, web- based, other) | How is this data managed/ stored/analyzed? (e.g., custom database/system database, Excel, SPSS, Paper files, other) | How frequently are data findings reported and to whom are they reported? |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| <p>Local and State Institutional Release</p> <p>33. In CY2014, how many individuals were released to the community from the county jail? Provide comparative data if possible.</p> <p>34. In CY2014, of those released from the jail, how many were released pretrial versus sentenced?</p> <p>35. In CY2014, what was the average LOS for sentenced offenders who were released? Provide comparative data if available.</p> <p>36. In CY2014, how many inmates were released to the county from state prison? Provide comparative data if possible.</p> <p>37. In CY2014, what was the average LOS of inmates released to the county from state prison?</p> | | | | |
| <p>List here other data questions you are interested in answering.</p> | | | | |

| Decision Point/ Questions | Who/what entity is responsible for collecting this data? | How/where is this data collected/recorded (e.g., electronically, paper/pencil, web- based, other) | How is this data managed/ stored/analyzed? (e.g., custom database/system database, Excel, SPSS, Paper files, other) | How frequently are data findings reported and to whom are they reported? |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| <p>Local and State Reentry</p> <p>38. In CY2014, what percentage of state inmates participated in a reentry program before being released? Local inmates?</p> <p>39. In CY2014, what percentage of state inmates were released with an approved housing plan? Local inmates?</p> <p>40. In CY2014, what percentage of state inmates were released with government issued identification? Local inmates?</p> <p>41. In CY2014, what percentage of state inmates were in need of medication at release? Of these, what percentage were released with a 30-day supply of medication? Local inmates?</p> | | | | |
| <p>List here other data questions you are interested in answering.</p> | | | | |

| Decision Point/ Questions | Who/what entity is responsible for collecting this data? | How/where is this data collected/recorded (e.g., electronically, paper/pencil, web- based, other) | How is this data managed/ stored/analyzed? (e.g., custom database/system database, Excel, SPSS, Paper files, other) | How frequently are data findings reported and to whom are they reported? |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| <p>Probation/Parole Intervention</p> <p>42. In CY2014, how many individuals were on probation supervision? Parole supervision? Dual supervision?</p> <p>43. In CY2014, what percentage of individuals on supervision were assessed using an empirically-based risk/needs assessment tool?</p> <p>44. In CY2014, what was the average amount of time spent in one-on-one appointments between supervision officers and low risk offenders per month? Medium risk offenders? High risk offenders?</p> <p>45. What percent of offenders on community supervision successfully meet their court ordered obligations?</p> | | | | |
| <p>List here other data questions you are interested in answering.</p> | | | | |

| Decision Point/ Questions | Who/what entity is responsible for collecting this data? | How/where is this data collected/recorded (e.g., electronically, paper/pencil, web- based, other) | How is this data managed/ stored/analyzed? (e.g., custom database/system database, Excel, SPSS, Paper files, other) | How frequently are data findings reported and to whom are they reported? |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| <p>Community Behavior Change (Treatment) Interventions</p> <p>46. In CY2014, what percentage of medium risk offenders were referred to risk reduction programming? High risk? Low risk? What percentage of those referred successfully completed?</p> <p>47. In CY2014, what percent of medium and high risk offenders received the targeted intervention dosage in the intended duration?</p> <p>48. In CY2014, what percent of offenders who attended substance abuse treatment were referred to aftercare? Attended aftercare? Mental health treatment?</p> <p>49. What scores do the primary treatment providers receive on the CPC checklist (or other quality assurance assessment)?</p> | | | | |
| <p>List here other data questions you are interested in answering.</p> | | | | |

| Decision Point/ Questions | Who/what entity is responsible for collecting this data? | How/where is this data collected/recorded (e.g., electronically, paper/pencil, web- based, other) | How is this data managed/ stored/analyzed? (e.g., custom database/system database, Excel, SPSS, Paper files, other) | How frequently are data findings reported and to whom are they reported? |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| <p>Violation Response</p> <p>50. In CY2014, how many probation and parole violations were documented?</p> <p>51. In CY2014, of the total number of violations documented in CY2014, what percentage were for technical violations? New crimes?</p> <p>52. In CY2014, of the total number of violations, how many resulted in revocation to prison or jail?</p> <p>53. In CY2014, what were the three most common behaviors that resulted in violation?</p> <p>54. In CY2014, how many jail bed days were used for probation violators? Parole violators?</p> | | | | |
| <p>List here other data questions you are interested in answering.</p> | | | | |

| Decision Point/ Questions | Who/what entity is responsible for collecting this data? | How/where is this data collected/recorded (e.g., electronically, paper/pencil, web- based, other) | How is this data managed/ stored/analyzed? (e.g., custom database/system database, Excel, SPSS, Paper files, other) | How frequently are data findings reported and to whom are they reported? |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| <p>Discharge</p> <p>55. In CY2014, what percentage of defendants/offenders; witnesses; and victims were surveyed regarding their justice system experience?</p> <p>56. In CY2014, of victims who were surveyed regarding their justice system experience, what percentage indicated that they felt well-informed throughout the justice system process? Felt satisfied with the manner in which their case was handled?</p> <p>57. In CY2014, how many sentenced offenders were discharged with an aftercare/discharge plan?</p> <p>58. In CY2014, how many sentenced offenders completed an exit survey regarding their experience on community supervision?</p> | | | | |
| <p>List here other data questions you are interested in answering.</p> | | | | |

Scott.A.Milkey

From: Randolph, Isaac
Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2015 12:56 PM
To: Randolph, Isaac;#DOC Exec Staff;#DOC Div Directors;#DOC All Superintendents;#DOC Parole Supervisors;#DOC PIO;#DOC PEN CO Managers;#DOC Community Corrections Directors;#DOC Central Office Staff;Atkins, Chris;'peoplekpr@[REDACTED]';Denault, Christina;Hill, John (GOV);'Cardwell, Jeffery';Karns, Allison
Subject: IDOC Media Update
Attachments: IDOC Media Update 4_22_15.pdf

[Water restored at Westville Correctional Center](#)

WNDU-TV

LAPORTE COUNTY--- After several days without running [water](#), a northern Indiana prison is getting back to order.

[Indiana prison officials seek 2 inmates who escaped while on trash crew duty in Columbus area](#)

The Republic

COLUMBUS, Indiana — Indiana prison officials say two inmates have escaped while working as part of a trash pickup crew in the Columbus area. The Indiana Department of Correction said the men walked away from the group at about 7:30 a.m. Wednesday. Both men were held at the minimum security prison in Edinburgh.

[Did Congress just kick off another wave of doc mergers?](#)

Indianapolis Business Journal (blog)

Things got quiet after a wave of hospital systems' acquiring physician practices swept through central Indiana from 2008 to 2011. But a new wave could start now that President Obama signed the "doc fix" last week. In the short term, the new law heads off a 21-percent cut to Medicare payments to doctors. But in the long term, doctors will be exposed to lots more potential for lower Medicare payments.

[Money could be funneled to county diversion plans in Indiana](#)

Evening News and Tribune

INDIANAPOLIS — County officials have clamored for more money since the Legislature overhauled criminal sentencing to divert thousands of low-level offenders into local jails and corrections programs. Lawmakers now appear ready to come through with the money — with a catch. The state controls how it's spent.

Ike

Ike Randolph
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Indiana Department of Correction
302 W. Washington St, Rm E-334
Indianapolis, IN 46204
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irandolph@idoc.IN.gov

Water restored at Westville Correctional Center

Updated: Tue 6:59 PM, Apr 21, 2015

By: Ben Quiggle

Westville Correctional Center in LaPorte County. [↗](#)

The 60-year-old facility had a water main leak on Thursday, preventing the 3,000 inmates from using showers [or toilets](#) [↗](#)

The facility is still under a boil order, and drinking water is still being supplied to the inmates.

Another update is expected Wednesday morning. [↗](#)



Inmates at Westville Correctional Center fill containers with drinking water from a tanker delivered by the Indiana [National Guard](#) [↗](#).

Indiana prison officials seek 2 inmates who escaped while on trash crew duty in Columbus area



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

April 22, 2015 - 10:43 am EDT

COLUMBUS, Indiana — Indiana prison officials say two inmates have escaped while working as part of a trash pickup crew in the Columbus area.

The Indiana Department of Correction said the men were spotted in the area around the group at about 7:30 a.m. Wednesday. Both men were housed in a minimum security prison in Edinburgh.

The men were identified as 23-year-old Cody Morris and Troy Thomas. Morris is serving a two-year sentence for receiving stolen property, and Thomas is serving 18 months for theft. Prison officials say both were wearing yellow prison jumpsuits when they escaped.

State officials ask anyone with information on the men's whereabouts to contact local law enforcement or the Indiana Department of Correction.

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Did Congress just kick off another wave of doc mergers?

[J.K. Wall](#)

April 20, 2015

Things got quiet after a wave of hospital systems' acquiring physician practices swept through central Indiana from 2008 to 2011. But a new wave could start now that President Obama signed the "doc fix" last week.

In the short term, the new law heads off a 21-percent cut to Medicare payments to doctors. But in the long term, doctors will be exposed to lots more potential for lower Medicare payments.

That's significant not only because the Medicare program for seniors is the largest health insurance plan in the nation, but also because private health insurers are highly likely to follow its lead on the reforms.

The provisions of the new Medicare law [could force doctors to merge](#) with, or enter close partnerships with, hospital systems, as James Capretta, a health policy scholar at the American Enterprise Institute, argued last week.

That would add to the already large stables of physicians built up by local hospital systems in the last wave of mergers. Indiana University Health employs 1,500 physicians; St. Vincent Medical Group has nearly 900; and Community Physician Network has 600.

But the bigger impacts could be indirect effects of the bill, House Resolution 2.

The fact that HR 2 was passed by overwhelming, bipartisan majorities in Congress essentially guarantees a long-term effort by the federal government to put physicians at risk of being paid less for subpar care, noted Lisa Bielamowicz, chief medical officer at The Advisory Board, a consulting firm for health care providers.

And since the computer systems and compliance personnel needed to get paid in that system will be more easily handled by hospital systems and large physician practices, smaller physician groups will be pressed to join the larger practices, [she told The New York Times](#).

“This adds certainty for providers considering investments and initiatives designed to transform their business model for value-based payments,” Bielamowicz wrote in an [April 15 blog post](#). She added, “This should help providers move forward with confidence that politics will not sink their transformation efforts.”

Dr. Ben Park, CEO of American Health Network, the largest independent physician practice in central Indiana, thinks there will be more consolidation of physicians—not necessarily with hospital systems—but into larger groups like his.

That’s because, even before HR 2, Medicare and private insurers were pushing doctors to sign contracts offering both bonuses and penalties based on quality and cost of care. The possibility of penalties—which Park calls “downside risk”—could be absorbed only by practices with significant economies of scale.

Park said American Health is about two years away from having potential penalties included in its contracts with private insurers and Medicare Advantage plans—which are private insurance plans for seniors, paid for by Medicare.

“It’s moving faster than anyone thought,” he said.

The Affordable Care Act, or Obamacare, created several new programs to make a portion of hospitals’ and doctors’ payments hinge on quality and efficiency—not just on sheer volume of services they perform.

The programs go under such names as accountable care organizations, bundled payments, value-based purchasing, and pay-for-performance. Also, the Medicare Advantage program, which pays physicians a set fee to care for each patient, has similar features.

About 25 percent of all physicians are involved in such programs. But that number will grow to 60 percent by 2019, according to a [report by the Medicare actuary](#).

Physicians who do not join one of the bonus-penalty models would, beginning in 2019, be put into the Merit-Based Incentive Payment System. The MIPS system would increase overall payments to physicians 0.25 percent per year. Along the way, the best-performing doctors could earn bonuses of up to 9 percent, but the worst-performing doctors could be hit with a penalty of up to 9 percent.

But physicians who join accountable care organizations and similar programs would see their collective payments rise 0.75 percent each year—three times faster than those who don’t join such programs.

That difference would eventually lead 100 percent of physicians to join accountable care organizations (ACOs) or Medicare Advantage plans, according to the Medicare actuary.

“Physicians will have little choice but to join an ACO to get an extra 0.5-percentage-point bump in their payments every year,” wrote Capretta, the health policy scholar at the conservative American Enterprise Institute.

Medicare ACOs require a group of physicians to serve at least 5,000 Medicare patients, which almost requires a large group practice. And many ACOs, at least in central Indiana, were formed by hospitals employing the physicians involved.

Now Indianapolis-area hospital systems are forming their own insurance companies or entities to take risk and profit from the bonuses and penalties being advanced by Medicare and private insurers.

To make those insurance-like entities work well, hospitals need as many patients—“covered lives” or “attributable lives” in insurance parlance—in their orb as possible.

“All the hospitals aspire to be insurance companies. And the way you get covered lives is your primary care physicians,” said Park, the American Health Network CEO. “Everybody’s going after the attributable lives.”

Money could be funneled to county diversion plans in Indiana

By MAUREEN HAYDEN CNHI State Reporter | Posted: Monday, April 20, 2015 7:11 pm

INDIANAPOLIS — County officials have clamored for more money since the Legislature overhauled criminal sentencing to divert thousands of low-level offenders into local jails and corrections programs.

Lawmakers now appear ready to come through with the money — with a catch. The state controls how it's spent.

The House and Senate are setting aside millions of dollars for local diversion programs that emphasize treatment over incarceration. But communities cannot access the money without plans — backed by evidence — that include services for drug users and the mentally ill, the two populations that are crowding prisons and jails.

“This is a game-changer,” said Larry Landis, head of the Indiana Public Defender Council. “For too long we've ignored the causations of crime.”

Details are still in the works, as the General Assembly moves into the final days of a budget-crafting session. Gov. Mike Pence, whose original budget put more money into state prisons, still has to sign-off.

The House included \$80 million for local programs in its version of the budget. Senators have offered \$85 million — with \$55 million to be distributed by the state Department of Correction and another \$30 million to be distributed by Division of Mental Health and Addiction.

To get the dollars, communities will have to submit detailed proposals developed by members of the criminal justice system including judges, prosecutors, public defenders and probation officers.

A new state board, the Justice Reinvestment Advisory Council, with members also in those roles, will guide grant-making decisions.

The state Budget Agency will review how the money is spent every four months.

Both House and Senate proposals give local corrections officials access to the newly expanded Medicaid program, Healthy Indiana Plan 2.0, to help more uninsured, low-level offenders pay for costly treatment.

“This isn't money to build new jails,” said Rep. Greg Steuerwald, R-Avon, who helped draft the legislation aimed at clearing low-level offenders out of crowded state prisons.

Behind the new approach is an increasing awareness of the increasing number of low-level criminals in state prisons.

Steuerwald and others cite studies that find up to 80 percent of inmates struggle with substance abuse or mental illness, though only a fraction receive treatment.

“Until they get that under control, it's hard for them to get out of the criminal justice system,” said

David Powell, head of the Indiana Prosecuting Attorneys Council, which supports the funding approach.

Both Steuerwald and Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Luke Kenley, R-Noblesville, wrote the legislation so that funding cannot be reduced or reverted by Gov. Mike Pence. Since taking office two years ago, Pence has ordered cuts to protect the state's \$2 billion budget surplus.

Likewise, Steuerwald and Kenley have crafted language so that county officials cannot divert grants into general funds to pay for roads or other expenses.

The Senate version includes \$120 million to expand in-patient psychiatric care at the LaRue Carter Memorial Hospital, where local corrections officials could send mentally ill patients instead of putting them in jail.

The funding plan has earned guarded support from the Indiana Sheriffs Association and Association of Indiana Counties, which have lobbied for more local corrections money.

Sheriffs Association Director Steve Luce worries that lawmakers may pull jail-maintenance funds to help pay for it. But he said law enforcement understand the need.

"We know we're going to be tasked with more things to do," he said. "Everybody is going to have to step up."

There's also major support from community mental health centers.

"The good news is that everybody is moving in the same direction on this," said Steve McAffery, head of Mental Health America of Indiana. "There is a recognition that people are incarcerated that don't need to be."

Some communities will face logistical challenges, especially rural counties with no existing community corrections programs, no certified drug counselors and no local mental health facilities.

"It's a process. This could takes years to build," said Powell. "There's been a shortage of [treatment] providers, due to the shortage of funding."

The funding would come just as local corrections officials brace for the impact the state's sentencing reforms, passed in 2013.

By July, low-level felons sentenced to less than two years cannot be sent into the state prisons. That means about 7,000 additional offenders a year will have to be incarcerated, supervised or treated locally.

The sentencing reform was driven in part by the high costs of the tough-on-crime approach taken by legislators in the 1990s. Harsher penalties drove prison populations.

Between 2000 and 2010, the state's inmate population increased 47 percent while the crime rate dropped 8 percent. Prison costs went up, as well.

How Pence reacts to the Legislature's call for more funds for local programs remains to be seen.

Pence's proposed budget includes \$51 million to pay for prison expansions - at the Miami Correctional Facility near Peru and the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility near Sullivan.

Both the House and Senate rejected that request, arguing that money spent locally will reduce the need for prison beds.

— *Maureen Hayden covers the Statehouse for CNHI's Indiana newspapers. Reach her at mhayden@cnhi.com. Follow her on Twitter @MaureenHayden*

Scott.A.Milkey

From: Cleveland, Bridget
Sent: Thursday, April 16, 2015 10:09 AM
To: Gilson, Katie;Quyle, Lindsay;Ahearn, Mark;Atkins, Chris;Bailey, Brian (OMB);Bauer, Zachary C;Berry, Adam (GOV);Brooks, Kara D;Brown, Hannah;Marshall, Sara (Cardwell);Joyner Burroughs (Cissel), Jackie;Crabtree, Chris;Craig, Lindsey M;Czarniecki, Cary (Lani);Denault, Christina;Espich, Jeff;Fritz, Pam (GOV);Jarmula, Ryan L;Kane, Kristen;Vincent, Micah;Morales, Cesar (Diego);Neale, Brian S;Pavlik, Jennifer L;Pitcock, Josh;Price, Kendra;Schilb, Veronica J;Schmidt, Daniel W;Fernandez, Marilyn;Hodgin, Stephanie;Karns, Allison;Rosebrough, Dennis (LG);Dowd, Jaclyn (DWD);Keefer, Sean (GOV);Norton, Erin (Ladd);Johnson, Matt (GOV);Heater, Ryan;Mantravadi, Adarsh V;Rosebrough, Dennis (LG);McKinney, Ted;Bausman, David;Atterholt, Jim;Davidson, Brenden;McGrath, Danielle;Brookes, Brady;Triol, Shelley;Wall, Kathryn E;Reed, Katie;Hauer, Ian;McCleery, William;Aycocock, Hailey;Bussis, Eric J (SBA);Davis, Bridget M (GOV);Myers, Janille (ISDH);Fox, Joseph R (ISDH);Stephen.simcox@[REDACTED];jcardwell@[REDACTED]
Subject: [Gov Clips] Howey
Attachments: 4-16-15 HPI Daily.pdf

[Please see attached.](#)

Scott.A.Milkey

From: Karns, Allison
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 12:33 PM
To: Hill, John (DHS)
Subject: Leaving - Can you cover 1:30 meeting

I am throwing up again & need to leave. Are you able to cover my 1:30 with Adam Rondeau from Alkermes? If you cannot, I will reach out to him and ask if he can do a call with me another time.

Allison A. Karns
Office of Governor Mike Pence
Policy Director for Public Safety
200 W. Washington Street - Room 206
Indianapolis, IN 46204
317-234-8895 (O)
31 [REDACTED] (M)

Scott.A.Milkey

From: Karns, Allison
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2015 2:17 PM
To: 'Jeffrey Harris'
Cc: Adam Rondeau
Subject: RE: Introduction

Great, I will look forward to it.

From: Jeffrey Harris [<mailto:Jeffrey.Harris@alkermes.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2015 1:23 PM
To: Karns, Allison
Cc: Adam Rondeau
Subject: RE: Introduction

Thanks very much, Allison. Adam will reach out to you to set something up.

Thank You,

Jeff

From: Karns, Allison [<mailto:AKarns@gov.IN.gov>]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2015 4:31 PM
To: Jeffrey Harris
Cc: Pitcock, Josh
Subject: RE: Introduction

Jeff,

I am happy to meet either date, but am not attending the event and it would have to be in the office during the day. Let me know!

Thanks,
Allison

Allison A. Karns
Office of Governor Mike Pence
Policy Director for Public Safety
200 W. Washington Street - Room 206
Indianapolis, IN 46204
317-234-8895 (O)
317-██████████ (M)

From: Jeffrey Harris [<mailto:Jeffrey.Harris@alkermes.com>]
Sent: Friday, February 27, 2015 12:16 PM
To: Pitcock, Josh
Cc: Wernert, Dr. John J.; Karns, Allison; Neale, Brian S; Adam Rondeau
Subject: RE: Introduction

Josh,

Thank you for the follow up. It was a pleasure to meet with yourself and Gov. Pence to discuss Vivitrol and the role it can play in treating those diagnosed with alcohol and opioid dependence.

Dr. Wernert, Brian, and Alison,

Adam Rondeau is responsible for our policy and government initiatives in the state of Indiana. He would welcome the opportunity to meet with each of you. This would be an a chance to further discuss Vivitrol, and how Alkermes can be of help as the state continues the expansion of HIP 2.0 and looks to develop strategies for treating offenders, suffering from addiction, that are leaving DOC.

I have copied Adam on this communication. He will be attending two upcoming legislative events that may represent opportunities to follow up:

- The Indiana Fiscal Policy Institute's Gridiron Dinner – March 3rd
- The Indiana Chamber's 2015 Legislative Dinner – March 11th

I will leave it to you all to connect at a time that is convenient for your respective schedules.

Best Regards,

Jeff Harris
Sr. Director, Government Affairs & Policy
Alkermes, Inc.
852 Winter Street
Waltham, MA 02451
617-852-7356
Jeffrey.Harris@Alkermes.com

From: Pitcock, Josh [<mailto:jpitcock@sso.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 4:30 PM
To: Jeffrey Harris
Cc: Wernert, Dr. John J.; Karns, Allison; Brian Neale (bneale@gov.in.gov)
Subject: Introduction

Jeff – it was good to see you at the governors' meeting last weekend. I know Gov. Pence enjoyed spending some time with you and learning about Alkermes and Vivitrol.

As the governor requested, please allow me to connect you with a few key people in Indianapolis. I have copied Dr. John Wernert, Brian Neale and Allison Karns on this email. Dr. Wernert runs the Family and Social Services Administration, which is responsible for administering HIP 2.0. Brian is Gov. Pence's health care policy director, and Allison is Gov. Pence's public safety policy director.

You'll want to follow-up with Dr. Wernert and Brian regarding the use of Vivitrol within the HIP 2.0 program and with Allison regarding its use by the Department of Corrections.

If you have questions, or if I can help further, please let me know. Thanks. –Josh

Josh Pitcock
Federal Representative

State of Indiana
202-██████████ (m)
202-624-1474 (o)
jpitcock@sso.org


This message may contain confidential or privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient, please advise the sender immediately by reply e-mail and delete this message and any attachments without retaining a copy. Thank you for your cooperation.

This message may contain confidential or privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient, please advise the sender immediately by reply e-mail and delete this message and any attachments without retaining a copy. Thank you for your cooperation.

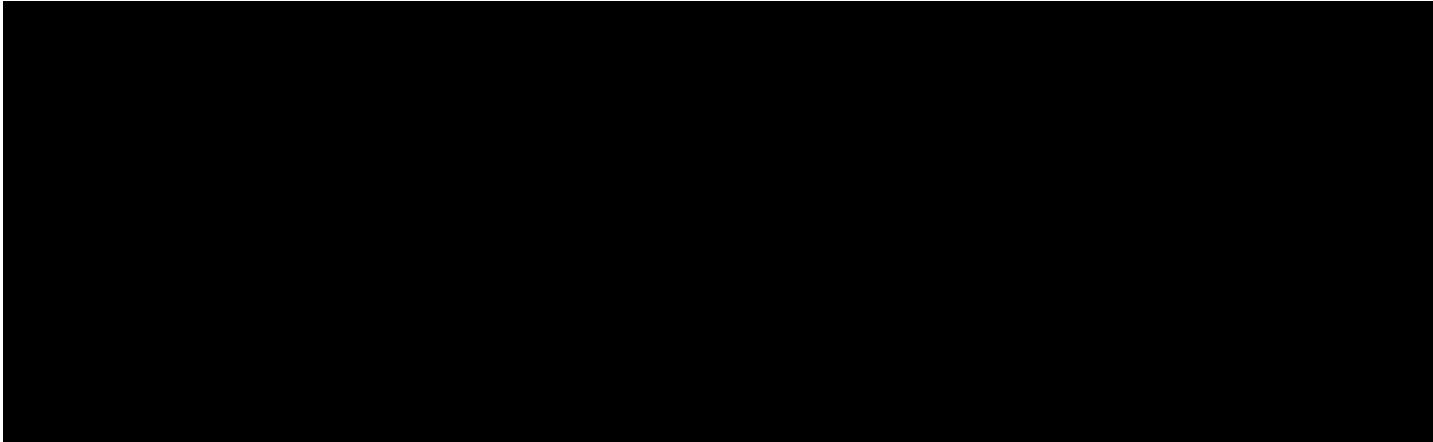
Scott.A.Milkey

From: Salinas, Lisa
Sent: Monday, February 16, 2015 5:04 PM
To: Karns, Allison; Lemmon, Bruce
Cc: Koester, Randy; Basinger, James; Garrison, Douglas S.; Brooks, Kara D; Hill, John (DHS)
Subject: RE: MEDIA Request: Indianapolis Monthly story on RecycleForce
Attachments: reentry initiatives.docx

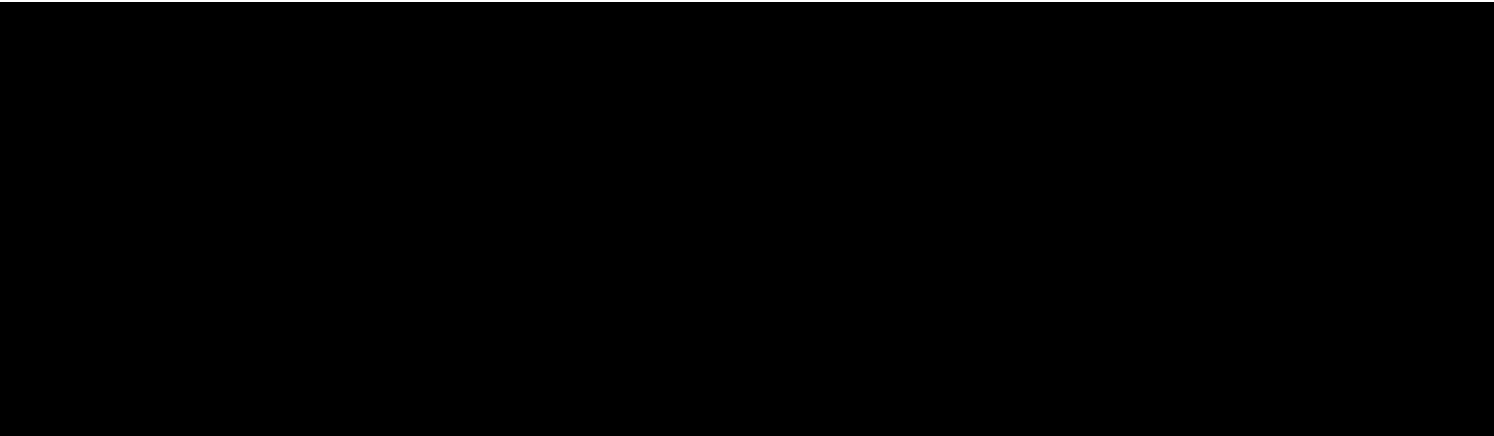
Expires: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 12:00 AM




From: Karns, Allison
Sent: Monday, February 16, 2015 3:12 PM
To: Salinas, Lisa; Lemmon, Bruce
Cc: Koester, Randy; Basinger, James; Garrison, Douglas S.; Brooks, Kara D; Hill, John (DHS)
Subject: RE: MEDIA Request: Indianapolis Monthly story on RecycleForce




From: Salinas, Lisa
Sent: Monday, February 16, 2015 3:00 PM
To: Lemmon, Bruce; Karns, Allison
Cc: Koester, Randy; Basinger, James; Garrison, Douglas S.
Subject: RE: MEDIA Request: Indianapolis Monthly story on RecycleForce

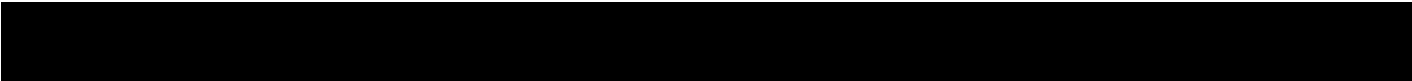





From: Lemmon, Bruce
Sent: Monday, February 16, 2015 11:51 AM
To: Karns, Allison
Cc: Koester, Randy; Salinas, Lisa; Basinger, James; Garrison, Douglas S.
Subject: Re: MEDIA Request: Indianapolis Monthly story on RecycleForce




On Feb 16, 2015, at 11:47 AM, Karns, Allison <AKarns@gov.IN.gov> wrote:



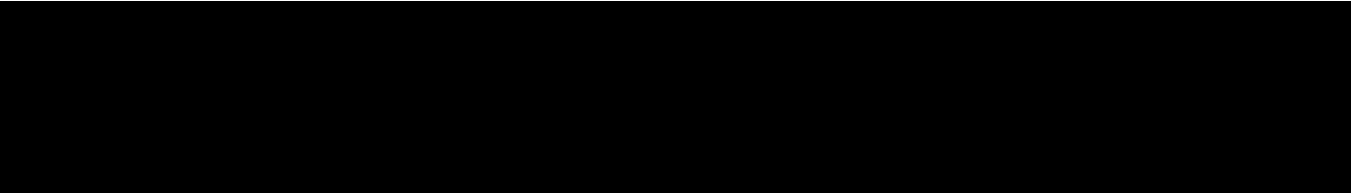
From: Brooks, Kara D
Sent: Monday, February 16, 2015 11:45 AM
To: Karns, Allison
Subject: RE: MEDIA Request: Indianapolis Monthly story on RecycleForce



From: Karns, Allison
Sent: Monday, February 16, 2015 11:24 AM
To: Brooks, Kara D; Hill, John (DHS)
Subject: RE: MEDIA Request: Indianapolis Monthly story on RecycleForce



From: Brooks, Kara D
Sent: Monday, February 16, 2015 10:38 AM
To: Hill, John (DHS)
Cc: Karns, Allison
Subject: RE: MEDIA Request: Indianapolis Monthly story on RecycleForce

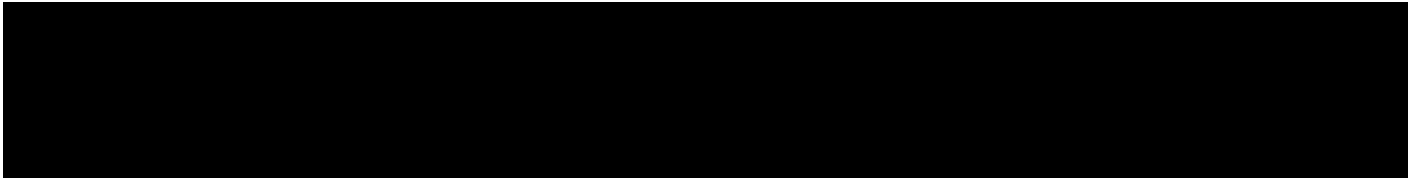


From: Koester, Randy
Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2015 3:31 PM
To: Hill, John (DHS); Garrison, Douglas S.

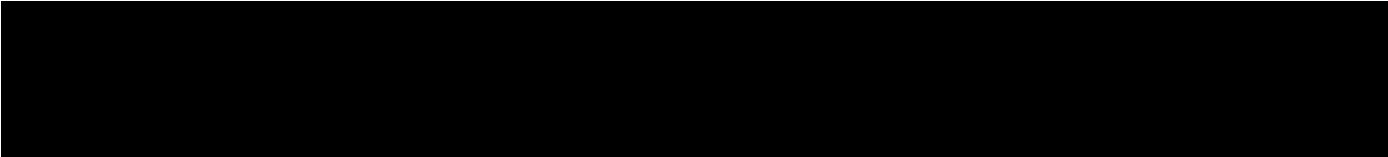
Cc: Brooks, Kara D; Karns, Allison; Lemmon, Bruce
Subject: RE: MEDIA Request: Indianapolis Monthly story on RecycleForce



From: Hill, John (DHS)
Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2015 3:01 PM
To: Koester, Randy; Garrison, Douglas S.
Cc: Brooks, Kara D; Karns, Allison; Lemmon, Bruce
Subject: RE: MEDIA Request: Indianapolis Monthly story on RecycleForce



From: Brooks, Kara D
Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2015 2:04 PM
To: Hill, John (DHS); Karns, Allison
Subject: FW: MEDIA Request: Indianapolis Monthly story on RecycleForce



From: AW [[mailto:cadamwren@\[REDACTED\]](mailto:cadamwren@[REDACTED])]
Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2015 1:57 PM
To: Brooks, Kara D
Subject: RE: MEDIA Request: Indianapolis Monthly story on RecycleForce

Thanks, Kara.

Can you tell me the purpose of the visit?

Were the every internal discussions about a contract between DOC and RecycleForce, especially given the Governor's mission of making Indiana "the best place for second chances?"

I understand RecycleForce is one of only a few re-entry programs nationwide in a two-year congressional study, and that its results seem to make it one of the most effective in the country.

On February 12, 2015 at 1:45:35 PM, Brooks, Kara D (kbrooks@gov.in.gov) wrote:

Adam,

The state has never funded RecycleForce and DOC did not make a commitment to fund RecycleForce during the visit.

Thanks.

From: AW [[mailto:cadamwren@\[REDACTED\]](mailto:cadamwren@[REDACTED])]
Sent: Wednesday, February 11, 2015 12:49 PM
To: Brooks, Kara D
Subject: MEDIA Request: Indianapolis Monthly story on RecycleForce

Hi Kara,

I'm a reporter with Indianapolis Monthly, working on a story on RecycleForce, an Indy-based program that helps ex-felons re-enter society—many coming back to the city from DOC— and seeks to lower recidivism rates.

I understand members of DOC and the governor's staff visited the facility late last year, but decided against allocating funds for its operation in the governor's proposed budget.

I'm hoping to get a statement from the administration about why funds weren't included for RecycleForce.

Can you help?

My deadline is end of day Friday.

Many thanks!

Adam Wren

Contributing Editor

Indianapolis Monthly

Scott.A.Milkey

From: Gilson, Katie
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2015 10:27 AM
To: Gilson, Katie;Quyle, Lindsay;Keefer, Sean (GOV);Denault, Christina;Atkins, Chris;Espich, Jeff;Streeter, Ryan T;Cleveland, Bridget;Atterholt, Jim;McGrath, Danielle
Subject: [Gov Clips] Education Insight
Attachments: 2-2-15 Education Insight.pdf

Katie Gilson, *Staff Assistant*
Office of Governor Mike Pence
KGilson@gov.in.gov
Phone: (317) 232-1198
Fax: (317) 232-3443



Where to split the teaching hair

Nettlesome dispute opinion distinguishes ancillary, normal duties

If you haven't been reading our coverage of the Nettle Creek Classroom Teachers Association, now is a good time to start paying attention.

The Indiana Court of Appeals has issued a ruling in favor of the Indiana State Teachers Association in a case involving the intersection of teacher compensation, hours, and duties and the collective bargaining restrictions enacted during the 2011 legislative session.

The ruling allows teachers to be paid in addition to their contractual salary an hourly wage for performing required "ancillary duties."

The court's opinion draws a distinction between "normal teaching duties, i.e., duties that are completed as part of one's direct teaching function" and "ancillary duties, such as professional development and training or attending conferences" that a school corporation may require its teachers to undertake, or teachers may agree to undertake but that are "beyond" a teacher's "normal" teaching duties.

Besides "professional development and training or attending conferences," the court provides no other concrete examples of what should constitute an ancillary teaching duty. Are parent-teacher conferences part of the normal duties or the ancillary duties? The opinion doesn't offer guidance.

The appellate panel recognizes that teachers are prohibited by federal law from receiving overtime pay for normal teaching duties. The court also observes that teachers can receive additional wages for responsibilities associated with voluntary co-curricular duties such as coaching an athletic team or sponsoring a student club.

In the key conclusion, the judges find that the collective bargaining restrictions passed in 2011 do not prohibit teachers from receiving additional wages for ancillary duties required by a school corporation.

Writing for the court, Judge Cale Bradford court notes that the awarding of additional wages for ancillary duties would not put a school corporation in a position of deficit spending since "the school corporation controls the number of ancillary duties it requires of its teachers" and therefore should be able to budget accordingly.

The State has argued that teachers are prohibited from bargaining additional compensation for hours worked outside the regular teaching contract.

The State asserts that teachers are professionals who are paid a salary, and that salary should be the complete compensation expected by a teacher for fulfillment of the responsibilities set forth in the individual teacher contract regardless of the number of hours necessary for completing the work or the time of day or night the work is completed.

Under the court's analysis, the determination of whether a teaching duty is normal or ancillary for purposes of providing additional compensation will hinge upon the nature of the task to be completed without consideration of the hours necessary for completion or the time of day.

The decision in *Indiana Education Employment Relations Bd. v. Nettle Creek Classroom Teachers Ass'n*, No. 49A02-1402-PL-78, remands the dispute back to IEERB for re-consideration. The contract at issue is for the 2011-2012 school year.

Gumming up the works

Deregulation is more wish list than reality

Hundreds of non-academic regulations would disappear in a puff of smoke under Senate Bill 500, a massive effort to deregulate schools that could potentially drive more money into the classroom.

The legislation is the work product of the Church, Church, Hittle and Antrim law firm, which on behalf of 25 school corporations, identified for elimination "mountains of red tape that distract from the core mission of education," said Sen. Pete Miller (R) of Avon.

Superintendent Rocky Killion of the West Lafayette School Corporation testified in the Senate Committee on Education & Career Development that if the bill passes, he could probably eliminate at least two clerical positions dedicated to compliance and re-direct \$80,000 to \$100,000 to the classroom.

In addition to repealing hundreds of "obsolete and duplicative" regulations, SB 500 would create a new committee to review all school reporting requirements and would place a moratorium on all school reporting until after the state-level panel evaluates which of the mandatory reports truly add value.

Sen. Miller compared the number of mandatory school reports to the final scene of *Indiana Jones and the Raiders of the Lost Ark*, describing how reports are sent in to the state and then placed into state file cabinets where they gather dust and are lost forever.

A November 2005 survey by the Indiana University Center for Evaluation and Education Policy found that 95% of school superintendents believe education is over-regulated.

Realistically the bill is probably too large in scope and controversial to pass this session.

Regulations up for elimination that were the target of controversy during a committee hearing: school safety committees, professional development, class-size reporting, reporting when a child is left on a school bus, school improvement plans, reporting battery against a teacher, bus driver contracts, diabetes care, suicide prevention, bullying prevention, Indiana Constitution education, annual school performance reports, racial balance fund, communicable disease education, and more.

IN Elementary & Secondary Ed

IN General . . .

- Some Indiana schools that fail the upcoming February ISTEP readiness test will have the opportunity to switch to old-fashioned paper and pencil for the March ISTEP administration, assures the Indiana Department of Education in a memo to the field.

- Nearly all schools encountered problems during the January readiness test. The simulation of assessment traffic in February will allow vendor CTB to refine its cloud-based capacity settings including the maximum number of transactions needed per second. This is the first year CTB has implemented a cloud-based testing system.

- Look for CTB in February to release through the Apple Store a new app allowing students to take the ISTEP via iPad.

- The Indiana Department of Education and Five-Star Technology Solutions are offering each school corporation four seats in an eight-week online professional development academy on the topic of integrating technology into the classroom. Participants receive 40 Professional Growth Points.

- The school rankings website Niche Best Public High Schools <<http://k12.niche.com>> evaluated 14,431 high schools based on dozens of statistics and the opinions of millions of students and parents. The Indiana Academy for Science, Mathematics & Humanities was identified as the top high school in Indiana.

- Emerson Elementary School in Seymour received a \$20,000 check from the national Box Tops for Education program, cash to be used to spruce up the playground.

- The Triton School Corporation turns to the Schwan Food Company to help with fundraising. During February, 20% of all orders placed on behalf of Triton will be remitted to the school corporation, and for the remainder of 2015, five percent of online sales will go to Triton.

- The Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation launches a mobile app for Android and iPhone users that offers news from around the EVSC, school calendar, short cut links to all schools, contact numbers, breakfast and lunch menus, and much more.

- The Mind Trust receives a \$3.42 million grant from the Lilly Endowment Inc. to recruit and support 300 educators through Teach For America and TNTP (formerly The New Teacher Project). There are currently 350 TFA alumni working in Indianapolis, including 55 school leaders, 140 teachers and 20 educational policy leaders.

- More than 1,300 schools and libraries have contacted the Indiana Historical Society requesting more than 75,000 free copies of the new textbook, *Hoosiers and the American Story*. Due to the overwhelming demand, IHS may have to limit the quantity of books sent to any one school, or limit the grade levels that receive books. The free copies are made possible by a grant from the Lilly Endowment.

IN Administration . . .

- The *Muncie Star Press* reports the Muncie Community Schools is open to accepting a lump-sum cash payment to buy out the lease of a cell tower located on school property. “Ameritech/AT&T/Cingular pays MCS \$16,709 annually to lease the Fieldhouse site Lease buyout companies have paid government units in other states one time, lump-sum payments in the range of \$150,000 to \$200,000 per site to purchase cell tower leases from land owners The current annual lease payments on the Fieldhouse site extended for 99 years would pay the school more than \$1.6 million.”

- After testing a real-time fleet management GPS system from Synovia Solutions of Indianapolis for the past year, the Huntington County Community School Corporation Board of School Trustees is likely to approve a proposal to install global positioning systems on the district’s buses.

- Synovia boasts that on average, school districts seem to find a return on their GPS system investment in three months or less.

IN Budgets & Finance . . .

- The School Town of Munster cuts 50 non-certified teachers aides, custodians, and secretaries to help close a \$2.2 million budget deficit, and a wave of teacher cuts are also expected before the end of the school year.

- The Fort Wayne Community Schools Board of Trustees votes to eliminate busing for about one-fourth of the district’s current ridership, push the high school start time back to 9:05 a.m., and implement mandatory walking zones, in moves designed to save \$2.5 million.

- The Rush County School Board could vote as early as February on the closure of Mays Elementary School. The district’s budget has shrunk by nearly half over the past five years. The *Rushville Republican* reports, “During the 2009 school year, 2,684 students were enrolled in Rush County Schools and at that time, the RCS budget in the county general fund was \$3.2 million dollars. During the 2014 school year, 2,381 students enrolled in RCS schools and the working budget was \$1.6 million.” The 150 students currently enrolled in Mays would transfer to elementary schools located in either Milroy or Arlington.

- The Gary Community School Corporation will make a debt payment of \$400,000 to the Gary Sanitary District to fulfill a past due \$743,000 bill for sewer services.

IN School Choice . . .

- To commemorate National School Choice Week, 296 school choice events, rallies, and forums were staged across Indiana. The largest number of choice-themed gatherings occurred in Indianapolis (72), Elkhart (19), and Fort Wayne (14).

- Rep. Terri Austin (D) of Anderson spoke to students and teachers at the Anderson Preparatory Academy to celebrate National School Choice Week.

□ Rep. Austin discussed her personal legislative agenda as a member of the House Committee on Education. She is a former full-time and adjunct professor of Education at Anderson University, and served as a classroom teacher and administrator for Anderson Community Schools for 20 years.

● Ball State University will not renew the charters for University Heights and Fall Creek Academy, both located in Indianapolis, due to their low test scores and lack of improvement. The schools would close June 12, but they may still appeal the non-renewal.

● The South Bend Career Academy will leave the Ball State University portfolio to become chartered by Trine University. A letter to parents explains, "While we have appreciated their support and oversight, our school model, enrollment, educational requirements and curriculum have evolved since our first year as a charter school. At this time, we are certain that our families and students will be better served by utilizing the extensive knowledge and experience provided by Trine University's charter school sponsorship."

□ Beginning with the 2015-16 school year, Career Academy South Bend intends to open an additional school for young children beginning in kindergarten. The Career Academy South Bend board of directors has approved an agreement with the South Bend Redevelopment Corporation to purchase and renovate a property to be utilized for the students in the younger grades.

● Indiana sinks three spots to fifth from second place just one year ago in the annual ranking of state charter school laws published by the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools. Equitable operational funding and access to facilities were identified as weak spots.

● U.S. Rep. Todd Rokita (R), chair of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education, joins with U.S. Rep. Luke Messer (R), founder of the Congressional School Choice Caucus, to re-introduce the "Creating Hope and Opportunities for Individuals and Communities through Education (CHOICE) Act."

□ The bill would give states the flexibility to use federal special education dollars to establish or expand school choice programs for students with disabilities.

● Sandra Guffey, the principal of St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School, will resign at the end of the school year, reports the *Fort Wayne Journal Gazette*.

□ During a jury trial in December that resulted in a \$1.9 million judgment against the Fort Wayne-South Bend Roman Catholic Diocese, it was revealed that Guffey had expressed support for former teacher Emily Herx, who was undergoing in vitro fertilization. "More than any other witness outside of the plaintiff, Guffey saw her personal and professional life come under direct attack during the proceedings, with issues made of her marital history and that her stepson, a staff member at the school, went to a strip club with other teachers - also a violation of church teachings," reported the *JG*.

● Carpe Diem Meridian promotes LaNier Echols from dean of students to interim principal. Echols also serves on the Indianapolis Public Schools school board. She replaces Carpe Diem founding principal Mark Forner.

IN Programs & Curriculum . . .

● Governor Mike Pence (R) traveled to Terre Haute North High School to support the announcement of a new robotics career pathway leading to an industry certification and six transferrable college credits. The Governor praised the Vigo County School Corporation for having one of the strongest career and technical education menus in the entire state.

● DeKalb High School will begin offering Mandarin and French foreign languages next year, assuming sufficient student interest and demand.

● The Tell City-Troy Township School Corporation will withdraw from the Perry County Learning Academy at the close of the school year. The divorce leaves the Perry Central School Corporation as the only remaining member of the alternative education and credit recovery consortium that was established in 2004.

● The Indianapolis Public Schools Board of Commissioners approves the Phalen Leadership Academy as the first Innovation Network School. Phalen employs a blended learning model with cutting-edge, one-to-one adaptive technology, small group rotations, and extended learning time. The day will be eight hours long (compared to the typical six hours), and the year will be 190 days. Twenty-five days of Summer school will also be provided. Every Friday afternoon students will hear from an inspirational guest speaker and go on an educational field trip.

□ An immediate next step is to select a potential site for the school within IPS.

● The Indianapolis Public Schools Board of Commissioners approves a partnership with Teach Plus (T+) to recruit, select, and support effective, experienced Teacher Leaders for three low-performing schools. The Teacher Leaders will earn stipends of \$6,000 per year for three years for the additional work their roles require. T+ will provide each partner school with a school-based coach who provides embedded support for the Teacher Leaders. Each of the three schools will have 8 Teacher Leaders. The Eli Lilly Foundation in April gave IPS \$1 million for the initiative, and IPS and T+ are also contributing a combined \$1.2 million. Teacher Leaders will directly receive a total of \$432,000 in the form of stipends.

□ A similar program has been implemented in Boston and Washington, D.C.

● Echoing what they told the State Board of Education in January, a deal is being negotiated between the Indianapolis Public Schools and Charter Schools USA to expand Emma Donnan Middle School into a K-8 model. Donnan is arguably the worst-performing school in Indiana, and CSUSA has argued that it won't have success there unless it can reach students earlier through the feeder system. The school would remain under the control of Florida-based Charter Schools USA.

□ A similar detente between former adversaries is occurring in Lake County where the Gary Community School Corporation and Edison Learning are now collaborating on a Transformation Zone.

IN Policy . . .

● The Richmond Community Schools contemplates switching the school day from trimesters back to semesters. The *Richmond Palladium-Item* explains, “When the idea of trimesters was raised in 2006, Richmond faced serious problems with students earning enough credits to graduate.” New options adopted since then including “the online graduation academy, credit recovery program, early college program and more have contributed to the district’s academic improvement.”

□ The potential return to semesters has also been triggered by the property tax caps. The change would allow for a reduction in staff without increasing class sizes. The constitutional tax caps have zapped RCS of \$500,000 in local revenue. “According to data prepared by the administrative team, an individual teacher works with about 100 students per trimester. That same teacher would work with 150 students per semester. So the same student body requires fewer staff.”

● Lebanon High School teachers, administrators, and students are organizing a roundtable to consider increasing the weight of final exams on end-of-semester grades. Final exams currently count for 10% of the semester grade, which some believe should be higher in order to better align with the rigors of college.

● Random student drug testing at Lincoln High School in the Vincennes Community School Corporation will expand to include synthetic marijuana . . . and the news comes just as the Indiana Court of Appeals issues a ruling voiding certain of the state’s synthetic drug laws. A grant will allow the school to use 11-panel drug screening in place of the current nine-panel screens. Each test costs \$65. About one-half of the students at the high school are eligible to be tested.

● The Vincennes Parks and Recreation Department adopts a program called “Pass for a Pool Pass” in which third grade students who pass the IREAD exam will be rewarded with free Rainbow Beach pool passes.

● The Southwestern Jefferson County Consolidated School Corporation held the first reading of a policy that would forbid bus drivers from reaching for or holding cell phones, texting, or dialing (drivers could still use their one-button radio communication, or pull over to the side of a road to make a call). A video had recently emerged of a bus driver texting on her cell phone while transporting students. Final approval is expected later this month.

● The Indiana Department of Education rejected a plan from the Anderson Community School Corporation to make up snow days by tacking one hour onto the school day for two weeks in February. When the school board originally approved the make-up plan, the corporation was unaware that this type of flexibility is no longer an option.

● The Madison-Grant United School Corporation plans to implement a Food Rescue Program designed to reduce food waste.

IN Referenda . . .

● The Warsaw Community School Corporation voted to pursue a \$40 million referendum in May to construct a new Lincoln Elementary School and renovate and expand Washington STEM Academy and Edgewood Middle School. The district will request an increase of 13.8¢ per \$100 of assessed valuation. The owner of an average-priced home would pay an additional \$6.20 per month, or \$74.35 for the entire year. Warsaw originally considered an \$80 million project, but a community survey conducted in 2014 found little support for a project that expensive. Lincoln and Washington were built in 1959, and Edgewood was built in 1975 as an open concept school.

□ “Lincoln Elementary will be rebuilt in a corner of the preexisting property, taking advantage of empty greenway to ensure students are not disturbed during construction. Washington will receive a new wing and Edgewood will have classrooms split up to allow for more space and a better flow of traffic in the building,” reported Ink Free News.

● Gary Coons, the chief of Homeland Security for Indianapolis, may have violated the Hatch Act in his role as chair of the political action committee supporting the upcoming Perry Township Schools referendum, according to a report by WTTV-TV *CBS4* in Indianapolis. “Before Wednesday, when people logged on to the Vote Yes for Perry Schools website, they found an endorsement from Coons, using his official government title to advocate for the passage of this spring’s school referendum. ‘As a top public safety official I would much prefer that students be in the school building and not classroom trailers,’ the quote said. After *CBS4* contacted the Department of Public Safety, Coons’ official title was taken off the website and the quote was changed to begin reading, ‘As a parent...’ as opposed to ‘As a public safety official...’” *CBS4* contacted Indiana University law faculty member David Orentlicher, a former state legislator, “who reviewed the document and website with colleagues (and) said using a government identification and title appear to be technical violations of the federal Hatch Act. ‘Going on the website and now saying I’m supporting this, and I hold the office as chief of Homeland Security, that I think goes a step beyond (what the law allows).’ ... If Coons’ official government title and contact information weren’t used, Orentlicher said there’d be no problem.” *CBS4* was told the PAC paperwork is being refiled to reflect Coons’ personal contact information.

● The M.S.D. of Wayne Township will ask voters in May for a property tax hike of 35¢ per \$100 of assessed value, generating \$9.6 million annually for the general fund. Voting “Yes 4 Wayne” would replace more than \$60 million in revenue lost to the property tax caps since 2008. The median homeowner would pay an extra \$7.83 per month. The district has also been slammed by a \$1 billion (31%) decline in assessed valuation. The referendum fund would allow the district to stop raiding its general fund to pay for transportation and preventive maintenance. Since 2007 the district has reduced staffing by 99 positions, mostly through attrition.

- The Gary Community School Corporation School Board approves placing a referendum on the May 5 primary ballot seeking a property tax increase for the general fund or operating budget. The proposed increase would be 41¢ per \$100 of assessed valuation, and is estimated to raise more than \$51 million dollars over a seven-year period to help address a \$23.7 million deficit.

IN Construction & Facilities . . .

- The Lebanon Community School Corporation school board preliminarily approved a \$2 million general obligation bond sale to pay for routine building maintenance and repair. The bonds would be paid back over four years and would add 4.5¢ to the property tax rate.

- The East Noble School Corporation ratified a \$2 million general obligation bond sale to finance upgrades to the high school's heating and cooling systems. Barton-Coe-Vilamaa of Fort Wayne was selected to design and engineer the project.

- Expect the Southern Wells Community Schools to host some work sessions soon about upcoming work renovation needed within the district.

- The Batesville Community School Corporation eyes the purchase of a former two-story recreational center that comes with a soccer field, rock climbing wall, dance studio, and fitness center. The district has engaged architects Fanning/Howey to help plan how the 4.5-acre property might be transformed into something useful. An estimated \$800,000 would likely need to be spent on improvements after purchase. BCSC is also discussing a \$1 million project to renovate the baseball diamonds and repair tennis courts.

- A public meeting has been slated for February to discuss both in more detail.

- Action is underway in the Bluffton-Harrison MSD on a plan to upgrade the main entrance at Bluffton High School to make it more secure.

- Look for the Huntington County Community School Corporation Board of School Trustees to soon take action on major repairs to the roof of Huntington North High School.

- The South Gibson School Corporation hears from VPS Architecture that a wish list of football field turf, end zone graphics, bleacher expansion, new scoreboard, relocating the press box, baseball field fencing, and upgrades to the soccer field entrance could be accomplished at a cost of \$1.8 million.

- SGSC officials are also looking into renovation work on two sets of restrooms at Fort Branch Community School, including replacing painted brick with tile.

- Seymour High School is a step closer to approval of a \$2.2 million project that would transform a field west of the school into a new soccer complex that would feature artificial turf. Kovert Hawkins is working with the district on the project.

IN Transition . . .

- Chad Timmerman, assistant director of the State Budget Agency, has taken over for Claire Fiddian-Green as the Governor's education policy advisor.

- Katie Wall, an executive assistant in the Governor's Office, has been promoted to serve as the Governor's new workforce policy director, replacing Jackie Dowd, who has returned to the Indiana Department of Workforce Development.

- Union School Corporation Superintendent Fred Herron received a hand-delivered letter from a school board member on Monday placing him on paid administrative leave, one day before the board voted to suspend him. Two school board members quit in the middle of the meeting to protest the convoluted timeline, which has also raised questions about whether the Indiana Open Door Law was violated. The school board member who delivered the letter "said she communicated with Indiana's Public Access Counselor and two other board members before suspending Herron. But there was no secret meeting of the board, she added," according to the *Muncie Star Press*.

- "The underlying issue causing board friction is whether or not to close Union, one of the smallest school districts in the state, with K-12 enrollment of only 314," reports the *Star Press*. A community advisory committee appointed by Superintendent Herron concluded that Union should cease to exist as a district due to declining enrollment and financial difficulties and that students should be sent to Winchester or Monroe Central. But the new majority of the school board wants to save the district and is "proposing alternatives to closure including recruitment of students from Muncie and foreign countries," according to the paper. "The report of the community advisory committee, formed last year by the superintendent at the direction of the board, stated that 'our school is at, or even arguably past, the critical point enrollment wise, to effectively serve the educational needs of our students. This experience has further magnified the inadequacies of Union's current offerings to students because of financial and enrollment shortfalls.' The report added, 'When considering not only our declining enrollment trend, but ... the budget shortages we are facing, and the likely increased property taxes necessary to even continue our downward spiral, the committee feels that we are doing this community and our students a great disservice if we do not pursue consolidation.'"

- "In Union School Corp., the lesson learned is you get the government you vote for," was how Rep. Greg Beumer (R) of Modoc explained it during an Indiana Farm Bureau legislative update event in his district.

- The flap also took its toll on one other individual. Less than one week after being retained by the new, anti-consolidation majority of the USC school board, education attorney Susan Traynor Chastain of Lewis & Kappes in Indianapolis stepped aside, claiming a conflict of interest. She will be replaced by Anderson attorney Michael Lacey at the same \$165 hourly rate.

□ Just before Chastain stepped aside, Seth Slabaugh reported in the *Star Press* that “she couldn’t explain the legal authority for a school board member’s suspension of the superintendent because angry patrons repeatedly interrupted her at a school board meeting. Patrons demanded to know ... whether school board members met in an illegal secret session to suspend Fred Herron or whether board member Christa Ellis suspended him all on her own,” and Chastain told the paper “that ‘the decorum in the meeting had deteriorated to the point that it was not possible to answer any individual question.’ Chastain cited ‘attorney-client privilege’ as another reason for her lack of answers during the meeting. ‘It is inappropriate for me to share privileged information in a public meeting,’ she said.”

● The Lakeland School Corporation promotes Eva Merkel, principal of Lakeland High School, to interim superintendent. Superintendent Risa Herber is out on a medical leave of absence.

● Ray Tolbert has accepted the position of Success Coach for the Indiana Virtual School. He was voted Mr. Indiana Basketball in 1977 and Big Ten Player of the Year in 1981 while at Indiana University, where the Anderson native was a member of the IU national championship team.

IN Government . . .

● After the release by the Indiana Department of Education of Spring testing schedules for the ISTEP+ Part 1 (March 2-11) and IRead tests (one week later), IDOE is getting pushback from teachers and administrators not about the more rigorous academic nature of the exams, but rather about the amount of time required for their administration. The new tests for students in grades 3 - 5 are estimated to require as much as triple the times needed to take the former test: from almost 9.5 hours for third-graders (vs. 2.5 hours previously), to 10.5 hours for fifth-graders, raising questions about student stamina. The IRead test one week later will consume some 3.5 hours. A second round of April ISTEP testing is then slated for students in grades 3 - 5.

● School boards would be powerless to stop the teaching of alternative theories to evolution under Senate Bill 562 authored by Sen. Jeff Raatz (R) of Connersville and Senate Education & Career Development Committee Chair Dennis Kruse (R) of Auburn.

□ The Raatz-Kruse measure does not specifically mention evolution or Intelligent Design, but would allow science teachers and their students to “explore questions, learn about evidence, develop critical thinking skills, and respond appropriately and respectfully to different conclusions and theories concerning controversial scientific subjects.” In 2012, the Senate voted 28-22 to allow the teaching of creation science. The measure was never taken up in the House.

● Senate Education & Career Development Committee Chair Dennis Kruse (R) of Auburn killed Senate Bill 119, which he authored to appease a physician who was frustrated that student athletes inundate his office at the same time every year seeking their athletic physicals. The bill would have spread out the deadline for receiving a physical over the course of the year based on a student’s birthday.

□ The Indiana Athletic Trainers Association, the Indiana High School Athletic Association, and the Indiana Department of Education testified the change would have been cumbersome and time consuming from a compliance standpoint by creating 365 separate deadlines, and there was also concern about disadvantaging low-income students who currently rely on free physicals provided at the school.

● Senate Bill 267, a bill that would establish a high school diploma seal of bi-literacy for students who have demonstrated proficiency in a foreign language passes unanimously out of the Senate Committee on Education & Career Development. Schools would not be required to participate. The bill is authored by the panel chair, Sen. Dennis Kruse (R) of Auburn.

□ Gary Spurgeon, president of the Indiana Foreign Language Teachers Association, said Indiana would become the tenth state with a bi-literacy seal. Indiana Department of Education lobbyist John Barnes said IDOE prefers a special certificate rather than a seal, and he went on to explain why. The Indiana Career Council’s Core 40 Subcommittee is in the process of reviewing high school diplomas and graduation requirements, said Barnes, and IDOE is concerned about passing legislation that might impede on that committee’s holistic approach to the issue of graduation. Sally Sloan of the Indiana Federation of Teachers testified uncertainly, “It does open the door to other types of seals. Maybe that is a good thing.”

● Senate Majority Caucus Chair Jim Merritt (R) of Indianapolis says he is pleased that Senate Bill 227 initiated an important discussion about the role of school counselors, even though the bill imploded in the Senate Committee on Education & Career Development due to its \$59 million fiscal impact. The bill would have required at least one counselor in every K-6 school, and the mandate would have applied uniformly regardless of whether a school enrolls 100 or 400 students.

□ Sen. Mark Stoops (D) of Bloomington opined that in place of a one-size-fits-all approach, perhaps schools should be given the option to choose between staffing up with a social worker or a guidance counselor depending on their needs. Brandie Oliver, president of the Indiana School Counselor Association and an assistant professor at Butler University, shared the most recent data showing that Indiana schools fall short of the 250-to-1 ratio recommended by the American School Counselor Association. Indiana’s ratio of 639-to-1 is one of the ten worst ratios in the nation.

● During testimony on Senate Bill 233, “the Christmas Tree Bill,” in the Senate Committee on Education & Career Development, David Sklar of the Indianapolis Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) explained that his organization has no problem with the display of Christmas trees, wreaths, or dreidels, or the singing of Christmas carols, or art class projects to create Christmas ornaments, as long as no student is forced to participate and they are provided with an opportunity to take part in another equal activity.

□ But JCRC is concerned about language in SB 233 that seems to permit a public school to set up a nativity scene.

● House Speaker Brian Bosma (R) of Indianapolis says it is his hope that the bipartisan balance of the State Board of Education will be preserved. “In the last two years I have spent more time on this particular governance issue than I have in the last 20. I think a change to allow the State Board to select its own chair is appropriate for clear governance, and actually was recommended in the 70s by the Wells Commission. Whether the appointments should be altered, I’m reserving judgment on this at that point. It would seem to me the best method is still having the governor appoint all members. In part I say that because if the majority leader of the House has an appointment, it would make sense that the minority party has one, and then we have the potential to have more partisan appointees than currently the board has. It has been my experience in meeting with both Republican and Democrat members of the State Board of Education that their primary focus is on students, and that’s where it should remain.”

● Senate Bill 1 reforming the selection of chair of the State Board of Education will be heard in the Senate Committee on Rules & Legislative Procedure on Monday, February 2.

□ Senate President Pro Tem David Long (R) of Fort Wayne explains why he believes this is the best course of action. “We feel strongly that despite a lot of effort particularly by the Speaker and I to mediate in the background over the last couple of years, the board of education has not been effective. A dysfunctional board is not in the best interest of Indiana schools, children, and parents.”

● The House Committee on Education Thursday voted 8-3 along party lines to approve House Bill 1609, legislation that would allow the State Board of Education to elect its own chair. Democrats portrayed the move as a political power play, and Superintendent of Public Instruction Glenda Ritz (D), who delivered a prepared speech in testifying on the chair legislation, left the hearing without even answering any questions from panel members – something that State House denizens can’t recall any other statewide elective official ever doing, reports our sister newsletter, **INDIANA LEGISLATIVE INSIGHT**.

● The legislative agenda of the State Board of Education is encapsulated in House Bill 1486 carried by Rep. Jeff Thompson (R) of Lizton. The bill passed out of the House Committee on Education on Thursday by a party-line vote of 9-4.

□ Under the measure, the State Board of Education would set minimum and maximum thresholds for the use of student achievement and growth in teacher evaluations. The ISTEP cut scores would be determined by independent experts selected by the State Board. Oversight of the turnaround academies would shift from the Indiana Department of Education to the Board. The A-F system could include peer-based growth. The Board would be required to adopt voluntary pre-kindergarten standards as recommended by the Early Learning Advisory Council. The State Board of Education would also be empowered to appoint its own executive director.

□ “It is not our intention to do anything other than to carry out the statutory duties you have already given the Board,” testified SBOE’s Dr. Brad Oliver in the House Education Committee. Rep. Vernon Smith (D) of Gary countered, “You want to get into management and implementation. I think it is a power grab. (The Board) is trying to be the superintendent when you are a rule and policy making board.” Rep. Smith offered an amendment “to wipe out the board” but it failed along party lines. Rep. Terri Austin (D) of Anderson predicts that the re-insertion of peer-based growth will spark an uproar.

● Senate Bill 566 would increase performance bonuses for the best teachers and also allow teachers to keep a portion of that bonus permanently in their base pay. Senate President Pro Tem David Long (R) of Fort Wayne explains, “We need to make sure this next generation of potential teachers knows that it’s a revered profession, an honored one, a critically important one, and one where you can make a good living.”

□ Sen. Long also vowed that the Senate will take a hard look at whether there’s too much testing in schools.

□ SB 566 would also allow the ISTEP exam to be replaced with a less expensive, off-the-shelf test. When pressed for examples, Sen. Long mentioned the NWEA and the PSAT/SAT. “(Indiana law) clearly says no Common Core, so we’re not going to turn this over to some national group to administer it,” explains Sen. Long. “It’s going to stay an Indiana test with Indiana standards. But can we adapt some of these other tests to create a simpler testing environment where maybe you’d be able to compare outcomes with other kids around the country, but without using national standards, using our own standards. We’ll see how it goes.” SB 566 also eliminates the Core 40 end-of-course assessments, a recommendation that was endorsed last year by the Education Roundtable. Indiana currently spends \$35 million annually on the ISTEP and \$11 million on formative assessments.

● Sen. Carlin Yoder (R) of Middlebury, a former Christian school headmaster, introduced Senate Bill 538 in the Senate Committee on Pensions & Labor, legislation which he says aims to give teachers greater familiarity with their rights and more input into their representation.

□ The most controversial aspect of the bill would require every school corporation to have an election before July 1, 2017, to certify the exclusive bargaining representative. Another part of the bill creates a teacher bill of rights modeled on a law in Idaho which would be distributed to teachers annually by the Indiana Education Employment Relations Board (IEERB). The responsibility for creating a model salary schedule would shift from the Indiana Department of Education to IEERB. The bill would also define a professional employee organization and would require schools to provide such organizations with equal access to teacher e-mail addresses, bulletin boards, and meeting rooms. “My intent is not to have one thousand organizations come in and bombard teachers,” said Sen. Yoder. He told Sen. Karen Tallian (D) of Portage that he was agreeable to tightening up the verbiage related to equal access to teachers.

□ Support for the bill came from Caitlin Gamble, policy advisor for Hoosiers for Quality Education, Caryl Auslander, vice president of education policy for the Indiana Chamber of Commerce, and Ed Roberts of the Indiana Manufacturers Association. Since 1973 only 60 school corporations have ever had an election to determine the exclusive representative, meaning the teachers in the remaining 248 school corporations “have never had a voice,” said Roberts, and it’s time they finally had a say. Gail Zeharalis of the Indiana State Teachers Association and Sally Sloan of the Indiana Federation of Teachers testified in opposition. They predicted that requiring elections in every bargaining unit would be extremely disruptive and divisive.

● Senate Bill 443, a bill arising from last year’s interim study committee on school discipline practices, would provide schools, principals, and teachers with tools, options, data, and resources to promote alternatives to suspension and expulsion. Advocates testified that school discipline practices are growing more punitive and that they have a disproportionate negative impact on African-Americans, students with disabilities, students in the child welfare system, and students with mental health issues. Research shows that excessive use of punitive discipline leads to student disengagement, academic failure, and dropout. Indiana University Professor of School Psychology Russ Skiba testified in the Senate Education & Career Development Committee that 751,366 instructional days were lost due to suspension and expulsion last year in Indiana. Indiana Association of School Principals Executive Director Todd Bess asked that the ability of schools to suspend or expel students based on attendance not be taken away.

● House Bill 1095 authored by Rep. Randy Frye (R) of Greensburg would increase funding for the state’s smallest school corporations. Districts with less than 2,400 students and a complexity factor of at least 0.1 would be eligible for a special grant. The legislation basically would restore a provision in the school funding formula that was deleted after 2011. About 180 school corporations would qualify. The fiscal impact is estimated at \$37.8 million annually.

□ Rep. Frye defended his measure in an interview with Eagle Country 99.3 FM in Lawrenceburg. “Frankly, it costs more money per student to run a small school than it does at a large school. If you were fixing a meal for 100 students, you could fix it per student, price-wise for less than if you were fixing it for 40. That’s why our small schools are struggling. They still have to provide a gymnasium, they still have to have all those teachers, and yet they don’t have the revenue or student body.”

● The Senate Committee on Education & Career Development voted 8-2 to approve Senate Bill 495, authored by Sen. Greg Taylor (D) of Indianapolis, that would require schools to teach ethnic studies.

● Superintendent of Public Instruction Glenda Ritz (D) says that the aspect of the draft A-F rules she is most excited about is the separation of performance from growth. Schools will see separate grades broken out for both components in addition to a single final grade, and she says this will make the system more user friendly.

□ The draft rules are currently headed to a public comment phase, and after final State Board of Education review and approval later this year, they would take effect with the 2015-2016 school year.

IN Courts & Conduct . . .

● Marion County Superior Court Judge Louis Rosenberg enjoins the Indiana High School Athletic Association from restricting the athletic eligibility of Eron Gordon, who transferred from North Central High School to Cathedral High School prior to the start of his junior year. IHSAA had previously barred Gordon from competing at Cathedral for one year after determining that he transferred schools for primarily athletic reasons. Judge Rosenberg ordered the Indiana Department of Education’s Case Review Panel to reopen an inquiry into the case to determine whether the IHSAA acted arbitrarily when it investigated Gordon but not the thousands of other student athletes who transfer every year. Both North Central and Cathedral had originally recommended that Gordon be fully eligible. Judge Rosenberg also chided the IHSAA for failing to produce evidence known to be relevant and in its exclusive possession.

● Six schools in the School Town of Highland were put on lockdown for more than two hours after someone called the Highland Police Department and threatened to shoot up the high school cafeteria unless a \$2,000 ransom was paid. The school superintendent used social media to communicate with the community during the crisis, including dispelling rampant rumors of a gunman inside the high school. The call was traced to a home in Dallas, but Dallas Police determined that nobody at the residence was responsible for the threat. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives also became involved after determining that the mysterious phone number was used to place a threat back in 2012.

● The Crown Point Police Department and the Lake County Sheriff’s Department combed Crown Point High School for explosives after receiving three phone calls from a blocked number warning of a bomb. The search was conducted without evacuating students or confining them to classrooms. The information about the threat provided by the caller was inconsistent and contradictory, leading officials to strongly suspect it was a hoax.

● Concord High School was the subject of another bomb threat Monday, found inside a girls bathroom, just as the first threat discovered on January 15th. Elkhart County law enforcement officials coordinated provide extra patrols with school officials, and conducted searches of the building with bomb-sniffing dogs.

● WXIN-TV *Fox59* in Indianapolis reports “Indianapolis Public Schools officials say changes are in the works after an out-of-control classroom brawl that was caught on camera January 13 at the Phoenix Academy, which used to be known as Longfellow Middle School. On that day, one of the school’s teachers did not come to work and a substitute had not arrived. The school normally maintains a 10-to-1 student-to-teacher ratio. But because of the staffing shortage, two classrooms were combined into one, with a single teacher supervising. The combined classroom ... fight escalated out of control with students screaming and throwing chairs.”

□ IPS will add a classroom assistant to each room for increased supervision as well as another teacher to further reduce class sizes to a more manageable number.

● Kevin Pack, a former German teacher fired by the Middlebury Community Schools, filed a lawsuit in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Indiana in South Bend alleging he was dismissed because he is an atheist and he objected to the way the school principal promoted religion in the public school. *The Goshen News* reports, "At the time of Pack's firing, the Middlebury school board said he was fired for poor performance and released a list of 76 'facts' cited in the cause document used by the school board to fire Pack. The 75th 'fact' listed in the firing document, stated 'The first time Mr. Pack alleged religious harassment was December 16, 2013, which was only five days (three school days) after he had received a poor performance evaluation.'" The paper adds, "Administrators also cited Pack's showing an R-rated film to freshmen and sophomores in a German class as being a concern. Also, a student complained that Pack had the book 'All the German You Were Never Taught in School' on a counter for students to view and the book contained 'nude drawings, foul language, and sexual content (even involving animals.)' The facts document also cited concerns relayed to staff by students about the lack of proper teaching methods and that Pack sometimes yelled at and laughed at students for the answers they gave to questions."

● The Richmond Community Schools board of trustees accepted the resignation of a high school math teacher and former assistant football coach who is the subject of an investigation into an alleged improper relationship with a student. The teacher had been placed on administrative leave January 20 and resigned January 23, effective immediately.

IN Higher Education

IN General . . .

● *Inside Higher Ed* talks to Purdue University President Mitch Daniels about his push to adopt a student learning assessment, and the resistance from the faculty.

□ "Purdue wants the student growth assessment 'for the same reason that hundreds of other universities are already doing this - that research has shown that in some cases little to no intellectual growth occurs during the college years,' Daniels said in an interview with *Inside Higher Ed*. And the marketplace is saying emphatically that they find far too many college graduates lacking in critical thinking and communication skills and problem solving, etcetera.' Daniels said he is 'very confident learning is happening on our campus,' and that he thinks Purdue will 'stack up well' against other institutions in terms of student learning gains. But showing that is a matter of 'responsibility and necessity,' he added. Faculty members, meanwhile, say that the process is too rushed, and that they can't endorse an assessment instrument they're not sure is valid. Then there are procedural issues, such as how to choose a representative student sample to take the test as freshmen, and how to get seniors - who are busier and harder to find - to take it at all. They're also concerned about how the university will use the

data it gathers from any assessment. Will the data truly be aggregate, as the university has said it will be, professors wonder, or will be it somehow used punitively against them?"

□ "At a University Senate meeting this week, Daniels again made his case to the faculty with a PowerPoint presentation showing that many peer institutions already use the Collegiate Learning Assessment. He said wanted the assessment to 'demonstrate what we know: a Purdue degree has high value,' and that Purdue students gain critical-thinking, reasoning and communication skills. He said he wanted the institution to track its progress over time, and make the information 'transparent' to students and potential students, parents, 'fellow citizens,' and policy makers. He said the assessment would not be used to rate colleges within Purdue, individual majors, programs or individual faculty. But faculty members remained unconvinced. They again asked Daniels for more time, and he gave them until April - not quite the year and a half they'd wanted. Faculty members also asked for the immediate formation of an expert panel to look at all available assessment tools, and to consider whether or not it's necessary to create a new one, specific to Purdue. (Daniels said an internal tool 'won't fly,' since it's important to be able to compare Purdue to other institutions.)

● Butler University's College of Education receives the 2015 National Model of Excellence award from the Association of Independent Liberal Arts Colleges for Teacher Education.

● Ivy Tech Community College Northeast hires True North Strategic Advisors for a study of the education and job training needs in the nine-county region.

IN Programs & Policy . . .

● Ivy Tech Community College will recruit master's level graduates from historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) to teach and lead Ivy Tech classes on a full-time basis. The goal is to hire three to five new faculty members from HBCU partners beginning in the Fall 2015 semester. The program will focus on the College's three largest regions with sizable minority populations (Northwest, North Central, and Central Indiana). More than one-half of African-Americans enrolled in college in Indiana attend Ivy Tech. The Sam H. Jones Faculty Fellows Program is named to honor the late president of the Indianapolis Urban League.

● Indiana Tech Law School launches a new, flexible enrollment option allowing students to continue their careers and work full time while going to law school. Tech Law Flex permits students in Fort Wayne to complete their legal education in as few as nine semesters of study, taking an average of 10 credits per semester. Working students enrolled in Tech Law Flex will attend daytime classes at the law school, and may study Indiana Tech Law's traditional first-year curriculum over two years, then expand their knowledge with its upper-level curriculum, designed to enhance students' practice skills while preparing them for success on the bar. The flexible nature of the program allows students as few or as many classes as they like, up to 12 credit hours per semester, so long as they complete their law degree within seven years. Four members of the fall 2014 entering class are currently enrolled in the pilot version of the Flex program.

- A new reverse transfer agreement between Vincennes University and Purdue University will allow students to earn a VU associate degree, even if they did not complete it prior to transfer, after they accumulate enough credits at Purdue. Under the agreement, Purdue will send an email to identified students that explains the reverse transfer option and provide a dedicated email address to which a free electronic Purdue transcript can be sent to VU for evaluation for the degree.

IN Rankings . . .

- The University of Evansville's study abroad program at Harlaxton College, a Harry Potter-esque campus located one hour north of London, ranks first among the best study-abroad programs in America by BestCollegeReviews.org. The 50 Best Study Abroad Programs in America" tags Goshen College as having the fourth-best program and Butler University as the ninth-best.

- Ball State University offers the country's top-ranked online masters degree in educational technology, according to Top Masters in Education Indiana University Bloomington ranked second in the nation. Schools and programs were evaluated based on publicly available information about accreditation, academic quality, student satisfaction, reputation in the field, and cost.

- The Indiana University McKinney School of Law has four alumni serving in the 114th Congress, the seventh-most lawyer-lawmaker alumni in the nation, according to a *National Law Journal* article on "pipelines into Congress." Harvard Law School was first with 18 alumni.

- Indiana University ranked seventh on a list of the top 50 online Registered Nurse-to-Bachelor of Science in Nursing programs for 2015 compiled by CollegeChoice.net.

- Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College placed second in the nation a new ranking of online psychology programs compiled by AffordableCollegesOnline.org. The rankings combine 10 criteria covering rigor, flexibility, student support, and affordability.

- The Purdue University Krannert School of Management occupies the 48th spot in the *Financial Times* ranking of best MBA programs for 2015, up from 56th one year ago. The Indiana University Kelley School of Business fell from 47th in 2014 to 62nd. The rankings are based on surveys of the business schools and their 2011 graduates, the career progression of alumni, the school's idea generation, and the diversity of students and faculty.

- The newly created DePauw University Law Scholar program will allow DePauw to nominate two students or alumni each year for admission to the Indiana University McKinney School of Law and the receipt of a minimum of a half-tuition scholarship plus paid employment as a research assistant.

- Indiana University Bloomington was ranked as the seventh-most efficient university in the nation in an analysis conducted by *U.S. News & World Report* that compared each school's undergraduate academic quality with its per-student expenditures.

- Taylor University was cited as the fourth-most efficient school among the sub-sector of Midwest Regional Colleges.

IN Gifts & Fundraising . . .

- The University of Notre Dame establishes an endowed professorship in Islamic thought and Muslim societies to be housed within the Keough School of Global Affairs, which will be the first new school established at Notre Dame in nearly 100 years when it opens in August 2017. The faculty position has been funded through a \$3 million gift from alumna Susan Mirza in tribute to her late husband.

- The University of Indianapolis will rename its Honors College for Ron Strain and Laura Strain in appreciation for their \$1 million gift. Now living in Florida, the couple met as UIndy students and joined the Board of Trustees in 2013.

- The University of Indianapolis collects a \$500,000 gift from the Ray Skillman Auto Group that will pay for the replacement of the basketball floor in Nicoson Hall. The floor will now be known as Skillman Court.

- Wabash College receives a \$2 million grant from the Lilly Endowment to support the training of doctoral students in theology and religion. The Graduate Program Teaching Initiative (GPTI) at the Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion will in turn distribute multi-year grants of up to \$75,000 to universities for doctoral programs in theology and religion.

IN Transition . . .

- The Franklin College Board of Trustees selects Thomas J. Minar, Ph.D., as the 16th president, effective July 1. He is apparently the first openly gay college president in Indiana. Dr. Minar currently is the vice president of development and alumni relations for American University. He previously spent five years at Roosevelt University in Chicago as vice president for institutional advancement and four years as vice president for development and external affairs at Chicago Theological Seminary. He served as chief development officer at the College of Business Administration at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; director of development for the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations; and assistant dean and director of alumni relations at Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management. A graduate of Pomona College with a B.A. in government, he holds a Master of Management degree from Kellogg, and a Ph.D. in political science, also from Northwestern.

- The Saint Joseph's College Board of Trustees names Dr. Robert A. Pastoor the College's 18th president. Dr. Pastoor's presidency will begin on March 16. He has 30+ years of higher education administration experience and comes to SJC from Marietta College of Ohio, where he has been the vice president for student life since 2010. His time at Marietta College, the University of San Diego, Carroll College, and Mount St. Mary's gives Pastoor 20 years of vice presidential experience. He also served as the president of Saint John's Catholic Prep from 2005 to 2009. He earned his Doctorate of Educational Leadership, Higher Education, and Technology Leadership from the University of Montana; his Master of Education in Counseling from McDaniel College; and his B.S. in History and Education from Mount St. Mary's University.

- Susie Trees, director of the Ivy Tech Community College Frankfort campus, will retire at the end of February and will be replaced by Andrew Muffett, the site director for the Renaissance Instructional Center in Lafayette.

- One of five finalists selected for the position of dean of the College of Media, Communication and Information at the University of Colorado Boulder is Dean Lori Bergen of Marquette University, who earned her doctorate in mass communication with a minor in organizational behavior from Indiana University-Bloomington.

- Chris J. Foley is appointed Indiana University assistant vice president and director of the Office of Online Education effective March 1. Foley has almost 18 years of experience working on IU's Bloomington and Indianapolis campuses. Since 2007, he has served as director of undergraduate admissions for IUPUI. He holds an Ed.D. degree from the IU School of Education, and master's degrees from IU in English and creative writing.

IN Government . . .

- Senate Bill 127, legislation introduced by Sen. Travis Holdman (R) of Markle to restore the ability of Indiana Wesleyan University to receive state workforce training grants, has passed out of committee. The legislation does not specifically mention IWU, but it allows state and local government contracts to be awarded to entities that restrict hiring to employees who share their religious convictions.

- Among the many provisions of Senate Bill 566, students who earn a STEM degree and a minor in education would be allowed to earn a teaching license.

- Senate Majority Floor Leader Brandt Hershman (R) of Buck Creek introduces legislation allowing prosecutors to seek the death penalty for murders committed on school or university property. Sen. Hershman was inspired to file Senate Bill 385 after Tippecanoe County courts were unable to recommend the death penalty for a fatal shooting that occurred at Purdue University in January 2014.

- Senate Bill 492 would address the unfunded liability created when Indiana University, Purdue University, Ivy Tech Community College, and Vincennes University elected to freeze participation in the Indiana Public Retirement System (INPRS) by no longer enrolling new employees. The bill allows INPRS to levy a surcharge on each university based on the unfunded liability of its remaining state pension fund employees. The details of the surcharge have not been totally agreed to by the universities. Tony Green, chief counsel to INPRS, refers to this issue as "the soft freeze." The bill passed out of the Senate Committee on Pensions & Labor has been referred to the Senate Committee on Appropriations.

- Indiana Commissioner for Higher Education Teresa Lubbers will join 200 students at Charles A. Tindley Elementary School in Indianapolis on January 30 to kickoff Cash for College, Indiana's annual financial literacy campaign that lasts through the March 10 deadline for filing the FAFSA. Three Tindley students will compete in a financial aid Jeopardy with the winner taking home the grand prize of \$529 in a College Choice 529 account.

- In a conference call with Indiana media on Wednesday, U.S. Sen. Joe Donnelly (D) acknowledged that he had expressed his concerns with the President's proposal to revamp 529 education savings plans. "We told a lot of people that the 529 plans were important," and a "cornerstone" some of the success that Indiana has seen. He mentioned that during the 2012 senate campaign, he praised his opponent, then-state treasurer Richard Mourdock (R) on the issue, recalling saying that "his work with 529s has been terrific." Sen. Donnelly reiterated the reasoning behind authorization of 529s and the savings components, adding "we ought to reward that."

- The Angola City Council is considering using \$50,000 of the city's Major Moves funds to establish vocational training scholarships.

- Navient Solutions, Inc., the student loan management, servicing, and asset recovery company launched by Sallie Mae with major operations in Fishers, Indianapolis, and Muncie (and which employs about 2,400 Hoosiers), reports spending some \$630,000 on federal lobbying activities during the fourth quarter of 2014.

IN Courts & Conduct . . .

- ESPN files suit against the University of Notre Dame to obtain police incident reports involving student athletes.

- Indiana's Public Access Counselor recently reversed the office's long-standing position with a ruling finding that private university security police departments are not exempt from the public records disclosure requirements. The ESPN lawsuit has been filed in St. Joseph County Circuit Court on behalf of an investigative reporter for the *Outside the Lines* television show. The suit requests a civil penalty, attorney's fees, court costs, and related expenses.

- The Purdue University Police Department was notified January 22 by an Iowa university's law enforcement agency that one of its students reported having been sexually assaulted by a Purdue student the previous evening. Purdue announced a suspension of the student as well as the fraternity where the alleged assault took place.

- A student who claimed to have been the victim of a separate January 22 sexual assault outdoors on campus recanted that claim on January 25.

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Sent: Tuesday, January 27, 2015 9:00 AM
To: Gilson, Katie;Quyle, Lindsay;Cleveland, Bridget;Ahearn, Mark;Atkins, Chris;Bailey, Brian (OMB);Bauer, Zachary C;Berry, Adam (GOV);Brooks, Kara D;Brown, Hannah;Marshall, Sara (Cardwell);Joyner Burroughs (Cissel), Jackie;Crabtree, Chris;Craig, Lindsey M;Czarniecki, Cary (Lani);Denault, Christina;Espich, Jeff;Fritz, Pam (GOV);Jarmula, Ryan L;Kane, Kristen;Vincent, Micah;Morales, Cesar (Diego);Myers, Janille;Neale, Brian S;Pavlik, Jennifer L;Pitcock, Josh;Price, Kendra;Schilb, Veronica J;Schmidt, Daniel W;Simcox, Stephen;Streeter, Ryan T;Fernandez, Marilyn;Hodgin, Stephanie;Karns, Allison;Rosebrough, Dennis (LG);Cardwell, Jeffery;Dowd, Jaclyn (CECI);Keefer, Sean (GOV);Norton, Erin (Ladd);Johnson, Matt (GOV);Heater, Ryan;Mantravadi, Adarsh V;Rosebrough, Dennis (LG);McKinney, Ted;Bausman, David;Atterholt, Jim;Davidson, Brenden;Myers, Janille;Fox, Joseph R;McGrath, Danielle;Brookes, Brady;Triol, Shelley;Wall, Kathryn E;Reed, Katie;Hauer, Ian;McCleery, William
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PENCE EXPECTED TO ANNOUNCE FEDERAL APPROVAL OF HIP 2.0: Gov. Mike Pence is expected to announce Tuesday the federal government has approved Healthy Indiana Plan 2.0 as an alternative to Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare (Carden, *NWI Times*). The exact details of who will be eligible for HIP 2.0, what it will cover, who will pay and when coverage might start still are not known ahead of the Republican's 9 a.m. region time speech at an Indianapolis hospital campus. State leaders and federal health officials have spent nearly seven months negotiating components of the program. A key sticking point has been Pence's insistence on HIP 2.0 participants paying a monthly premium to maintain health coverage. The governor's office would not say Monday what changes finally led to an agreement. Under Pence's original proposal, between 350,000 and 450,000 able-bodied Hoosiers ages 19 to 64 who earn less than 138 percent of the federal poverty level — that's \$16,243 for an individual or \$33,465 for a family of four — would be eligible for the HIP Plus plan. Those participants, who otherwise would have been able to enroll in no-cost Medicaid, instead would be required to contribute between \$3 and \$25 a month, based on their incomes, to a health savings account the program will bring up to \$2,500. A member's annual health care costs, including vision, dental and prescription drug services, initially would be paid from that account, with the program covering all expenses beyond \$2,500. But if an enrollee failed to make a health savings account contribution, he or she would be dropped to HIP Basic, which offers reduced benefits and requires co-payments for all services. Depending on income, some delinquent participants would lose their HIP coverage altogether. A third tier of the program, HIP Link, would allow HIP-eligible working Hoosiers to use their health savings accounts to pay their share of costs associated with an employer-provided health plan.

PENCE PLANNING STATE-RUN NEWS AGENCY: Gov. Mike Pence is starting a state-run taxpayer-funded news outlet that will make pre-written news stories available to Indiana media, as well as sometimes break news about his administration, according to documents obtained by The Indianapolis Star (LoBianco, *IndyStar*). Pence is planning in late February to launch "Just IN," a website and news outlet that will feature stories and news releases written by state press secretaries and is being overseen by a former Indianapolis Star reporter, Bill McCleery. "At times, Just IN will break news — publishing information ahead of any other news outlet. Strategies for determining how and when to give priority to such 'exclusive' coverage remain under discussion," according to a

question-and-answer sheet distributed last week to communications directors for state agencies. The Pence news outlet will take stories written by state communications directors and publish them on its website. Stories will "range from straightforward news to lighter features, including personality profiles." The endeavor will come at some taxpayer cost, but precisely how much is unclear. The news service has two dedicated employees, whose combined salary is nearly \$100,000, according to a search of state employee salary data. A Pence spokeswoman on Monday downplayed the move, describing it as similar to the state's current online calendar of news releases, but with a new design. She declined to immediately answer other questions but said the administration would release more details soon. The news agency is being overseen by a governance board of communications directors and an editorial board of McCleery and the governor's communications staff. One target audience for the governor's stories would be smaller newspapers that have only a few staffers...Government-run media exists elsewhere in the U.S. Illinois runs the Illinois Government News Network, which distributes press releases in a more newsy format and the federal government runs Voice of America, even though VOA is broadcast only outside the U.S... The Just IN documents show that the new outlet plans to pitch stories to both reporters and directly to the public. "We expect reporters to find the site useful, and some features are designed specifically for media professionals. Just IN, however, will function as a news outlet in its own right for thousands of Hoosiers — transparent in functioning as a voice of the State of Indiana's executive branch," according to one document. "It's not uncommon throughout history for governments to do what they can to control the message," Steve Key of the Hoosier State Press Association said. "Is that done in a benign way because they're trying to get more info out to the public, or is it done with hidden motivations in making sure their message is seen in the best light possible?"

BILL TAKES AIM AT THE LEFT LANE LARRYS: An amendment filed by Rep. Dave Ober, R-Albion, stands to be the most popular bit of lawmaking of the year (Kelly, *Fort Wayne Journal Gazette*). He suggested language to a motor vehicle bill Monday that would make it more clear a driver in the left lane of a highway has to move over to the right lane when cars are waiting behind. And if you don't, police can ticket you. The amendment was added to House Bill 1305 by the full House. "It's a pet peeve," said Rep. Jud McMillin, R-Brookville. "No one likes to be behind someone in the left hand lane who won't get out of the way." The law would apply on roadways that have two or more lanes of traffic in each direction. "A person who knows, or should reasonably know, that another vehicle is overtaking from the rear the vehicle that the person is operating may not continue to operate the vehicle in the left most lane," the language says. There are several exceptions included if congestion, weather or other traffic conditions require a car to remain in the left most lane.

KOKOMO FILES SUIT OVER STADIUM: The City of Kokomo has filed legal action against Director David Kane and the Indiana Department of Homeland Security seeking declaratory and injunctive relief in an effort to continue building the Kokomo Municipal Stadium (*Howey Politics Indiana*). The complaint, filed in the Marion County Environmental Court, states that, "IDHS has no right to prevent the proposed construction on the Parcels that comply with the Agreed Terms. The Agreed Terms, which IDHS and the City agreed to govern the future use of the Parcels, allow the City to build on the Parcels pursuant to and consistent with the Redesign." The stadium project encompasses approximately 70 total parcels—eight of which have had construction halted due to IDHS. The suit comes after months of communication with IDHS officials, including a July 17, 2014 letter from the City of Kokomo to IDHS requesting a meeting to address any concerns the agency might have with the project. IDHS ignored the City's request, and the letter, for months. The City and its contractors had over 25 communications with IDHS, IDEM, and DNR regarding the stadium and flood mitigation between July and mid-October in which no concerns were expressed by the State. Beginning in mid-October, IDHS took unprecedented action in interfering with the construction. "We have honored our agreement with IDHS and it is unfortunate that the City of Kokomo has to file this legal action," said Kokomo Mayor Greg Goodnight. "Kokomo Municipal Stadium is a catalyst for economic growth. Local high schools and the Prospect League Kokomo Jackrabbits will call it home. It is the center of nearly \$40 million in investments, job creation and economic development. IDHS's actions are big government overreach at its worst."

WAYNE SCHOOLS CONSIDERS TAX HIKE FOR \$8M GAP, CAPS COST \$60M: As Wayne Township students work on learning in the classroom, administrators are working on a math problem of their own (Grove, *WISH-TV*). "We're at a funding gap of about \$8 million a year," said Superintendent Dr. Jeff Butts. Butts said state limits have cost the district \$60 million over the last seven years. On top of that, he said property values themselves have declined, costing the district even more. To cope, district officials said they've already made cuts — reducing the district's work force by 99 people — mostly through retirements. They've also cut supply budgets and overtime. "It's very serious," said Butts. "We're at the point now where we need taxpayers to make a decision, whether or not to continue the services we have or if we need to make additional reductions." Monday night, school board members approved a resolution to place a referendum on the May ballot that, if passed, would raise property taxes by a maximum of 35-cents per every \$100 of assessed valuation. For the median household, it would mean just under \$8 more per month for seven years

FORT WAYNE SCHOOLS CUT BUSING FOR THOUSANDS DUE TO CAPS: The Fort Wayne Community Schools board voted 7 – 0 to pass a transportation plan Monday

evening that cuts bus service to thousands of students (*WANE-TV*). The district came up with the plan as a means to address state property tax caps which has limited the amount of money available for the transportation budget. To deal with the lack of funds, FWCS will discontinue bus service for some students and will change the times when schools start and end their day so that the limited number of buses can run more routes. Earlier in January, FWCS hosted public meetings to inform parents and the public of the major proposed changes. The transportation changes would cut \$2.5 million from its budget, which \$1.5 million of that comes from enforcing No Transportation Zones (NTZ). "Starting next year, if you attend a school that is not your geographically assigned school and not a magnet school or a high school program of study, we will not be transporting you anymore," FWCS spokesperson Krista Stockman told NewsChannel 15 earlier in January. As of this school year, FWCS buses nearly 21,000 students daily. Monday's vote reduces that number by 4,000-6,000 more students. The other part of the plan up for approval includes changing the times students would go to school.

HPI DAILY ANALYSIS: We're entering a new era of government control of messaging with the establishment of Gov. Pence's "Just IN" news service. Will it be "propaganda?" As the Zen master says, "We'll see." - Brian A. Howey

Campaigns

2015: CARMEL COUNCILMAN RICK SHARP TO PRIMARY BRAINARD - It's official. Carmel City Council President Rick Sharp will face off against long-time incumbent Mayor Jim Brainard in the Republican primary this May (Kehoe and Halvorson, *WISH-TV*). Sharp, whose interest in the seat had been the subject of speculation for months, made the announcement Monday morning in front of city hall. "Serving the people of our city since 2004, I have had the opportunity to be a part of Carmel's tremendous growth, working to attract businesses to Carmel while exhibiting fiscal restraint. During that time, I have also witnessed overspending and a lack of transparency by the current administration, leading to a significant amount of financial debt and putting the future of our city at risk. I have done my best to fight for fiscal responsibility and respect for taxpayer dollars, but it has become clear to me that we need a change in the Mayor's office if we are going to move Carmel forward responsibly and sustainably," Sharp said in a statement announcing his candidacy. Sharp, 59, was recently elected by the Council to serve his sixth term as President.

2015: SHARP OPPOSES DEBT LOAD, BRAINARD FISCAL POLICIES - [Sharp] has been an increasingly vocal critic on some of Brainard's spending decisions, and told I-Team 8 last fall that his concerns are growing over the city's rapid pace of redevelopment that could put property owners at risk of having a special benefits tax levied as early as later this year (Kehoe and Halvorson, *WISH-TV*). "The tax increment is not sufficient to repay the debt that they have accumulated. And, over the course of the life of the bond payments, they come up \$43 million short. That is a significant number," Sharp told I-Team 8 at the time. An I-Team 8 analysis last year found Carmel's per capita debt among the highest in the state. The city's approximately 85,000 residents owe \$11,809 per person, as of July 1, 2014. Sharp called the figures troubling. "It is time we took serious steps to reduce our debt and put safeguards in place so this does not happen again," Sharp said. "The goal is to ensure full accountability to the public, making it impossible for any elected official to ever again rack up this level of debt on the backs of our children and grandchildren." Brainard has long contended that Carmel's debt load remains at a manageable level. He chalked the criticism up to politics.

2015: BRAINARD LEADS SHARP IN FUNDRAISING - Campaign finance reports show Sharp enters the race at a significant financial disadvantage (Kehoe and Halvorsn, *WISH-TV*). The last available filings show he has \$69,850 on-hand, while Brainard is listed with \$142,567 in available campaign funding. 24-Hour News 8's Eric Halvorson sat down with both candidates Monday for one-on-one conversations about the upcoming race. "Jim Brainard has done some remarkable things for Carmel," Rick Sharp said. "No one can deny that. He should be very proud of his accomplishments. But, he's not shown me that he's learned in the office and that he's developed the requisite management skills to run the enterprise that is Carmel today." The city has grown dramatically during the Brainard administration, and he's proud to say those have been years of good management. "Taxes are less today, for many home owners, than they were 20 years ago," Mayor Brainard said. "What else can you say that about?" Carmel has often been front page news during those years. We certainly have more roads to fix, we have more parks to build in the city," Brainard said. "We have more amenities and we certainly have the ability to bring more corporations and business tax base to this community. We're going to continue to do that." But, critics such as Sharp say: Carmel's spending has over-extended the city. But the bills might not come due right away. "He voted for almost all of the debt and all of the budgets up until recently and in the last year and a half has changed his votes," Brainard said. "There's always subtleties in politics and I don't run away from my record, in fact, I embrace my record," Sharp said.

2015: GOODNIGHT ANNOUNCES REELECTION BID - Kokomo Mayor Greg Goodnight announced his campaign for reelection in front of a standing room only crowd at the Carpenters Local 615 office (*Howey Politics Indiana*). His speech detailed fourteen specific ways in which Kokomo has improved he took office in 2008. "We have come a long way in this city," said Mayor Goodnight. "We are looked to as a beacon of economic activity, innovation, and new thinking about how to run a municipal government. Kokomo is thriving. Kokomo is growing. But we are not yet finished. We must always look at our city, my hometown, as a work in progress. Always be moving forward, always driving toward bettering our community. With your help, and your support, we can do just that. I'm excited about the campaign, and looking forward to sharing ideas with people all across Kokomo." Mayor Goodnight was first elected in 2007 with a then record 66% of the vote. He broke that record in his 2011 reelection campaign, garnering 70% of the vote. During his time in office, Kokomo has seen record levels of private investment, a 24% decline in crime, rapid growth in new housing starts, and has been touted by *Governing Magazine* as the "poster child for long term fiscal sustainability."

2015: RICHARDSON RUNNING FOR ALEXANDRIA MAYOR - Former Madison County Sheriff Ron Richardson is expected to announce Friday that he will run for mayor of Alexandria (*Knight, Anderson Herald-Bulletin*). Richardson is holding a gathering at Beulah Park on Friday, Jan. 30 at 6:30 p.m. where he is expected to make the announcement. Richardson recently completed an eight-year term as sheriff and retired from the Madison County Sheriff's Department. He would first run in the May 5 Democratic Party primary.

2015: LINTON COUNCILWOMAN, EX-INTERIM MAYOR ANNOUNCES MAYORAL BID - Linda Bedwell has announced her candidacy for the office of Linton mayor on the Democratic ticket (*Karazsia, Greene Country Daily World*). Bedwell is a life-long resident of Linton and is married to William Bedwell. Bedwell is a graduate of Linton-Stockton High School with the class of 1975 and she is an owner of Bedwell Sewer Service. For eight years, Bedwell has been a member of the Linton City Council in the District 4 seat, and for a month she served as the interim mayor for the city of Linton. During her time on the Linton City Council, Bedwell worked to obtain a Blighted Property Grant, which was recently awarded to Greene County in the amount of \$945,000. A total of 49 properties were selected throughout Greene County and a majority, 29 properties to be exact, are located in the city of Linton.

2015: REPUBLICAN ANNOUNCES CANDIDACY FOR LINTON MAYOR - John Ray Correll has announced his candidacy for the upcoming Linton Mayoral election (Greene County Daily World). He will run for the office as a Republican candidate. Correll, a graduate of LSHS (Class of 68), has had a successful career in the mining industry, as well as government service. "I have been very fortunate in my career by having the opportunities to work for successful companies (Peabody Coal and Amax Coal, as well as iron ore producer Cleveland-Cliffs, Inc.) with dedicated men and women," Correll said. Correll has held senior management and executive positions throughout his career, including ten years in the Federal government as the senior career official for two different US Department of Labor agencies.

2016: CLINTON'S CAMPAIGN TAKES SHAPE - Not only is she running, but we have a very good idea of what her campaign will look like (*Politico*). Hillary Clinton is in the final stages of planning a presidential campaign that will most likely be launched in early April and has made decisions on most top posts, according to numerous Democrats in close contact with the Clintons and their aides. Campaign advisers say the likelihood of a campaign, long at 98 percent (she never really hesitated, according to one person close to her), went to 100 percent right after Christmas, when Clinton approved a preliminary budget and several key hires.

2016: KOCHS TO SPEND \$899M - The political network overseen by the conservative billionaires Charles G. and David H. Koch plans to spend close to \$900 million on the 2016 campaign, an unparalleled effort by coordinated outside groups to shape a presidential election that is already on track to be the most expensive in history (*New York Times*). The spending goal, revealed Monday at the Kochs' annual winter donor retreat near Palm Springs, Calif., would allow their political organization to operate at the same financial scale as the Democratic and Republican Parties. It would require a significant financial commitment from the Kochs and roughly 300 other donors they have recruited over the years, and covers both the presidential and congressional races. In the last presidential election, the Republican National Committee and the party's two congressional campaign committees spent a total of \$657 million.

2016: PELOSI SAYS DEMS CAN REGAIN CONTROL OF HOUSE - Rep. Nancy Pelosi says Democrats can recapture control of the House in 2016 by riding Hillary Clinton's coattails (The Hill). "Yes, we can win the House," the California Democrat said during a sit-down interview in her Capitol office. "If she runs, she will win the nomination. And if she's our nominee, she clearly — I mean, the campaign, the joint effort — would be one that could not only take her into office but would [pull

Democrats to victory],” Pelosi said. “There’s opportunity, all kinds of statistics now about if the Democrats have a presidential candidate who ... wins by 52 percent — that’s over 20 [House] seats,” Pelosi added. “And so 53 [percent] is a victory [for House Democrats].”

2016: PELOSI HOPES ROMNEY IS GOP NOMINEE - Mitt Romney has attracted an unlikely supporter in his possible 2016 White House bid: Rep. Nancy Pelosi (The Hill). Asked if Romney has any shot at defeating Hillary Clinton in 2016, Pelosi told The Hill, “No, no. I mean, he might be a nice person — no offense, no offense — [but] let’s save you time.” A smiling Pelosi added, “Let me put it this way — I hope he’s their nominee.”



General Assembly

SENATORS CITE TOO MUCH TESTING, WANT ISTEP REPLACEMENT: The Senate may take up a bill to scrap Indiana schools' state-mandated tests (Berman, *WIBC*). Republicans Luke Kenley of Noblesville and Ryan Mishler of Bremen have proposed junking the Core 40 end-of-course assessments entirely, and replacing ISTEP with something shorter, cheaper, and easier to grade. President Pro Tem David Long (R-Fort Wayne) says students and teachers are frustrated with how much time is spent either taking tests or getting ready for them. And he says he's still hearing complaints from schools in his district about problems with McGraw-Hill's administration of the test. Computer crashes disrupted testing in several schools last year. The bill calls for replacing ISTEP with a "nationally recognized" test after next school year. Long says a national test would be adapted to reflect Indiana's curriculum standards. The bill also includes a version of Governor Pence's call for "innovation network" schools which would enjoy regulatory freedom similar to the rules governing charter schools. Legislators gave the Indianapolis Public Schools that flexibility last year. Long says he doesn't know if the votes are there to replace ISTEP, but says it's time to discuss the issue. Although Long plans a hearing next week on a bill to remove state school

superintendent Glenda Ritz as chairman of the State Board of Education, the bill represents a point of potential agreement between Republican legislators and the Democratic superintendent. Reducing an overload of high-stakes tests was one of Ritz's key campaign planks when she was elected in 2012. Senate Education Chairman Dennis Kruse (R-Auburn) hasn't scheduled the bill for a hearing yet. House Education Chairman Robert Behning (R-Indianapolis) says it's too soon to comment on the bill, but cautions Indiana needs to give teachers certainty rather than swerving from one standard to another.

HOUSE EDU CMTE TO HEAR BILL ALLOWING SBOE TO ELECT OWN

CHAIR: Republican lawmakers frustrated with state Superintendent Glenda Ritz will get their first chance on Thursday to discuss a bill that would effectively remove her as the leader of the Indiana State Board of Education (Elliott, *Chalkbeat Indiana*). The House Education Committee will take up House Bill 1609, authored by Rep. Jud McMillin, R-Brookville, which makes good on Gov. Mike Pence's promise last month to seek a change in state law that would allow the state board to elect a replacement for Ritz as its chair. State law currently dictates that the state superintendent, who is elected statewide, will chair the board. Ritz is the only Democrat holding statewide office in Indiana. In a speech announcing his legislative agenda last month, Pence pitched a trade of sorts: he pledged to shut down the Center for Education and Career Innovation and said in return Ritz should give up her guarantee of being chairwoman. While Ritz complained frequently that CECI undermined her work, describing it as effectively a shadow education department, being chairwoman is one of the few tools she has to affect decision making by the 11-member state board, which was appointed entirely by Republican governors. At Pence's order, CECI is closing down by next month.

FULL HOUSE PASSES THREE EDUCATION BILLS: In other action on education bills Monday, the full House passed three bills, sending them to the Senate where they will be considered in March (Elliott, *Chalkbeat Indiana*): Transfers for school employees. House Bill 1056 requires school districts that have space to permit the children of their employees who live outside the school district to transfer into the district's schools. The bill applies even to districts that have policies against transfers. In addition, the bill says district must accept transfers for children who attend private schools within their boundaries but live in a different school district, again if they have space available. It passed the House 95-0. Teacher mentors. House Bill 1188, authored by Rep. Vernon Smith, D-Gary, would prevent teachers from serving as mentors to student teachers unless they are rated effective by their school districts. It passed 97-0. Adult charter high schools. House bill 1438 is primarily aimed at giving adult charter high school networks, like Goodwill's Excel Centers or Christel House's Dropout Recovery Schools, the ability to manage funds collectively rather than separate dollars into different

accounts for each school. Other charter school networks were given that flexibility by the legislature last year. The bill passed 95-0.

INCREASED CHARTER FUNDING COULD REQUIRE MORE SCRUTINY: A request for more money for charter schools could end up linked to stricter rules for authorizing them (Berman, *WIBC*). Governor Pence has asked budgeters to set aside extra money for charter schools to close a funding gap with traditional schools. Senate Appropriations Chairman Luke Kenley (R-Noblesville) says there's a link between charter schools' budgets and low academic performance at some schools. But Kenley says legislators may look at setting more rigorous criteria for approving charter school operators. He says some failed charters arguably shouldn't have been authorized in the first place. Kenley credits Indianapolis Mayor Greg Ballard and his predecessor, Bart Peterson, with doing a generally better job of vetting charter applicants than universities and school districts, perhaps because they knew they would be answerable to voters...Charter schools receive less money per pupil, in part because they can't levy property taxes and don't receive the additional money for transportation and construction funds that traditional schools do. Kenley says it's a "knotty" and unique problem that will require close scrutiny over the next three months.

SEN. LANANE'S SB 82 WOULD ASSIGN ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES FOR STUDY: Adult protective services in Indiana could be examined by a legislative study committee under a bill co-authored by state Sen. Tim Lanane, D-Anderson (*Miley, Anderson Herald-Bulletin*). Senate Bill 82, which would send the issue to a study committee, was approved 6-0 Monday by the Senate's Family and Children Services Committee. The bill now heads to the full Senate. Lanane co-authored the bill with Sen. Vaneta Becker, R-Evansville. The study was supported by Indiana's AARP, which urged a discussion on criminal penalties for elder abuse and financial exploitation. The Indiana Prosecuting Attorneys Council, a state judicial branch that assists prosecuting attorneys, also spoke on behalf of the legislative study committee... Lanane asked the committee, "Do you want an adult protective services investigator with a background in criminal training dealing with meth labs and domestic violence or do you want a licensed social worker with a background in how to help people with diminished capacity?"

REP. KOCH'S HB 1320 WOULD DRASTICALLY REFORM SOLAR ENERGY: The legislation proposed by Rep. Eric Koch, R-Bedford, is backed by Indiana's 14 investor-owned electric and gas utilities and opposed by environmentalists, some manufacturers of solar products, consumer advocates and the state's growing faith-based "Creation Care" movement (*Evans, IndyStar*). Just because you don't have a rooftop solar system

now doesn't mean you don't need to be paying attention. While there is little common ground between the two sides in this fight, there is one point on which they all agree. And this is why you need to be watching this bill: Thanks to technology improvements and dramatic price drops, small-scale, home solar generating systems are on the verge of becoming much more viable for Hoosiers. That fact is driving a rush from both sides to get out in front of an expected surge in small-scale solar power systems by creating a regulatory framework that best fits their agendas. Bottom line: There is a heap of money at stake in this fight. And, one way or the other, most of it will come out of our pockets. At the heart of the fight is the concept called net metering. Under current Indiana law, utilities are required to buy excess power from small-scale producers at retail prices — or the same amount you and I pay the big utilities. The power companies want a new — and better — deal allowing them to buy that power at a wholesale price, cutting the amount solar producers earn by as much as 60 to 70 percent.

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY OVER HIRING BY STATE CONTRACTORS ADVANCES: An Indiana legislative panel has endorsed a bill allowing religious institutions that receive state and local government contracts to make hiring decisions based upon religion (*Associated Press*). The Senate Civil Law Committee voted 7-0 Monday to advance the bill to the full Senate. Republican Sen. Travis Holdman of Markle says he sponsored the measure to restore the ability of Indiana Wesleyan University to receive state workforce training grants. The university hires employees on the basis of religion. The (Munster) Times reports the state attorney general's office recently determined the university's religious lifestyle mandate violated state contracting requirements against employment discrimination. Holdman says that without the change, Indiana could lose the services of religious-affiliated entities such as hospitals, schools and adoption agencies.

OVER DEMS' OBJECTIONS, HOUSE REJECTS BMV REFORM BILL HB

1362:Indiana House Republicans today rejected efforts by State Rep. Dan Forestal (D-Indianapolis) to provide more public transparency in the workings of the state Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) (*Howey Politics Indiana*). The House majority voted against a proposal authored by Forestal that would give a greater accounting of how the BMV is realizing cost-savings agency officials are claiming will come from a new contract covering the private administration of the production and distribution of license plates and vehicle registrations. The lawmaker also offered a plan requiring the BMV to provide a greater accounting of the cost savings that would come from a measure (House Bill 1362) that would extend the life cycle for license plates from five to 10 years, but the Republicans rejected that proposal as well. "The need for this legislation comes from the shoddy record of service that has been compiled by the BMV over the past several years," Forestal said. "Over the past couple of years, we have seen an

unending litany of mistakes that have resulted in overcharging drivers and a call from the governor seeking an audit of the agency's finances. "While I think the idea of extending the life of the license plates is a good one, I must cast a wary eye upon the claims made by BMV officials that massive cost savings will ensue," he continued. "Today, I asked my colleagues to support a proposal that would require the BMV to provide an accurate accounting of the savings that will result. I am disappointed that the Republican majority chose not to support this effort at transparency."

FORESTAL'S SECOND PROPOSAL: Forestal's second proposal came about as a result of a new five-year, \$72.4 million contract recently signed between the state of Indiana and Intellectual Technology, Inc. (ITI), a firm based in California. According to the contract, ITI will be responsible for the production and distribution of licensing plates and registration documents. "This is a rather substantial agreement that most of us in the General Assembly did not know about until a few days back, when a liaison for the BMV mentioned it during a meeting of the House Roads and Transportation Committee," noted Forestal, who is ranking Democrat on that committee.

FISHING, HUNTING CONSTITUTIONAL AMEND. ADVANCES TO SENATE: The Senate has begun the final step in sending voters a constitutional amendment guaranteeing the right to hunt and fish (Berman, WIBC). Bedford Republican Brent Steele says hunting and fishing are a part of the country's heritage -- he says it's been a protected constitutional right in Vermont since before statehood. He says hunters today need that constitutional protection as a firewall against the efforts of animal-rights groups. The House and Senate passed the amendment in 2013 -- approval this year would send it to voters for a final verdict in 2016. Steele says four out of five voters in his district support the amendment, and says he'll be "unbelievably surprised" if it doesn't receive similar backing statewide. The Senate Natural Resources Committee voted 7-1 to send the amendment to the floor, where a vote could come as early as next week. East Chicago Democrat Lonnie Randolph cast the only no vote. He argues state law already protects hunting and fishing, and warns adding it to the constitution as an absolute protection could have unintended consequences.

HOUSE CMTE POSTPONES VOTE ON FENCED DEER HUNTING: Advocates for high-fenced deer hunting preserves asked lawmakers on a House committee Monday to finally end the debate over their existence in a battle that goes back a decade (Smith, *Indiana Public Media*). Legislation to legalize and regulate high-fenced deer hunting preserves has failed in past sessions. But Rep. Sean Eberhart, R-Shelbyville, the bill's author, is more hopeful for success after a summer study committee

recommended its passage. Groups such as the Humane Society and the Hoosier Environmental Council say they're concerned about a link between the preserves and the spread of chronic wasting disease. But Shawn Taylor, who owns one of the preserves, says there are significant safeguards in place. "We're testing 100 percent of them. We're more or less a research facility for the state of Indiana," Taylor says.

PENCE, GOP LEADERSHIP APPEAR TO DIFFER ON FUNDING

CORRECTIONS: ne of the primary goals of the criminal code reform effort that took effect in July was to drive more low-level offenders away from the state prison system and into local community corrections programs (Smith, *Indiana Public Media*). In recognition of that shift, House Republicans this session drafted a bill giving those local programs 50 million dollars a year in grants. But the governor's proposed budget included more money for the Department of Correction, including funds for additional room at two prisons, and no dollars for community corrections. DOC Legislative Affairs Director Tim Brown says the agency's trends don't show a decrease in its population just because there's greater need in community corrections. "Those individuals that, you know, historically come to DOC, they're going to continue to come to DOC at a higher rate based upon current law," Brown says. Brown notes that a change in the code reform requires many offenders to serve 75 percent of their sentence, rather than half under the previous system. Speaker Brian Bosma, R-Indianapolis, says the legislature must decide this year which direction the bulk of the money will flow, and doing so will depend largely on predicting the code reform's effects. "We actually had an outside expert prepare projections – that is a recognized national expert – that are quite a bit different than the DOC's internal projections," Bosma says.

SB 464 WOULD PROVIDE OPIOID COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

TREATMENT: An Indiana Senate bill that provides for the use of a new opioid treatment program through the Department of Corrections, Family and Social Services Administration, Indiana prosecutors and courts, as well as community corrections programs will be helpful to Indiana counties, according to Hamilton County Drug Court Prosecutor Amy Summerfield (*Howey Politics Indiana*) Testimony was heard on Senate Bill 464 on January 21 before the Senate Health and Provider Services Committee. Deputy Prosecutor Summerfield testified that the Hamilton County Drug Court is seeing success combating its opium and heroin problem through use of the drug Vivitrol that is administered by a monthly dosage and has no street value because it is non-narcotic and non-addictive. The bill is scheduled for vote by the committee Wednesday, January 28 at 9 a.m.

PENCE OUTLINES BICENTENNIAL PROJECTS, FUNDING REQUESTS: The Bicentennial Commission requested an additional \$32.85 million – including a significant jump in general fund-operating dollars – to pay for Indiana’s 200th anniversary celebration, as outlined in Gov. Mike Pence’s proposed budget (Shuler, *Statehouse File*). Overall, the proposed bicentennial projects and events exceed \$56 million – a number the House Ways and Means committee found concerning when first presented by the governor’s representatives. To alleviate the majority of that cost, the state is looking to generate \$50 million from long-term cell tower leases, a plan Kirke Willing, executive director of government efficiency and financial planning, says no other government has done “to this level.” Bicentennial Commission Executive Director Perry Hammock presented the bicentennial plans and budget proposals on Monday. The commission focused on four key themes – history and celebration, youth and education, nature conservation and community involvement. Each county has its own volunteer coordinator who, according to Hammock, serves to “make the bicentennial memorable in their county.” “This truly has to be a grassroots driven effort,” Hammock said. “We want to make sure that all 65 million Hoosiers we have participate.”

9 SIGNATURE PROJECTS: The commission approved nine “signature projects” at its April 2014 meeting, including the bicentennial nature trust (implemented in 2012 and given \$30 million – 119 projects to date), a bicentennial plaza, a Statehouse education and welcome center, an archives building, torch relay, a commemorative book, coin, and art project, and various celebratory events (*Statehouse File*). The torch relay, which is patterned after the Olympic torch relay, will pass through all 92 counties and cover more than 2,300 miles over a six-week period. The relay will average 60 miles per day and will end at the Statehouse. Three statewide celebrations, totaling \$1.6 million, will be held to commemorate the anniversary. On Oct. 15, 2016, the commission will host a free “family fun day” that coincides with the finish of the torch relay. A “Hoosier Homecoming” gala is planned for Dec. 10, 2016 at the Indiana State Fairgrounds. On the following day, Dec. 11, the commission is planning a free “Thanksgiving and Inspiration Service” at the fairgrounds.

OBER’S HB 1469 WOULD ALLOW WITHOLDING UNIFORMS FROM PAYCHECKS: A bill that lets companies pull money out of employee paychecks for uninforms, education and other expenses could receive a vote next week in the House Judiciary Committee (Brock, *Statehouse File*). House Bill 1469, authored by Rep. David Ober, R- Albion, also says that employers who fail too pay their staff on time may be subject to damages, court costs, and reasonable fees for the attorneys’ costs of recouping the money. The bill allows for employers to take certain costs out of the employee’s paycheck – instead of requiring that it come straight out of the employee’s pocket. Costs include the purchase, rental or use of uniforms or equipment,

reimbursement for education or employee skills training, and advance for payroll or vacation pay or means eaten by the employee at work. "It's really, in my experience where I have seen this used is always been something that is more beneficial to the employee, himself, then the employers. The employer provides this as a convenience to the employee," said Rep. Jerry Torr, R- Carmel. A similar bill passed the House last year but never passed in the Senate. In the Judiciary Committee on Monday, lawmakers were still debating the language of the legislation and postponed a vote until next week.

REP. COX'S HB 1358 WOULD ALLOW TAXPAYER REFUND CHECKS GO TO

DEBT:The state could take a taxpayer's refund check to settle private debt under legislation the House Judiciary Committee debated Monday (*Bomber, Statehouse File*). House Bill 1358 would apply only when a creditor – which could be a bank, a credit card company, a service provider or other firm – obtains a court order that they can collect the debt. Those companies could then pay the state \$8 to see if the customer who owes them money will be getting a tax refund. If so, they can ask the state to seize it. A clerical error means the committee postponed a vote until next week. The bill is meant to help the Indiana Department of Revenue, said attorney Brian Burdick, who lobbied on behalf of the Concerned Creditors Bar. "The Department of Revenue felt like they were being a collection agent," Burdick said. "We already do that by law and this is just a mechanism." The bill makes it easier for creditors to have their money returned.

HB 1456 SERVICEMEMBERS CIVIL RELIEF ACT MOVES TO FULL HOUSE: A bill extending the U.S. military's consumer protections to Indiana National Guard and Reserve members who are called up to active duty was approved by an Indiana House committee Monday and moves to the full Indiana House of Representatives (*Howey Politics Indiana*). Indiana Attorney General Greg Zoeller proposed and recommended House Bill 1456, also known as the Indiana Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. On Jan. 20, Zoeller testified in favor of the bill in the House Judiciary Committee, which today approved HB 1456 as amended by a 10-0 vote. House Bill 1456 adopts the provisions of the federal Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (SCRA) into state law and would extend coverage to Guard members and Reservists activated for U.S. military mobilizations as well as those activated by the Governor for state active duty status for more than 30 days, such as for natural disasters. It would also give the Attorney General's Office enforcement authority and allow the AG to file a civil lawsuit in court if a company illegally penalized a service member for not being able to fulfill contract obligations.

BLACK LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS OUTLINES AGENDA: Indiana Black Legislative Caucus leaders today outlined an ambitious agenda for the 2015 session of the Indiana General Assembly that they said would provide greater economic, educational, and social opportunities for all residents (*Howey Politics Indiana*). According to State Sen. Lonnie Randolph (D-East Chicago), caucus chairman, the group will pursue a number of reforms, including improvements to the state school funding formula, having the state assume school textbook costs, creation of a small business and grocer investment program, and starting a pilot program to reduce recidivism. "The members of the Indiana Black Legislative Caucus will be offering a series of proposals throughout this session that will be designed to meet our mission of lifting up all residents of our state," Randolph said. "This will include improved educational efforts to close achievement gaps among students, enhanced public policies in areas like criminal and social justice, improved access to affordable health care, and targeted assistance designed to meet the needs of families struggling to obtain such basic necessities as housing, utilities, clothing, and food."

BLACK LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS PUSHES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

BILLS: Small Business and Grocer Investment Program (HB 1256) (*Howey Politics Indiana*): Authored by State Rep. Robin Shackelford (D-Indianapolis), the bill would establish a program that enables the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) to provide grants or loans to food retailers that increase local access to fresh foods, vegetables and other healthy foods in underserved communities. Professional Development Sports Commission (HB 1376): Authored by State Rep. Earl Harris (D-East Chicago), the bill would establish a commission to explore the feasibility of attracting a professional sports franchise to northwest Indiana.

BLACK LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS PUSHES EDUCATION, HEALTH CARE BILLS: "Our efforts in this area will begin with ensuring that our public schools are properly supported through the funding formula approved in this year's state budget," Randolph said (*Howey Politics Indiana*). "That will include shedding a light upon the levels of support that public, charter, and private schools receive so the people of Indiana have an idea how their tax dollars are used." State payments for school textbook costs (SB 340): Authored by State Sen. Earline Rogers (D-Gary), the legislation would require that public schools provide curricular materials at no cost to students. School discipline (HB 1558): Authored by State Rep. Gregory W. Porter (D-Indianapolis), the measure would ask the Indiana Department of Education to develop a model evidence-based plan for improving behavior and discipline in schools across the state. "Our members continue to maintain that affordable health care should be a right for all Hoosiers, and it is our belief that such an answer is found by the state of Indiana signing on to the Affordable Care Act," State Rep. Charlie Brown (D-Gary) said. "While our governor dawdles on an

expansion of the HIP 2.0 program, thousands of people across this state continue to be denied access to the kind of preventive health care that can protect themselves and their families. We cannot afford to wait any longer.”

BLACK LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS PUSHES CRIME, POLICE REFORMS: Bias motivated crimes (HB 1330) (*Howey Politics Indiana*): Authored by State Rep. Gregory W. Porter (D-Indianapolis), the proposal would enhance the penalties for such crimes as battery, robbery, arson, and harassment if they are based on an individual’s race, religion, sexual orientation, gender, or disability. It also would require law enforcement officers to receive training in identifying, responding to, and reporting bias motivated crimes. Racial profiling (HB 1284): Authored by State Rep. Cherrish Pryor (D-Indianapolis), the bill would prohibit a law enforcement agency from engaging in racial profiling or conducting pretextual stops. Self-defense (SB 46): Authored by State Sen. Jean Breaux (D-Indianapolis), the legislation would specify that a person is not justified in using force against someone else if the person using force is the initial aggressor, has reached a safe place and immediately returned to the location of the attack, or is pursuing an attacker or trespasser who has retreated and no longer presents a threat.

INDIANA PROSECUTORS BACK 4 BILLS TO BE HEARD TUESDAY: The Corrections and Criminal Law Committee will hear four bills Tuesday that are supported by the Indiana Prosecuting Attorneys Council (*Howey Politics Indiana*): SB 92 provides that a sentence may be enhanced when a deadly weapon is possessed during the commission of controlled substance offenses. Sponsored by: Sen. Scott Schneider (R-Indianapolis); SB 164 Provides that a person convicted of two or more offenses involving the unlawful possession or use of a deadly weapon may not have the person’s conviction expunged. Sponsored by: Sen. Patricia Miller (R-Indianapolis); SB 551 Establishes a crime fighting pilot project in Marion, Lake and Allen counties to pay overtime for officers assigned to high crime districts. Sponsored by: Sen. Brent Waltz (R-Greenwood); and, SB 559 Adds unlawful possession of a firearm by a serious violent felony to the definition of “crimes of violence” and adds a 20-year sentencing enhancement for a person who points or discharges a firearm at a law enforcement officer. Sponsored by: Sen. R. Michael Young (R-Indianapolis). The following Indiana prosecutors will participate in a media availability after the committee hearing: Terry Curry, Marion County; Lee Buckingham, Hamilton County; Aaron Negangard, Dearborn and Ohio counties; Dustin Houchin, Washington County; Rodney Cummings, Madison County; Jim Luttrull, Grant County; and, Jeff Arnold, Delaware County. Also participating: David Powell, executive director, Indiana Prosecuting Attorneys Council.

COALITION IS BACKING MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE: A coalition of Indiana groups is calling for a rise in the minimum wage (Corbin, *WIBC*). Dozens held a gathering inside the Indiana Statehouse Monday. Indiana Institute for Working Families Senior Policy Analyst Derek Thomas says the current \$7.25 an hour is far from enough needed to support families. He says \$10.10 an hour is more in line with inflation dating back to 1968. Thomas also cites a dominant rise in low wage industries with more poor people trying to support families. He says the rise in poverty affects everyone including the middle class which is also feeling the pinch. He also cites income distribution toward the super-wealthy as another reason for a needed rise in the minimum wage.

Congress

COATS URGES SENATE TO REPEAL MEDICAL DEVICE TAX: U.S. Sen. Dan Coats, a member of the Senate Finance Committee, spoke Monday on the Senate floor to urge the repeal of Obamacare's medical device tax (*Howey Politics Indiana*). "This destructive tax has caused Hoosier medical device manufacturers to freeze hirings, lay off workers and shelve plans to expand and build new facilities," said Coats. "Their products, from wheelchair van lifts to artificial knees, hips and shoulders to catheters used in heart procedures have improved or saved the lives of many Hoosiers and countless others across the globe. How ironic is it that Obamacare, which President Obama said would increase health care coverage, is actually a barrier to improving lives and health outcomes?" Coats recently joined a bipartisan group of 10 senators to introduce the Medical Device Access and Innovation Protection Act (S. 149). The bill would repeal the medical device tax implemented as part of Obamacare.

COATS SAYS LATEST CBO REPORT WARNS OF DEBT CRISIS: Senator Dan Coats (R-Ind.), chairman-designate of the Joint Economic Committee, said Monday's report by the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO) shows why Congress must take action to address the rapidly escalating federal debt (*Howey Politics Indiana*). The report, entitled "The Budget and Economic Outlook: 2015 to 2025," warned that under current law our "large and growing federal debt would have serious negative consequences, including increasing federal spending for interest payments; restraining economic growth in the long term; giving policymakers less flexibility to respond to unexpected challenges; and eventually heightening the risk of a fiscal crisis." "Today's report confronts us with the harsh reality that our current path forward is unsustainable," said Coats. "Congress must make tough fiscal choices now so future generations will not be saddled with an even higher burden of debt. We must make smart reforms to our mandatory spending programs to tackle our out-of-control federal

spending. Congress also should pass sensible policies that will help create jobs and grow the economy. This should be a top priority in 2015.”

BILLS BEFORE HOUSE THIS WEEK: On Tuesday, the House will consider up to six bills, all focused on human trafficking laws (*Howey Politics Indiana*). On Tuesday, the House will consider H.R. 351, the LNG Permitting Certainty and Transparency Act, a bill that would require the Energy Department to approve liquefied natural gas (LNG) export permits within 30 days of a completed environmental review. On Wednesday, the House will consider H.R. 399, the Secure Our Borders First Act. This bill would authorize \$1 billion a year from FY2016 through FY2025 to increase border security, and would require 100% “operational control” of the entire border with Mexico within five years, and of “high traffic” areas within two years. This is the first bill expected in a series of immigration reform bills from the House.

BLUE STATE REPUBLICANS DEFECT: It didn’t take long for vulnerable Republican senators to start bucking their new majority’s party line (Politico). Just three weeks into Mitch McConnell’s reign as Senate majority leader, he’s already confronting the challenges of running a caucus filled with blue-state Republicans who face reelection next year. They’ve begun departing from the GOP stance on issues like energy and climate change — a move that lets them espouse independence back home, but also exposes divisions that are bound to intensify as 2016 draws nearer. The Senate’s dynamic was on display in a series of amendment votes over the last week on the Keystone XL oil pipeline: New Hampshire Sen. Kelly Ayotte, one of the Democrats’ top targets in 2016, repeatedly broke with her party, including by opposing efforts to hamper Obama’s international climate negotiations. Illinois Sen. Mark Kirk was the lone Republican to back regulations on petroleum coke, a byproduct from oil refining. And conservative Pennsylvania Sen. Pat Toomey was one of 15 Republicans to endorse a statement that humans contribute to climate change. Another defector, North Carolina Sen. Richard Burr, was the only Republican to vote for a Democrat-backed mandate that the pipeline be built with U.S. steel. “It’s real simple,” he said proudly. “I’ve been for ‘Buy America’ every time it’s come up in the Senate.”

State

GOVERNOR: TULLY SAYS PENCE’S NEWS AGENCY ‘MIND-BOGGLING DECISION’ - One can only imagine how the state-run, taxpayer-funded Mike Pence News Service would have covered some recent news stories (Tully, *IndyStar*). Take the governor's mind-boggling decision in October to turn his back on an all-but guaranteed \$80 million federal grant that could have funded preschool programs for thousands of

low-income Indiana children. The likely Pence Propaganda Service headline: "Governor generously steers \$80 million federal grant to the children of Iowa." Or how about the ongoing battles between the governor and Superintendent of Public Instruction Glenda Ritz? Well, I don't know what the headline would be. But my guess is the reader comments section would prohibit all of those reminders that Ritz got 57,000 more votes than Pence did in the 2012 elections. Think that's far-fetched? Yeah, right. After all, this is the same administration that got caught awhile back deleting pesky negative comments from its state-run Facebook page. Hey, every administration has its own rosy view of how it's doing. I get that. But the Pence team apparently wants to sell that view as hard news. When creating our government, our founders put freedom of the press into the constitution. Right there in the First Amendment. Now Pence is acting as if he thinks the press should be our government. A state-run news agency? What in the name of Vladimir Putin is the Pence administration thinking? His administration is calling it "Just IN." But, I'm sorry, that's the last time you'll ever hear me call it that. This is a propaganda outlet, plain and simple. This is a politician, one who already has an army of press secretaries, trying to seize more control of what you read about the things he says and does. That ain't America, folks.

GOVERNOR: JOURNALISTS REACT TO PENCE'S NEWS AGENCY - But not everyone thinks the approach best serves the public interest. "I think it's a ludicrous idea," said Jack Ronald, publisher of one such newspaper, the *Portland Commercial Review*. "I have no problem with public information services — the Purdue University agriculture extension service does a great job. But the notion of elected officials presenting material that will inevitably have a pro-administration point of view is antithetical to the idea of an independent press." Ronald won a Fulbright scholarship in 1998 to train journalists in the former Soviet state of Moldova about how to build an independent press, after decades of relying on state-run media under the USSR. From there he worked with journalists in Afghanistan, Belarus, Russia and many other former Soviet states. In 2009, he was deported from Uzbekistan, after being placed on a blacklist following training in Belarus. The starting of Pence's news outlet comes as he considers a run for the White House. He has also gained national attention for his efforts to win an expansion of Medicaid using a state-run alternative. He is expected to deliver news on the proposed health care expansion Tuesday morning...John Strauss, a veteran Indiana journalist who now runs Ball State University's public broadcasting operation, said that no one should be surprised by any government moving to outflank independent media. He pointed to successful social media campaigns by innumerable political candidates and the expansive new, in-house media operation Indianapolis Motor Speedway built recently as evidence of how major organizations are bypassing news outlets. "The real story," Strauss said, "is they're leapfrogging all the mainstream media people."

GOVERNOR: ZODY RESPONDS TO PENCE'S NEWS AGENCY – Indiana Democratic Party Chairman sent the following email to supporters Monday (*Howey Politics Indiana*): "Have you heard about Governor Mike Pence's latest outrageous move? In a bold overreach to toss the media aside and have state government run the news, he's creating a state-run, taxpayer-funded news agency. Late last night, the Indianapolis Star reported that Governor Pence's service will "provide pre-written news stories to Indiana news outlets, as well as sometimes break news about his administration." From the party that tells you who to love, how to worship, and that science is bad, Governor Pence now wants to tell you what is and is not news. What WOULD be news is something bold and decisive from the Governor's Office that gives a signal that Gov. Pence wants to grow income in our state and ensure that every Hoosier child is safe and has a quality education. Instead, we get empty-suit policies that Governor Pence believes will get him national headlines. He must be impatient – because now he wants to control who writes the headlines in the first place: him."

GOVERNOR: STATE OWES FEDS \$3M IN MEDICAID FUNDING - Indiana owes the federal government more than \$3.3 million for incorrectly determining how much the state should have received in federal support for the state's Medicaid program from 2009 through 2011 (*Groppe, IndyStar*). The accounting errors were discovered through an audit conducted by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Inspector General. The Indiana Family and Social Services Administration did not dispute most of the findings, which the agency said were partially caused by a new accounting system and by a temporary change in the state's federal reimbursement rate. But the state said it's not able to make one of the changes recommended by the federal government — developing an automated system to help FSSA accurately meet the federal government's requirement that states report Medicaid expenditures within 30 days after each quarter. "The state does not have the ability to automate (the Medicaid Budget Expenditure System) entry nor correct calculations within the MBES to enhance reporting controls," State Medicaid Director Joseph Moser wrote in response to the audit.

GOVERNOR: PENCE'S SCHEDULE - 10:00 a.m. – Governor Pence to give healthcare speech, St. Vincent Ruth Lilly Conference Center at the Marten House, 1801 W. 86th Street, Indianapolis. 12:00 p.m.– Governor Pence to keynote the Terre Haute Chamber of Commerce Lunch, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College, Jeanne Knoerle Sports and Recreation Center, 1 Saint Mary of Woods Coll, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods. 2:00 p.m. – Governor Pence to tour, offer remarks at Terre Haute North Vigo High School, Terre Haute North Vigo High School, 3434 Maple Ave., Terre Haute.

GOVERNOR: FIRST LADY'S SCHEDULE - 10:30 a.m. – First Lady Karen Pence to present remarks, recite Arts Day proclamation tomorrow. Statehouse, North Atrium, 200 W. Washington Street, Indianapolis.

Nation

WHITE HOUSE: DRONE EXPOSES SECURITY GAP - The intrusion by a recreational drone early Monday onto the White House lawn exposed a security gap at the compound that the Secret Service has spent years studying but has so far been unable to fix, according to several officials familiar with the concern (*Washington Post*). The episode came just four days after lawmakers examining White House security had been warned by a panel of experts that the Secret Service's inability to identify and disable drones remained one of the leading vulnerabilities at the complex, according to two people with knowledge of the discussions. Just after 3 a.m. Monday, the drone flew at a low altitude over the south grounds of the White House without setting off alarms and was spotted by a Secret Service officer standing guard. The "quadcopter" device, approximately two feet in diameter, then crashed on the southeast corner of the property, prompting a lockdown at the complex until the device was examined and determined not to pose a danger. Officers and agents with flashlights scoured the complex and surrounding area for clues.

WHITE HOUSE: OBAMA TO OPEN ATLANTIC DRILLING - The Obama administration on Tuesday will announce a proposal to open up coastal waters from Virginia to Georgia for oil and gas drilling, according to a person briefed on the plan (*New York Times*). At the same time, in Alaska, the administration will ban drilling in some portions of the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas, according to the person familiar with the plans, who could not speak publicly about them until the announcement. Opening the Eastern Seaboard to oil companies is a prize the industry has sought for decades and is a blow to environmental groups. They argue that the move would put the coasts of Virginia, the Carolinas and Georgia at risk for an environmental disaster like the BP spill that struck the Gulf Coast in 2010, when millions of barrels of oil washed ashore after the explosion of the Deepwater Horizon rig. Senator Lisa Murkowski, Republican of Alaska and chairwoman of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, called the president's proposal "a stunning attack on our sovereignty."

WHITE HOUSE: OBAMA DECLARED 'WAR' ON ALASKA - President Barack Obama's quest to burnish his environmental legacy just landed in Alaska's oil patch (Politico). The Obama administration's surprise plan to impose new environmental protections on 12 million acres of Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge poured fuel on the long-running fight over drilling in the sensitive region — long a priority in Anchorage and among the state's lawmakers in Washington. Alaska gets more than 90 percent of its government revenues from the energy industry, and efforts to open up new areas for oil and gas exploration are backed by both Democrats and Republicans. The latest push from Obama has put new strains on Alaska's already tense relationship with the Interior Department. The administration's proposal, released Sunday, reflects Obama's shift to the left on environmental issues in the past two years, putting pollution cuts and the preservation of sensitive lands at the center of his second-term agenda and setting up a clash with the Republican-controlled Congress. Sen. Lisa Murkowski, who chairs the powerful Energy and Natural Resources Committee, rarely starts political fights on Capitol Hill, but she came out swinging on Monday, saying that the Obama administration has "effectively declared war on Alaska." And she doubled down on her previous statement that the administration is "willing to negotiate with Iran, but they won't negotiate with Alaska."

WHITE HOUSE: OBAMA CHALLENGES INDIA ON CLIMATE - President Obama pressed India on Tuesday to do more to curb the pollution that is choking its capital and contributing to global climate change, as he wrapped up a visit that yielded no meaningful breakthrough on the issue (Howey Politics Indiana). While India and the United States agreed to cooperate in promoting cleaner energy, Mr. Obama left after three days without the sort of specific commitment to curbing greenhouse gases that he won in China last year. Instead, he used a farewell speech before his departure to argue that India had an obligation to step up, despite its economic challenges. "I know the argument made by some — that it's unfair for countries like the United States to ask developing nations and emerging economies like India to reduce your dependence on the same fossil fuels that helped power our growth for more than a century," Mr. Obama told an audience of 1,500 mostly young Indians at Siri Fort Auditorium on the final day of his trip here. "But here's the truth," he added. "Even if countries like the United States curb our emissions, if countries that are growing rapidly like India with soaring energy needs don't also embrace cleaner fuels, then we don't stand a chance against climate change."

World

RUSSIA: S&P DROPS RATING TO JUNK - Russia's fractured economy suffered another potential blow Monday after credit-rating firm Standard & Poor's cut the country's credit rating to junk (*Wall Street Journal*).

CUBA: FIDEL COMMENTS ON SHIFT - Former Cuban leader Fidel Castro ended his long silence over his country's decision to restore diplomatic ties with the United States, writing that he backs the negotiations even though he distrusts politics in Washington (*Politico*). The comments were the first by the 88-year-old revolutionary leader on the talks with the U.S. since the historic Dec. 17 declaration from the Obama administration that the countries would move to restore ties broken more than a half century ago. "I don't trust the policy of the United States, nor have I exchanged a word with them, but this does not mean I reject a pacific solution to the conflicts," he wrote in a letter to a student federation read at the University of Havana. It also appeared in Communist Party newspaper Granma. "We will always defend cooperation and friendship with all the people of the world, including with our political adversaries," he wrote.

Local

CITIES: ELKHART RESIDENTS FILE SUIT, SAY ILLEGALLY ANNEXED - Some homeowners who charge that the city of Elkhart has improperly annexed their neighborhood despite their unresolved court challenge have taken their complaints to court (Vandenack, *Elkhart Truth*). Residents of an unincorporated area along Old U.S. 20 west of Elkhart, dubbed Area 8, had tough words for the city and asked Elkhart Superior Court 2 Judge Stephen Bowers to find the city in contempt of court. The city "illegally, knowingly and intentionally" filed the June 2, 2014, ordinance annexing Area 8 with several Elkhart County government offices, said the court filing, formally entered into the court system last Thursday, Jan. 22. "This in turn resulted in all of these properties being illegally (annexed) into the city of Elkhart on Jan. 1, 2015. This was not done in error or by accident." Bowers, whose court is handling the case, formally issued notice of the complaint last Friday, Jan. 23, and set a hearing date in the matter of Feb. 20. City representatives hadn't responded in court as of Monday, Jan. 26. But Elkhart Mayor Dick Moore, queried previously by the *Elkhart Truth* on the neighbors' allegations, rebuffed the charges and said at the time that pertinent laws were followed. "The process was done as dictated by state law," he said in a Jan. 16 email.

CITIES: INDY COUNCIL TABLES \$18.5M SUBSIDY FOR ANGIE'S LIST - panel of the City-County Council on Monday tabled a proposed \$18.5 million tax incentive for Angie's List to allow the company more time to put together its sales pitch (Eason, *IndyStar*). The online consumer review service in October had announced a major expansion at its headquarters on the Near Eastside. Angie's pledged to hire 1,000 new employees and relocate 800 others to a depressed neighborhood that city leaders see as a prime location for redevelopment. To do so, Angie's officials are asking the city to chip in \$9.6 million tax-increment financing funds for a parking garage and street improvements, plus another \$6.75 million to relocate an Indianapolis Public Schools warehouse currently housed at the old Ford building. The remainder of the \$18.5 million bond would be set aside for issuance costs (\$1.55 million) and contingencies (\$600,000). But while council leaders in both parties have praised the proposal in recent weeks, the Metropolitan and Economic Development Committee on Monday opted to table a vote until February. Councilman Zach Adamson, a Democrat who co-sponsored the proposal, said the postponement was needed to allow Angie's more time to put together its presentation. "There are a lot of questions that people have about the size of this — it's enormous," Adamson acknowledged in a recent interview.

CITIES: INDY COUNCIL POSTPONES DIGITAL BILLBOARD VOTE - After hours of discussion, the push to get more digital billboards across Marion County has hit another roadblock (Wagner, *WISH-TV*). The Department of Metropolitan Development Committee has postponed a vote on Resolution 250 which would lift the ban on digital billboards. Some committee members didn't feel the advertising companies behind the resolution answered enough questions and concerns on how the billboards would affect the community...But committee members still felt more work needs to be done before they vote on whether the resolution should go before the council. The advertising executives heading the resolution said they plan to do what's necessary to work with the community...The resolution will go up for a committee vote at the meeting on April 6.

CITIES: CARMEL CONSIDERS TRACKING DOG 'POO-PERTRATORS' - If you fail to clean up after Fido at Carmel-Clay Park's new Bark Park opening this summer, you could be in the doghouse (Garner, *WISH-TV*). The city is considering hiring a company called PooPrints that could take a small sample of the dog's waste and track it back to the dog owner. "We can match the mess" explains Eric Mayer, the director of business development and BioTech Vet Lab and one of the PooPrints inventors. "Or discover the poo-pertrators as we like to call them, between the waste that is left behind and the dog owner who did not scoop up that dog waste." "It's like you see on TV," explains Linda Dulin. Dulin lives at an apartment complex in downtown Indianapolis where they already use PooPrints. "They stick a cotton swab in the dog's mouth and move it around

a little bit," she said. The pooch is then added to the PooPrints database. If the dog's mess shows up in an analysis of a DNA sample, the owner will get a notice and a bill in the mail. "Dog waste is full of bacteria," says Mayer, "and it's different bacteria than you get in wild animals and there's more of it."

CITIES: VALPO CITY COUNCIL APPROVES INCOME TAX BUDGET - The City Council on Monday approved the appropriation of its 2015 community economic development income tax money (Earnshaw, *NWI Times*). The more than \$2.9 million budget will fund a variety of projects including \$200,000 toward general road repair and \$500,000 for sidewalks and pathways. More than \$188,000 will be used for facade grants in downtown Valparaiso and \$300,000 will go toward public transportation. A substance abuse initiative will receive \$25,000 and downtown events and improvements are marked for \$265,000...

CITIES: WEST LAFAYETTE WILL SOON GET CONTROLLER, SEPARATE CLERK - Now that the City of West Lafayette is a Class 2 city there will be a few changes to local government (Campbell, *WLFI-TV*). "Well, probably the most obvious change is going to be the transition from having an elected Clerk-Treasurer to having an elected clerk and an appointed controller," West Lafayette Mayor John Dennis said. Currently, the position of Clerk-Treasurer oversees the city's finances and records. Dennis said responsibilities will be split between the two new positions. "The controller will serve in the capacity of the CFO of the city and the clerk will be responsible for documents, historic documents, for the retention of documents, release of documents and in some cases permitting and licensing as well," Dennis said.

Scott.A.Milkey

From: Gilson, Katie
Sent: Tuesday, January 20, 2015 9:15 AM
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COATS REELECTION DECISION COMING IN SPRING: In an exclusive sit-down interview with HPI Friday afternoon, Sen. Dan Coats said he would decide whether to seek reelection in 2016 this springtime. "I'm working through this and I think by spring, early spring, I'll make a decision," he said (*Butler, Howey Politics Indiana*). "I'm weighing all kinds of things in the decision making process on this," Coats elaborated. "I know I need to make a decision and I haven't made a decision yet. I know if I do run again, we have things in place where we can flip the switch, we're ready to go. We would be ready financially and organizationally." The senator's enthusiasm for the new 114th U.S. Congress was evident when he spoke about the possibilities of moving legislation through both Republican-controlled chambers. "I'm very excited to be in the majority and want to see how this plays out," Coats answered when asked about the remaining two years in his term. Legislative progress on Capitol Hill Coats said was "a factor" in whether he'll pursue the fourth senate campaign of his career. "The election in November was a real energizer," he told HPI. "We're now able to get some things done and that's very, very encouraging. I'm well positioned on the right committees to be very engaged on the issues I think are important." Coats was named to the Republican majority's 'Whip Team' and will chair the Joint Economic Committee as well as sit on the Finance and Intelligence committees. In what will become nearly a thirty-five year career in public service starting in the U.S. Navy through serving as a staffer, as a Congressman, as a senator, as an ambassador, and again as a senator, Coats recognizes retirement should be considered. "It'll be time to move on at some point," he remarked. "I don't want to compare myself to Peyton Manning, but at some point you have to say, 'Okay, where are we in life and what kind of decisions do we need to make? Do we go for another season or do you think about how best to transition?'" We quipped that HPI feels both he and Manning have another season in them. "Thank you," laughed Coats. "I certainly feel that way now." Our extensive interview with the senator spanned a wide range of domestic and foreign policy topics we'll share in detail in the upcoming *Howey Politics Indiana* weekly edition.

PENCE POSTS \$3.3M FOR 2014: The Mike Pence for Indiana Campaign announced Friday over \$3.3 million raised for 2014, including nearly \$2.1 million for the second half of the year. It comes as polling by Americans For Prosperity show his approval rating stands at 66% (*Howey Politics Indiana*). The report comes as Democrats John Gregg and Baron Hill told *Howey Politics Indiana* that they are still deciding whether to challenge Pence. Mike Pence for Indiana also reported raising over \$5.2 million for the

first two years of the election cycle. These totals represent a fundraising record for Indiana gubernatorial campaigns during the same timeframe. The Mike Pence for Indiana Campaign ended 2014 with over \$3.5 million cash on hand. "Our fundraising success will enable our campaign to continue to promote Governor Pence's agenda for improving educational opportunities, creating jobs and growing the Indiana economy," said Marty Obst, executive director of Mike Pence for Indiana. Hoosiers comprise 85.3% of the contributors in 2014. Federal Election Commission reports show Pence is not raising money at the federal level. Longtime aide Bill Smith has said that where Pence is raising money is indicative of his political plans for 2016. There has been widespread speculation that Pence will consider a presidential run that year. The poll showing Pence approval at 66% was conducted by Public Opinion Strategies for Americans For Prosperity, a political organization linked to the Koch Brothers.

CARSON SAYS MUSLIMS PROTECT AMERICA: Muslims are among the nation's biggest allies in intelligence gathering, said Rep. Andre Carson, the first Muslim member of Congress to be appointed to the House intelligence committee (*IndyStar*). But law enforcement must build real relationships with the community and not show up at mosques only when it's expedient, the Indianapolis Democrat said in an interview about his appointment. "We want to see relationships where trust can be built and the relationship doesn't feel purely transactional," he said. "I've said time and time again that one of the biggest allies our intelligence has is the Muslim community. They know their communities better than anyone. "I just had a meeting with the FBI and (the National Security Agency) and Justice Department, and we were talking about the efforts that the Muslim community has really contributed collectively in terms of thwarting potential attacks that you'll never even hear about in the media." Carson, who was first elected in 2008, was appointed this week to the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

SENATORS BELIEVE SLEEPER CELLS IN U.S.: A key U.S. senator said Sunday that Americans have to assume there are some "sleeper cells" within the U.S. that would like to carry out a terror attack (*The Hill*). Sen. Ron Johnson (R-Wis.) said he was not aware of any specific cells, but noted that the recent attacks elsewhere in the Western world make it a safe assumption. Johnson is chairman of the Senate Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee. "What you're seeing happen in Europe, you're seeing how widespread that is," he said on "Fox News Sunday." "I think you have to assume that that is a risk that we have to consider." Johnson criticized President Obama's policy to combat terror groups, arguing the administration is insufficiently committed to the cause to battle against the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS). "As long as ISIS is not losing, they are perceived as winning," he said. "We have to defeat ISIS. We can't let them continue threatening the rest of the world for years."

HPI DAILY ANALYSIS: This nation is being warned from a number of sources that the kind of terror attacks that happened in Paris and almost occurred in Belgium are likely to happen here. That was a common theme from the Sunday news talk shows over the past two weeks. The lone wolf terrorists are among us, we are being told. This will require a new level of vigilance from all of us. - *Brian A. Howey*

Campaigns

2016: CBS POLL SUPPORT FOR HILLARY, ROMNEY - Hillary Clinton and Mitt Romney are the would-be candidates that Americans most want to run for president in 2016, while solid pluralities would prefer that Chris Christie and Rick Perry sit this election out, according to a new *CBS News Poll* released Sunday (*Politico*). The poll also indicates that a number of potential 2016 contenders remain largely unknown to the general public, or, at least, are being met with a smattering of indifference. Leading the way is former Secretary of State Clinton, with 85 percent of the surveyed Democrats expressing approval for a potential candidacy by her, against only 11 percent who opposed that idea. Also, 51 percent of independents liked the idea of her running. She was the only would-be contender supported by a majority of independents; the survey did not question members of the opposite party. Next up was 2012 Republican contender Mitt Romney, whose would-be candidacy drew a positive reaction from 59 percent of Republicans vs. 26 percent who didn't like the idea. However, 49 percent of the independents surveyed were not pleased with the idea. Former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush had slightly lower approval ratings — 50 percent of Republicans — but a comparable negative rating to Romney's — 27 percent. Former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee, who ran in 2008, also drew significant support, with 40 percent of Republicans saying they'd be happy to see him try again (with 29 percent saying no).

2016: ROMNEY RIGHT ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS - He saw Vladimir Putin as a threat to peace. He insisted that radical Islam was spreading. He warned that Iraq was at risk without American troops to stabilize it (*Politico*). And he was right. As Mitt Romney's supporters push the idea that the 2012 Republican nominee might run for president again, one of their core talking points is that Romney was a foreign policy prophet in the last campaign. His vindication on several scores, they argue, gives him a rationale to run again — and a leg up on his potential Republican rivals. "The results of the Hillary Clinton-Barack Obama foreign policy have been devastating," Romney declared

at the Republican National Committee's winter meeting in San Diego on Friday. "The world is not safer."

2016: CRUZ SAYS DEMS WIN IF ROMNEY NOMINATED - At the annual South Carolina Tea Party conference in the early nominating state of South Carolina, Senator Ted Cruz, R-Texas, gave an aggressive argument to several hundred activists to nominate a principled Republican who "paints not in pastels but in bold colors" (*NBC News*). The reference to Ronald Reagan was the first of two during his 40-minute speech at an aging beach-front resort in Myrtle Beach. But the potential presidential candidate did mention Mitt Romney several times. Cruz said Romney, who put forward Friday a public declaration that he is considering a third presidential run, was the latest Republican nominee to pacify conservative voters leading to depressed conservative turnout and a Democrat for president. "Do we go back to the same old, same old? Or do we stand for principle," Cruz told the mostly middle-aged and retired crowd, referring to the uninspiring "mushy middle" where he said Republican presidential candidates have gravitated in recent elections. "If we nominate another candidate in the mold of a Bob Dole, John McCain or Mitt Romney ... the same people who stayed home in '08 an '12 will stay home in '16 and the Democrat will win again," Cruz said.

2016: HUCKABEE EYES SPRING CANDIDACY - Former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee (R) on Sunday said there is a "very strong likelihood" that he will "clearly state [his] intentions" about a possible White House run in the spring (*The Hill*). Huckabee, who left his talk show ahead of a possible presidential run, said on ABC's *This Week* that he didn't leave the Fox show because he was "tired of going to New York every week." The former governor also said his approach to fundraising would be different this time around. "That was the beginning hurdle for us back in 2008," he said. "A lot of people didn't take the campaign that seriously until we were winning states and winning primaries. I literally got by on a dime to the dollar of both John McCain and Mitt Romney. "So in -- in some ways, we were a very green campaign. We got more miles per gallon than anybody else," he added.

2016: GRAHAM EXPLORING BID - Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.) said Sunday that he is considering running for president. The foreign policy hawk said on NBC's *Meet the Press* that he has established a "testing the waters committee" to see if he would have a viable shot at winning the GOP nomination. "I am definitely going to look at it," he said. Graham said he had not yet done any polling to see if he would have a shot, but argued that his foreign policy stances have proven his worth. "I think the world is

falling apart, and I've been more right than wrong when it comes to foreign policy," he said. "But we'll see."



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Sunday Talk

CHARLIE HEBDO EDITOR CITES 'RELIGIOUS FREEDOM': The editor-in-chief of Charlie Hebdo on Sunday staunchly defended the publication's decision to publish a cartoon of Mohammed. Gerard Biard, who took over the French satirical publication after a terror attack on the newspaper earlier this month, argued that religion has no place in political debate, and defended his staff against charges they were overly provocative. "We must not place thinkers and artists in the same category as murderers," he said on NBC's *Meet the Press*. "We are not warriors. We only defend one thing: freedom. Our freedom, secularism, freedom of conscience and democracy." A pair of gunmen killed 12 people in an attack on the publication's offices earlier this month after it published a cartoon of the Islamic prophet. The attacks have set off a fresh round of security measures across Europe and renewed debate over how to handle Islamic fundamentalists in the Western world that could engage in attacks. Biard said the decision to publish cartoons of Mohammed, which have been fiercely protested in some parts of the world, was about removing religion from the public debate. "Every time that we draw a cartoon of the prophet, every time we draw a cartoon of God, we defend the freedom of religion," he said in the translated interview. "If religious arguments step into the political arena, it becomes a totalitarian argument."

OBAMA TAX PLANS OVERLAP GOP's: The White House on Sunday sought to put Republicans on the defensive over tax policy by highlighting comparisons between President Barack Obama's latest tax proposal and a 2014 Republican bill (*Politico*). In his State of the Union address on Tuesday, Obama is set to propose a bank tax that would impose a fee on the liabilities of the roughly 100 firms with assets exceeding \$50 billion, the White House says. Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., speaks during a news

conference on the violence in the Mideast on Capitol Hill in Washington, Thursday, July 24, 2014. "The fee on large financial institutions is something very similar to what was included in the Republican corporate tax reform last year by Republican Dave Camp," White House Senior Adviser Dan Pfeiffer said on CBS's *"Face the Nation."* In February, Camp, then chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, proposed an excise tax on banks with more than \$500 billion in assets. But his plan was quickly shot down by his Republican colleagues and Wall Street lobbyists.

CHAFFETZ BLASTS OBAMA TAX PLAN: President Obama's plan to raise taxes and fees on wealthy Americans and large businesses landed with a thud among Republicans on Sunday. Rep. Jason Chaffetz (R-Utah), chairman of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, called the plan "a non-starter." "We're not just one good tax increase away from prosperity in this nation," he said on CNN's *"State of the Union."* Chaffetz argued that the plan won't help grow the economy or provide more jobs. "We have to make sure that we get a regulatory environment that's predictable, that we bring those tax rates down and that we quit spending this money that we don't have," he said.

CHAFFETZ SAYS ROMNEY PROPHETIC': A top House Republican said Sunday that Mitt Romney is seriously mulling another run for the White House. Rep. Jason Chaffetz (R-Utah), chairman of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, said Romney called him recently to confirm that the swirling rumors were true and that he may make a third run for the presidency. "I think he's very seriously considering it," Chaffetz said on CNN's *"State of the Union."* Chaffetz, who has backed the former Massachusetts governor in his previous campaigns, said Romney is a known quantity who has been vetted and is unlikely to deliver any late-campaign October surprises. "We know exactly what we're going to get," he said.

PANETTA SAYS TERRORISTS MORE AGGRESSIVE: The world is currently facing a "much more aggressive form of terrorism," according to Leon Panetta. The former Defense secretary and CIA director under President Obama said that the U.S. has beefed up its intelligence capabilities since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. But he added that the thousands of foreign nationals in places like Syria and Iraq pose a "real threat" to Americans. "I don't think we can take anything for granted," he said on CNN's *"Fareed Zakaria GPS."* The most recent attacks in France and Canada, as well as arrests made in terrorist plots in Belgium and Greece, suggest to Panetta the world is entering "a new and perhaps more dangerous chapter in the war on terrorism."

CAMERON SAYS TERRORISTS MORPHING: British Prime Minister David Cameron said in an interview broadcast on Sunday that the threat of terrorism is severe and that an attack is highly likely. Cameron, who was in Washington last week for meetings with President Obama at the White House, said the two leaders agree on a coordinated strategy to battle terrorist factions and acknowledge that the fight is a long one. "Frankly we've been in this struggle against extremists Islamist terrorism now for well over a decade and half so we know what it takes to win, but it's going to take a lot of perseverance," he said in an interview on CBS's *"Face the Nation."* Cameron argued that part of the difficulty in stopping the terror threat is that it "keeps morphing."

BURR CITES 'UNBELIEVABLE' INTELLIGENCE FROM PARIS - Sen. Richard Burr (R-N.C.) said he expects that data will pour in over the next few months that will provide intelligence to better protect the U.S. and Europe against global terrorism threats. The new chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee said that following the attack in Paris, there will be an "unbelievable amount of data that's going to tell us what the next step is in defending this country and defending Europe, as well." On CNN's *"State of the Union,"* he pointed a spate of raids and arrests around Europe over the weekend that netted more than a dozen people with suspected ties to the Paris attacks, which left 12 dead at a satirical newspaper Charlie Hedbo and 17 people total around the city. He called the recent arrests in Belgium an "intelligence win."

RUBIO CITES 'HOMEGROWN' TERRORISTS: A possible Republican presidential contender said Sunday that he is concerned about another terrorist attack in the United States. Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida (R), a member of the Intelligence Committee, said there is a growing threat of "homegrown violent extremism, which we've been warning about now for a couple of years." While there is a real terror threat for Europe, "it's a real risk here in the United States, a country where every single year millions of people visit, travel to, immigrate to," he said on CBS's *"Face the Nation."* He said that the U.S. government needs to do more, including honing the nation's intelligence-gathering capability. "You know there are people in Washington who believe that our programs go too far, and I'm certainly sensitive to privacy expectations, and of course privacy rights," Rubio said.

REPUBLICANS REBUFF OBAMA ON IRAN SANCTIONS: He saw Vladimir Putin as a threat to peace. He insisted that radical Islam was spreading. He warned that Iraq was at risk without American troops to stabilize it (*Politico*). And he was right. As Mitt

Romney's supporters push the idea that the 2012 Republican nominee might run for president again, one of their core talking points is that Romney was a foreign policy prophet in the last campaign. His vindication on several scores, they argue, gives him a rationale to run again — and a leg up on his potential Republican rivals. "The results of the Hillary Clinton-Barack Obama foreign policy have been devastating," Romney declared at the Republican National Committee's winter meeting in San Diego on Friday. "The world is not safer."

SENATORS SPLIT ON GITMO, ISIS: Two top U.S. senators -- one Democrat, one Republican -- agreed Sunday about the urgent need to address the global terror threat and Iran's nuclear program, but disagreed on possible solutions and other issues, underscoring the reality that Washington remains as divided as ever (*Fox News*). Wisconsin GOP Sen. Ron Johnson, chairman of the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, told "Fox News Sunday" that he's not seeing the leadership from President Obama to stop the worldwide terror threat -- including the growth of the Islamic State in Syria. "As long as ISIS is not losing, they are perceived as winning," he said. "We have to defeat ISIS. We can't let them continue threatening the rest of the world for years. ... This is not a threat that is going away. It's growing. It's metastasizing." He also said the United States "has to assume" there are sleeper cells inside the country capable of carrying out deadly attacks like the recent ones in Paris. Maryland Sen. Ben Cardin, a Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, told Fox News that he agrees with Obama, who doesn't want a "protracted ground campaign" in Syria. "The president is right, this is a complicated situation," he continued. "It's important that ground support be done by those in the country."

General Assembly

PENCE PRISON PROPOSAL FINDS SKEPTICISM: A proposal from Gov. Mike Pence to spend \$51 million on expanding two Indiana prisons is facing skepticism among state lawmakers (*Davies, Associated Press*). Some leading legislators say the expansion plan is coming too soon after changes to the state's criminal sentencing laws took effect last summer. That overhaul was aimed, in part, at directing more lower-level offenders to local programs instead of prison. The Department of Correction says it still expects a growing number of maximum-security inmates. That's why it wants to expand the Miami Correctional Facility near Peru and the Wabash Valley prison near Sullivan. Republican House Speaker Brian Bosma says increasing community corrections funding by \$50 million a year is a top legislative priority. He doesn't expect the Legislature will approve both that funding and money for prison construction.

DeBOER TALKS BUDGET: Education became the main player Saturday morning at Third House or what Purdue University economist Larry DeBoer jokingly calls “Dungeons & Legislators” — a role-playing game for local leaders and business owners to understand the legislature by acting it out (*Lafayette Journal & Courier*). Third House is a Greater Lafayette Commerce function that allows members to hear from Indiana General Assembly legislators and share input on pending legislation. The group meets every other week during budget years. Members serve on one of six issue committees, review bills that are pending in the General Assembly and vote on whether the bills should be passed. DeBoer, a professor of agricultural economics at Purdue, traditionally opens the Third House session with a debriefing on the state budget. Since more than half of the state’s general fund goes toward funding K-12 education, DeBoer said legislators will have to grapple with how to properly allocate that money among voucher programs, public and charter schools. While the state’s sales and income tax base is growing modestly, the state will continue to cut individual and corporate income tax rates this year and during the biennium or the next two fiscal years, reducing available revenue. “When there are fewer dollars that always makes the debate in the legislature, sharper and more difficult,” DeBoer said after his presentation. Legislators will have to decide the school funding formula, which is a calculation based on a fixed amount of tuition support or about \$4,500 per pupil, categorical grants, and a complexity grant.

BILL WOULD LEGALIZE CHEMICAL CREMATION: Joe Wilson isn’t giving up. The 1977 Purdue University graduate is owner and CEO of Bio-Response Solutions, a Danville, Indiana-based company that since 2006 has manufactured wastewater treatment systems. But these days wastewater systems are more of a side business for Wilson’s growing company (*Lafayette Journal & Courier*). That’s because of the increasing market for bio-cremation, or alkaline hydrolysis — the chemical cremation of human bodies. In 2011, Wilson’s company sold its first alkaline hydrolysis system — the first such machine in the country to be sold to a commercial funeral home, thrusting the company into the national spotlight. “That (alkaline hydrolysis) business has grown from nothing five years ago,” Wilson said. “We’re about 75 percent alkaline hydrolysis now.” In 2013, the company made a \$1.1 million expansion to its Danville production facility, increasing its staff and eventually relocating its Pittsboro headquarters to Danville. But the process fueling that growth isn’t legal in the majority of states, including Indiana. After several years of trying to have bio-cremation legalized in Indiana, Wilson has his fingers crossed that 2015 will be the year. House Bill 1069, authored by Rep. Jeff Thompson, R-Lizton, would legalize the process, requiring the State Board of Funeral and Cemetery Service to adopt rules governing alkaline hydrolysis. The bill received its first reading Jan. 6 and was referred to the Public Health Committee.

WASTE DISTRICT REFORM SOUGHT: One measure would sharply limit the way Lake County solid waste district officials conduct business (Chase, *NWI Times*). Another would pave the way for shuttering Hoosier county and regional solid waste districts that don't perform to state standards. Lawmakers are considering three bills in the 2015 session of the Indiana Legislature that push for reform or improvement within the county and regional waste districts, which are supposed to be increasing recycling rates and diverting reusable garbage away from landfills. Two of the bills — identical versions in both the Indiana House and Senate — take specific aim at the Lake County Solid Waste Management District and its spending and contractual controversies during the past few years. Sen. Rick Niemeyer, R-Lowell, is sponsoring the Indiana Senate version of the bill. He said he speaks from experience when arguing the need for spending reforms within a Lake County waste district, which fired its executive director in September for purchasing a designer purse and accessories for a female subordinate using a government credit card.

LSA LAWYERS 'UNSUNG HEROES': Two weeks into their session, lawmakers already have filed more than 1,100 bills, from a rewrite of ethics rules to regulations for swine feed (Hayden, *CNHI*). By the end of the four-month session, about 300 bills are likely to become law. The survivors will have been revised and rewritten multiple times, generating an astonishing 3 1/2 million pieces of paper. Lawmakers will be cheered and jeered for their work, but recognition is also due to the 80-plus lawyers and fiscal analysts in the Legislative Services Agency. Former House Minority Leader Linda Lawson, D-Hammond, calls them "unsung heroes" of the Indiana's part-time, citizen legislature — a phrase echoed by Republican and Democratic legislators alike. The agency was created in 1967 during a "good government" era that saw legislatures across the country seek to up their game. Lawmakers dealing with increasingly complex issues saw that the writers and analysts of bills needed to be more professional and less political. For agency director George Angelone, its identity as the Legislature's non-partisan research arm is critical. It's legislators who craft and debate and settle on what they think is the best public policy. In turn, it's his veteran staff — more than half have been there more than a decade — do the grunt work for whatever proposal comes before them, no matter how sane or wacky. "We understand that's our role," said Angelone, a lawyer and certified accountant with an MBA. "If someone crosses the line" -- into policy advocacy -- "they just have to leave."

Congress

OBAMA TAX STANCE DISMAYS REPUBLICANS: Remember tax reform being an area where Republicans and the White House could come together after the bruising Democrats got in the midterms? Never mind (*Politico*). The White House previewed its tax messaging coming in the State of the Union on Tuesday — heavy on tax breaks for children and middle-class families, paid for by steeper taxes on investments, cutting a loophole benefiting the uber-wealthy, and a new fee on big banks. Republicans did not see it as an olive branch. “Slapping American small businesses, savers and investors with more tax hikes only negates the benefits of the tax policies that have been successful in helping to expand the economy, promote savings, and create jobs,” Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-Utah), the new chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, said in a statement.

ERNST TO GIVE SOTU RESPONSE: Republicans are going folksy with their choice to respond to President Obama’s State of the Union address (*Roll Call*). Speaker John A. Boehner, R-Ohio, and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., jointly announced at their retreat Thursday that Sen. Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, would deliver the Republicans’ rebuttal. Ernst, who upset former Rep. Bruce Braley, D-Iowa in 2014 as one of the party’s majority-makers, gained notoriety during her campaign for an ad she ran conflating her childhood on the farm castrating pigs with her ability to cut government spending. “I am truly humbled and honored to have this opportunity to deliver the Republican address,” Ernst said. “It is a long way from Red Oak [Iowa] to Washington, D.C., and growing up on a Southwest Iowa farm years ago, I never, never would have imagined that I would have this opportunity.”

STUTZMAN STATEMENT ON ML KING: U.S. Rep. Marlin Stutzman issued the following statement in remembrance of Dr. Martin Luther King (*Howey Politics Indiana*). “On Martin Luther King Day we remember so many of the wonderful contributions that Dr. King brought to this country. He was a man of courage but also peace. Dr. King was a powerful voice for so many who were silenced for too long, and he led millions of people in one of the greatest social movements in our history in the fight for civil rights. We can continue to honor him by fighting for and protecting individual rights of all Americans regardless of race or religion. Today, we are a stronger and better nation because of Martin Luther King.”

State

GOVERNOR: PENCE EYES AG GROWTH - Agriculture is one of the most important factors driving Indiana's economy, Republican Gov. Mike Pence said Friday, adding that he plans to support its future growth and development (Associated Press). "We see agriculture as the centerpiece of economic growth and development in Indiana," Pence said at the first Governor's Agriculture Conference in downtown Indianapolis. "We're just absolutely determined to continue to promote the kinds of policies that will encourage agricultural innovation." The conference attracted more than 300 agriculture leaders to discuss the future of an industry that adds \$25 billion to the state's economy each year. Key speakers included Pence, Lt. Gov. Sue Ellspermann and Purdue University agriculture dean Jay Akridge, who addressed topics like agribusiness development, conservation, stewardship, sustainability, feeding an increasing population and Indiana's growing role in these issues. Pence said he hopes the conference will help generate new ideas to keep Indiana in the forefront of agricultural innovation. "We've got all the resources. We've got all the companies," he said. "But now it's a matter of bringing folks together and thinking in new ways."

TRANSPORTATION: FASTER US31 DESIRED - The new-and-improved U.S. 31 — an interstate-quality highway between Plymouth and South Bend — opened to much fanfare last summer (Allen, *South Bend Tribune*). Drivers traveling along the 20-mile stretch no longer had to wait for stoplights, slow down for passes through towns or deal with traffic entering from adjacent driveways. The road project, years in the making, was finally complete. But that doesn't mean people are completely satisfied. While the Indiana Department of Transportation has upgraded U.S. 31 between Plymouth and South Bend, built a bypass around Kokomo and is scheduled to finish improvements later this year north of Indianapolis, some local residents, businesses and government officials want the entire highway to look like an interstate between South Bend and the state capital. "People are excited about the improvements that have been made so far. Those three pieces help an awful lot, and we're really grateful to the state for making it a priority," said Jeff Rea, president and CEO of the St. Joseph County Chamber of Commerce. "We just want to get to the finish line." The three improved segments of U.S. 31 cover 46 miles of the roughly 125 miles between Interstate 465 in Indianapolis and U.S. 20 in South Bend. The changes also have eliminated 31 stoplights, 123 intersections, 668 driveways and two rail crossings from the route, according to the U.S. 31 Coalition, a group formed in 1990 to advocate for the highway upgrades. But there are still seven stoplights, 105 intersections, 256 driveways and two rail crossings remaining. "Those are barriers in the minds of people who move product," Rea said. "We want to continue to chip away at that."

EDUCATION: IU INFORMATICS SCHOOL GROWS - Informatics used to be the major that students might have heard of but didn't understand what it actually was,

said Bobby Schnabel (*Bloomington Herald-Times*). "Now, if you don't know, there is probably someone down the hall that does," said Schnabel, the dean of the Indiana University School of Informatics and Computing. The school, created as the School of Informatics, started in 2000. It combined with the computer science department in 2005 and with the School of Library and Information Science in 2013 to create the school's current title. And in the past seven years, it has experienced rapid growth. In 2007, there were 400 undergraduates with a major in the school. In 2014, there were 1,196 students — almost triple in seven years. Graduate students more than doubled — from 306 to 740, including library science students — in that same time.

ENERGY: AUTO CHARGING STATIONS INCREASE - Change often comes slowly, then suddenly all at once (*Bloomington Herald-Times*). A few years ago, there was nowhere in northwest Indiana to plug in an electric car except for your garage. Now drivers can pull into public charging stations along Indianapolis Boulevard and U.S. 30, and they're spreading fast. The number of public charging stations for electric vehicles in Northwest Indiana is poised to more than double in 2015, NIPSCO spokesman Nick Meyer said. The Merrillville-based electric utility has 24 charging stations at 18 sites so far, but more than 50 customers have signed up to put charging stations in public places. "We've seen fairly steady growth," he told the Times in Munster.

HISTORY: INDIANA LANDMARKS GROWS - There are few places in the state where Indiana Landmarks has not tried to save a historic structure (Evansville Courier & Press). The nonprofit has made headlines in Evansville recently for its efforts to restore the Owen Block building — but that is just one of dozens (or more) places Indiana Landmarks has worked to rehabilitated. The group has eight regional offices around the state each with active projects, in addition to their state headquarters in Indianapolis. In Evansville alone, Landmarks is also restoring the old Downtown Greyhound Station, and it recently began a project to save the Peters-Margedant House on Evansville's Eastside. "Saving historic places is what we do," Indiana Landmarks President Marsh Davis said. And its been doing it for decades. The Indiana Landmarks organization was formed in 1960 in Indianapolis by a group of business owners with the idea of saving historic places, Davis said. "At that time they saw the world was changing fast and we were losing historic places," Davis said. "So a group of business and community leaders came together and said, 'Let's save some stuff for our kids.'"

Nation

WHITE HOUSE: OBAMA EYES MIDDLE CLASS - President Barack Obama is turning to his biggest television audience of the year to pitch tax increases on the wealthiest Americans and put the new Republican Congress in the position of defending top income earners over the middle class (*Associated Press*). As Obama continues to signal what he will propose during Tuesday's State of the Union address, senior administration officials say he will call for raising the capital gains rate on top income earners and eliminating a tax break on inheritances. Administration officials say the revenue generated by those changes would fund new tax credits and other cost-saving measures for middle-class taxpayers. The officials disclosed details on the tax proposals on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the proposals by name ahead of the president.

WHITE HOUSE: OBAMA FACES GOP CONGRESS - For the first time in his presidency, Barack Obama will stand before a Republican-led Congress to deliver his State of the Union address and try to convince lawmakers newly empowered to block his agenda that they should instead join with him on education, cyberprotection and national security proposals (*Associated Press*). With Obama firmly in the legacy-building phase, his address is expected to be as much about selling a story of U.S. economic revival as it is about outlining initiatives. The approach reflects the White House's belief that it has been too cautious in promoting economic gains out of fear of looking tone deaf to the continued struggles of many Americans. White House advisers have suggested that their restraint hindered Democrats in the November elections and helped Republicans take full control of Congress for the first time in eight years. But with hiring up and unemployment down, the president has been more assertive about the improving state of the economy in the new year and his prime-time address Tuesday will be his most high-profile platform for making that case. "America's resurgence is real, and we're better positioned than any country on Earth to succeed in the 21st century," Obama said Wednesday in Iowa, one of several trips he has made this month to preview the speech.

WHITE HOUSE: SHOTS FIRED NEAR BIDEN HOME - The Secret Service says multiple gunshots were fired from a vehicle near the Delaware home of Vice President Joe Biden on Saturday night (*Associated Press*). The vice president and his wife were not at home at the time. The Secret Service says the shots were fired at around 8:25 p.m. on a public road outside the secure perimeter near the home in Greenville, Delaware. The shots were heard by Secret Service personnel. They say the vehicle drove past the home at a high rate of speed and fled the scene. The incident is under investigation. Biden's office says the vice president and his wife, Jill Biden, were later briefed on the incident.

SCOTUS: MARRIAGE CASE GOOD NEWS FOR GOP - The news Friday that the Supreme Court will rule on same-sex marriage brought elation from gays and lesbians who are hopeful the justices will grant them the constitutional protections they have long sought (*New York Times*). But another group also saw a possible reason to celebrate if the court does indeed rule that way: Republicans. If the high court resolves the issue as expected in June, it could deliver a decision that has the benefit of largely neutralizing a debate that a majority of Americans believe Republicans are on the wrong side of — and well ahead of the party's 2016 presidential primaries. To have the question disposed of and dispensed with, many Republicans say, could make their opinions on the matter largely moot, providing a political escape hatch that gives them an excuse to essentially say: "It's been settled. Let's move on."

GAMING: CAESARS FILES FOR BANKRUPTCY - A cash-strapped division of casino giant Caesars Entertainment Corp. filed for bankruptcy protection Thursday in Chicago, hoping the court agrees to its plan to get out from under \$18.4 billion in debt (*Associated Press*). The division, Caesars Entertainment Operating Co., owns and operates most of Caesars' 50 properties worldwide and is the parent company of Horseshoe Southern Indiana. Caesars CEO Gary Loveman said in a statement that its casino-hotels would remain open and continue to host meetings and events, assuring customers that their loyalty points would still accrue and the company's lineup of onstage entertainers would perform according to their schedules. Company officials said they intend to continue paying suppliers in full. "I am very confident in the future prospects of our enterprise, which will combine an improved capital structure with a network of profitable properties," Loveman said in the statement. The bankruptcy filing doesn't apply to parent company Caesars Entertainment Corp. and affiliated companies Caesars Growth Partners and Caesars Entertainment Resort Properties. More than 30,000 people are employed at the debt-laden division's 38 casino-hotels, including Bally's and Caesars in Atlantic City and the iconic Caesars Palace on the Las Vegas Strip.

KANSAS: BROWNBACK FORCED TO RAISE TAXES - Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback, whose massive tax cuts became a cause célèbre for conservatives but threw his state's budget into disarray, announced Friday that he would pursue tax increases (*Politico*). In a stark turnaround, the Republican called for higher taxes on cigarettes and liquor as part of his annual budget while proposing to make future tax cuts contingent on revenue projections. Brownback's cuts to a number of state taxes in 2012 failed to boost the economy like he had hoped, triggering a backlash when the huge budget shortfall that resulted forced major decreases in government services. His state's credit rating was lowered, and Brownback nearly lost his job in the November elections. Critics

of the tax cuts enjoyed a told-you-so moment Friday, calling Brownback's reversal inevitable. "We've seen this exploding budget gap, and this year, after three years of this experience, the recognition is they have to put a halt on these tax cuts," said Meg Wiehe, state policy director at the liberal-leaning Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy. Brownback, a former senator whose name is sometimes bandied about for a possible presidential run, acknowledged the state's fragile fiscal situation. "My budget proposal recognizes that the current budget trajectory is unsustainable and that difficult solutions are required by state law as well as by fiscal prudence," Brownback said in releasing his two-year budget.

MEDIA: FOX NEWS APOLOGIZES - Fox News took time out of four broadcasts on Saturday to apologize for four separate instances of incorrect information that portrayed Muslims in a negative light (*CNN*). Several of the cases involved incendiary comments about "no-go zones" in Europe, where Islamic law supposedly supersedes local law and where non-Muslims fear to go. Other media outlets have accused Fox of exaggerations and falsehoods, and even British Prime Minister David Cameron mocked one of the assertions. On Saturday, Fox apologized morning, noon and night. Jeanine Pirro issued the final correction of the day, at 9:10 p.m., for something her guest Steve Emerson said a week earlier: that Birmingham, England is a "totally Muslim city where non-Muslims don't go in." Emerson was ridiculed for his comments, and he subsequently apologized. "Last week on this program, a guest made a serious factual error that we wrongly let stand unchallenged and uncorrected," Pirro said.

Local

CITIES: FORMER MAYOR OPPOSES MOVING BLOOMINGTON HOSPITAL - Former Bloomington Mayor John Fernandez wrote this column for the *Bloomington Herald-Times*: A decision by IU Health to abandon the downtown Bloomington Hospital campus would have devastating long-term consequences for our city. Communities across our country are littered with abandoned urban hospital sites. One need only visit the former Reid Hospital campus in Richmond, Indiana, to see what can happen. We would do well to recall that in 1905, a group of Bloomington citizens came together to build Bloomington Hospital. Throughout our history Bloomington citizens, led primarily by local women, collected donations and organized the whole community to build this hospital as a community asset. As IU Health's leadership makes its decision regarding the future location of Bloomington's hospital, it must honor this legacy. The fact this decision is being made without significant public debate shows an appalling disrespect for the citizens and donors that built this institution. Moreover, this insular decision-

making process represents a missed opportunity to gain community buy-in and co-investment for an alternative that could truly distinguish IU Health Bloomington from its competition.

CITIES: VONNEGUT STREET PROPOSED - Indianapolis could have a street named for one of its most famous residents under a proposal being crafted by a city councilman. Councilman John Barth wants to rename a section of Senate Avenue in downtown Indianapolis for author Kurt Vonnegut. The street cuts between the Statehouse and state government offices and is dotted with parking lots and a few businesses, including the Kurt Vonnegut Memorial Library. Indianapolis already sports a mural of Vonnegut on Massachusetts Avenue. And the library opened four years ago. Barth tells *The Indianapolis Star* that naming a street for the writer who died in 2007 would help the city better celebrate the people who have come from Indianapolis.

CITIES: FORT WAYNE MAYOR, COUNCIL PAY HIGH - Fort Wayne's elected city officials are the highest-paid of any Indiana city with more than 100,000 residents (*Gong, Fort Wayne Journal Gazette*). Data collected by *The Journal Gazette* show that Fort Wayne's City Council members are the highest-paid of the four largest Indiana cities, which include Indianapolis, South Bend and Evansville. The Fort Wayne council's salary in 2014 was \$22,279 for each council member. That amount will remain the same in 2015, since the council in December chose not to approve the typical 2 percent annual raise for the council and the mayor. For workers in Fort Wayne, the estimated median for individual earnings is \$28,771 per year. Serving on Fort Wayne's City Council is a part-time job, and all of the current council members have other sources of income. Councilman John Shoaff, D-at large, for example, is an architect. Additionally, Councilman John Crawford, R-at large, said some council members donate all or a portion of their council salaries to charity.

CITIES: MORE DOWNTOWN MONEY FOR MUNCIE - We noted recently that city officials gave a big vote of confidence — and more money — to the Muncie Downtown Development Partnership (Walker and Royden, *Muncie Star Press*). But at the time even we didn't know the full extent of Mayor Dennis Tyler's willingness to invest in the group, which manages a downtown marketing campaign as well as downtown events like Muncie Gras. We noted earlier this month that the Muncie Redevelopment Commission approved MDDP director Vicki Veach's request to increase from \$40,000 to \$60,000 the amount the MRC gives the downtown group each year. What we didn't note at the time was that, the day before the MRC meeting, the city Board of Works and Public Safety had approved a one-year contract with MDDP for \$120,000. That funding level seems to

be consistent with the amount the works board approved a year ago, which itself reflected an increase from \$100,000. The \$120,000 approval is reflected in the minutes of the Jan. 7 meeting of the works board, which — if the minutes are correct — was held at about 9 a.m. that morning.

COUNTIES: FRANKLIN NATIVITY ORDINANCE - Franklin County commissioners are hoping a new ordinance regulating the use of the courthouse square will end a federal civil rights lawsuit filed against the county last month, but the issue might not be resolved quite so easily (*Richmond Palladium-Item*). A Nativity scene, which is owned by a group known as Aroma's Breakfast Club, has been displayed annually on the Franklin County Courthouse lawn since the mid-1950s. In December, the Wisconsin-based Freedom from Religion Foundation filed suit over the display, saying it violated the Constitution. In December, both sides agreed the Nativity scene could remain through Christmas and would be removed Dec. 26. The new ordinance allows demonstrations, exhibits and rallies on the courthouse lawn without regard to the viewpoint of those activities, and it creates a uniform, neutral permit application process, according to a press release from the Thomas More Society, which is representing Franklin County at no charge. Thomas More Society special counsel Peter Breen said in a statement the ordinance resolves all the allegations in the lawsuit. "We're glad to assist the Franklin County Board of Commissioners to formalize their past practice of allowing displays and events on the county courthouse grounds," Breen said in the statement. "This new ordinance provides maximum Constitutional protections for the citizens of Franklin County to use their courthouse lawn." The ordinance requires a \$25 fee to set up a display on the square and a \$250 refundable deposit. The county surveyor platted eight plots for public use. Displays may be in place for up to 45 days.

COUNTIES: SHERIFF NOEL ORDERS JAIL SEARCH - For the second time in nearly two weeks, Clark County Sheriff Jamey Noel ordered a contraband search of the Michael L. Becher Adult Correctional Complex (*News & Tribune*). While the search was ongoing Friday evening, Clark County Sheriff's Detective Scottie Maples said the correctional officers conducting the search had located a cell phone and a small bag of synthetic marijuana as of about 5 p.m. The sweep was orchestrated after a "jail tip" had been received that there were drugs in an area of the jail designated for inmate trustys, Maples said. Trustys are those inmates with privileges to conduct supervised work outside the facility and have duties, such as cooking and cleaning, in the jail. The surprise search was conducted in two areas in the jail where nearly 50 jail trustys are held in about 20 cells. "This is where we need to focus at for our contraband because they [trusty inmates] have the ability to leave the section unsupervised at times," Maples said. "If there is contraband that needs to be moved from one section to another, they are the only ones with access to do so."

COUNTIES: 1ST LAKE COUNCILMAN FROM MERRILLVILLE - For the first time in the town's 44 years, Merrillville will have one of its residents on the Lake County Council (*Post-Tribune*). Jamal Washington now represents the 3rd District on the county council, replacing Jerome Prince, the new county assessor. "I'm very excited. My plans are to represent everyone," Washington said. "... I'm constantly hearing what we cannot do. I want to hear what we can do." The 3rd District includes Merrillville and parts of Lake Station, Griffith, Schererville and St. John.

Sports

NFL: KRAVITZ SAYS PATS DEFLATED FOOTBALL - Shortly after their 45-7 win over the Indianapolis Colts in the AFC Championship Sunday, the New England Patriots are reportedly set to be investigated by the NFL for the use of deflated footballs during the game (CNN). WTHR TV's Bob Kravitz reported the details, noting the Pats are at risk of losing draft picks if they are found guilty of the accusations:

NCAA: PENN STATE VICTORIES RESTORED - The National Collegiate Athletic Association reached an agreement that will restore 111 wins it stripped from former Pennsylvania State University football coach Joe Paterno after the Jerry Sandusky child sex-abuse scandal (*IBJ*).

MLB: WRIGLEY BLEACHERS WON'T BE READY UNTIL MAY - Wrigley bleachers won't be ready until late May: As the historic ballpark's reconstruction extends deeper into the season, Cubs officials say bleacher season ticket holders will be relocated or receive a refund (Chicago Tribune).

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BREWER TAPPED BY INDY GOP TO CHALLENGE HOGSETT: Indianapolis businessman and Iraq War veteran Chuck Brewer is the Marion County Republican Party's choice to run for mayor (LoBianco, Cook, and Eason, *IndyStar*). Brewer told The Indianapolis Star on Monday that he is entering the race for mayor, bringing to end months of speculation as to whom the party would recruit to run against Democrat Joe Hogsett. Brewer served two tours in Iraq as an operations officer, overseeing 537 Marines on multiple bases, and now runs the Potbelly Sandwich Shop and local soup shop Soupremac, both on Monument Circle. Brewer said that he would look to expand on the resurgence in economic development in Downtown Indianapolis and focus on areas such as job creation and improved education as a long-term strategy for dealing with crime. "I love this city, and when I was researching cities to open up my Potbelly's, I chose to call Indianapolis home, and now I want to make it a place that even more people want to call home," Brewer told The Star on Monday. Brewer enters a crowded field of Republicans, just weeks before a critical filing deadline, but carries the powerful imprimatur of a party that has struggled this cycle to recruit a top-tier candidate. Three Republicans have entered the race so far: Jocelyn-Tandy Adande, a notary public who has run unsuccessfully for a slew of public offices in the past, and who was the first to file; Terry Michael, a former Fall Creek Township trustee; and Deputy Mayor Olgen Williams, who announced his candidacy Monday. Mayor Greg Ballard's Nov. 5 announcement that he would not seek a third term left the GOP scrambling for a candidate, as one prospect after another declined to run. Hogsett declined comment on Brewer's entry into the race Monday. But Marion County Democratic Party Chairman Joel Miller was quick to contrast the two parties' efforts to field a candidate. "This one (the GOP field) came together slowly, and it's getting interesting quickly. I'm glad we've got our candidate and we're moving forward," Miller said.

BOSMA SAYS STATE CAN FUND K-12 MORE THAN PENCE REQUESTED: House Republicans plan to add more money for schools to what Governor Pence has proposed in his budget (Berman, *WIBC*). Pence is calling for a 2% increase for schools in the first year of the two-year budget, plus another 1% the next year. House Speaker Brian Bosma (R-Indianapolis) says that's what legislators approved in the current budget, and says the state has enough money for Republicans to keep a promise to set aside more than that. He says it's too early to say exactly how much Republicans will propose. Pence's proposed increase would give schools an extra \$200 million, with about a fifth of that earmarked for charter schools. Bosma says charters receive less money per

student than traditional schools, because they don't receive money for transportation or capital costs. He says House Republicans agree with Pence that the disparity needs to be addressed. Bosma says plans to create incentives for schools to steer more funding to the classroom instead of administration are still a work in progress. He says a House Republican proposal to give teachers a \$200 tax credit for spending their own money on classroom supplies is a small step in that direction. The House Ways and Means Committee began hearings last week on budget requests from state agencies and universities, and will take up Pence's budget outline Tuesday.

KOCH BROTHERS TO HOST CONTENDERS: Sens. Ted Cruz of Texas, Rand Paul of Kentucky and Marco Rubio of Florida, and Gov. Scott Walker of Wisconsin, received coveted invitations [unclear who has accepted] to speak [in Palm Springs next weekend to] the annual winter gathering of Freedom Partners Chamber of Commerce, the nonprofit group that oversees the network of fiscally conservative groups formed with help from the Kochs (Allen, *Politico*).

OBAMA ON OFFENSIVE TONIGHT: The tone and tenor of the Obama White House since Democrats suffered a crushing defeat during the November midterm elections have been anything but conciliatory and have raised doubts about whether the president can — or wants to — break through partisan gridlock before voters choose his successor next year (*Washington Post*). The president will enter the House chamber Tuesday night for his sixth State of the Union address riding a wave of confidence driven by an improving economy and brightening public approval ratings. And he seems as defiant as ever. Although Obama has vetoed just two bills in his six years, the White House has threatened to veto five measures from Congress this month alone — including legislation that would authorize the Keystone XL oil sands pipeline, tie funding of the Department of Homeland Security to a rollback of Obama's executive actions on immigration, and impose new economic sanctions on Iran. Obama vowed in a private meeting with Democrats last week that he will play "offense" during the final two years of his presidency, building on the aggressive executive actions he laid out over the past two months.

NFL OPENS PATRIOT DEFLATED FOOTBALL INQUIRY: The NFL has opened an investigation into whether the New England Patriots deflated game balls before their thrashing of the Indianapolis Colts in the AFC Championship (*CBS News*). The news, first reported by Bob Kravitz of *WTHR.com* in Indianapolis, is likely to be a hot topic heading into the media storm that surrounds the league in the two-week run-up to the Super Bowl on Feb. 1 in Arizona, when the Patriots will take on NFC Champions Seattle

Seahawks. At a press conference Monday afternoon, Patriots coach Bill Belichick would only say of the controversy that he first heard of the accusations earlier in the day and that his team would cooperate with the NFL. According to NFL.com, the league's rulebook states game balls must be inflated with between 12.5-13.5 pounds of air. Each team must provide 12 primary balls for testing prior to the game. Patriots quarterback Tom Brady dismissed the "ridiculous" reports during his Monday morning appearance on WEEI-FM. "I think I've heard it all at this point," Brady laughed. "That's the last of my worries. I don't even respond to stuff like this."

DANIELS SAYS COMMUNITY COLLEGE BEST LEFT TO STATES: President Barack Obama's proposal to provide two free years of community college has a familiar ring to Purdue University President Mitch Daniels (*Groppe, IndyStar*). Daniels proposed something similar as Indiana's governor in 2008. The plan wasn't enacted because of problems with his idea of financing it by privatizing the lottery. Instead, Obama's idea is modeled after programs in Tennessee and Chicago. And that's where such proposals must sink or swim, Daniels said Thursday at a forum on making higher education available to a broader and more diverse student body. "It's absolutely a correct goal to shine a light on this thing," Daniels said of Obama's plan. "It's probably best addressed and in the real world most likely to be addressed, state-by-state. It's best because states are so different." Obama hasn't said how he would pay for his plan. And even if it were to be approved by the GOP-controlled Congress, states would have to pay part of the cost. Still, Ivy Tech Community College President Tom Snyder calls it a "game-changer in the discussion." "It will put a laser focus on cost, on college affordability, and it will put a laser focus on return on investment," Snyder said. "I have great hopes of people recognizing the opportunity for a free, two-year education," he said. While multiple parties would have to agree for the idea to be enacted, Snyder said it will spur the discussion.

HPI DAILY ANALYSIS: First, the Colts played terribly on Sunday, so it's hard to believe that the allegation that the Patriots deflated game balls to get a better grip could have altered the outcome. This is not sour grapes. That might be a different scenario if the game had come down to a late field goal or a tipped pass interception. New England has a legacy of stretching the rules, whether, as we witnessed during the Spygate episode, or on the field with formations. If this story is confirmed, severe sanctions should be in order. - *Brian A. Howey*

Campaigns

2015: MARION CO. REPUBLICANS PREPARE FOR JAN. 31ST SLATING - The Marion County Republican Party is gearing up for its slating convention January 31st (Corbin, *WIBC*). Party Chair Kyle Walker says the candidate they endorse to run for Indianapolis Mayor will come from the party's "people on the ground." Walker says they're anticipating the announcement of another viable candidate in the race for mayor by midweek. However, he stresses that no candidate has been endorsed by the party as of yet. Walker adds that the deadline for file for the Republican primary is February 6th. He says the actual primary is set for May 5th.

2015: OLGEM WILLIAMS JOINS INDY GOP MAYORAL RACE - The Republican primary field for Indianapolis Mayor just got a little larger (Ayers, *WFYI*). Indianapolis Deputy Mayor Olgen Williams Monday informed several media outlets Monday that he has decided to run for mayor. His announcement grows the list of Republican candidates, which sat empty a little more than a week ago, to three. A Twitter account created Monday morning--@OlgenForIndy--seemed to confirm those media reports. Williams has served as Mayor Greg Ballard's deputy mayor of neighborhoods since 2007. Before that he was director of Christamore House, a family and community center on the city's west side, according to a biography of William's on the IUPUI Board of Advisors website. A resident of Indy's Haughville neighborhood, Williams has served as president of the Haughville Community council and is a founding member of the Westside Community Ministries, Inc., which the IUPUI bio describes as a "faith-based program that inspires drug dealers and users to become productive citizens."

2015: BUTTIGIEG TO REFILE FOR SOUTH BEND REELECTION - South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg will formally file paperwork on Tuesday morning to seek a second term as South Bend's mayor (*WVNDU-TV*). Buttigieg was first elected in November 2011 after securing 74 percent of the vote in the general election. According to a press release sent out by Buttigieg, the city has seen strong economic development successes and the announcement of 1,349 jobs last year alone. The city has tackled blight by addressing 750 vacant and abandoned homes with a combination of repair efforts and demolitions. On customer service, the city has launched programs like the 311 phone line to make it easier for residents and businesses to get quick answers and results. From a fiscal standpoint, South Bend's finances remain among the strongest in the state. While 2011 was about a fresh start for the community, 2015 will be a year of celebration as the city marks its 150th anniversary.

2015: BREWER WAS RUNNING FOR COUNCIL - As of the end of the day Friday, Brewer had not filed for mayor (city-county offices were closed Monday for the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday), but he is set to leave a race for City-County Council District 23 that he announced just last week (*IndyStar*). A Facebook page touting his council candidacy was taken down Monday afternoon, shortly after his interview with The Star. Council Republican leader Mike McQuillen told The Star that Brewer was still ostensibly running for council as recently as Thursday, when McQuillen introduced him at a fundraiser. "His list of credentials makes him a very strong candidate for mayor, I think," McQuillen said. "His biggest negative, in my opinion, is he's an unknown. But I think back to 2007, and we ran an unknown Marine — a great guy — for mayor that nobody was giving a chance, and we ended up having a great victory." Brewer, a native of New York, brings a strong resume to the race: He completed a master's in history at Harvard and rose through the ranks at Sears in Chicago to become a vice president, while completing his master's in business administration at Northwestern University. He served two combat tours in Iraq with the Marines from 2003 to 2005. It was after he completed his MBA at Northwestern that he said he decided he wanted to become his own boss. "I got this itch to be my own boss, to pursue that dream," he said. At that time, Potbelly -- a staple around Chicago -- was looking to open new franchises in new cities. Brewer threw his name in and became one of three franchisees for the company. It was when he was researching locations around 2010 that he said he learned about the spark of resurgence in Downtown Indianapolis.

2016: HILLARY WHITE HOUSE FILES TO BE RELEASED - A massive collection of documents related to Hillary Clinton's policy work as first lady is set to go public this spring ... The more than 150,000 pages of records come largely from the files of Clinton's policy advisers in her husband's White House and cover topics such as welfare, equal pay, family leave, civil rights, race, poverty and health care reform (Allen, *Politico*).

2016: DUCKWORTH MAY CHALLENGE SEN. KIRK - Rep. Tammy Duckworth, a two-term Democrat, told CQ Roll Call Monday that she is seriously considering challenging vulnerable Sen. Mark S. Kirk, R-Ill., in 2016 (*Roll Call*). Duckworth, currently finishing maternity leave following the birth of her daughter, said in a phone interview she is beginning the process of exploring a Senate bid as she gears up to return to Capitol Hill. "My baby just turned eight weeks old. The first two months with her coming early were 110 percent focused on her," Duckworth said in a phone interview Monday. "I'm getting ready to get back to work in a few weeks, and I'm starting to listen to folks throughout the state, listen to Illinois families about the challenges they're facing, listen to my friends and closest advisers and taking a real serious look at 2016."

2016: TEA PARTY REELING - The past year has not been kind to the tea party: Its most prized candidates were crushed in primary elections to establishment-backed foes, then it watched in dismay earlier this month as conservatives in Congress failed to block John Boehner from another term as House speaker (*Politico*). Five years into its existence, the tea party is a movement adrift, interviews with conservative activists at this weekend's South Carolina Tea Party Coalition Convention show. Its members are at odds over what went wrong in the 2014 election and on how to move forward in 2016; there's even disagreement over how to define success. Is it enough to nudge the Republican Party to the right, as it has indisputably done, even if its candidates lose to people backed by the party establishment? Perhaps, suggested Rep. Jeff Duncan (R-S.C.), the tea party's recent struggles are just the nature of a sprawling, loosely defined grass-roots effort. "The tea party gets [factionalized] in primaries a lot because the tea party is just really a large group of average Americans who believe in limited government, free markets and are frustrated with Big Government," said Duncan, a member of the House Tea Party Caucus who was first elected during the 2010 tea party wave election.



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General Assembly

UNFUNDED COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS PROGRAMS LOOK TO

LEGISLATURE:[T]he Indiana General Assembly voted last year to direct more low-level felony offenders away from state prisons to these programs, which cost less and put a greater emphasis on helping offenders successfully return to normal life (Schultz, *Post-Tribune*). However, the change didn't come with more funding, meaning that as of right now, community corrections programs will be forced to handle more people with the same amount of money. That's why State Rep. Linda Lawson, D-Hammond, said she plans on pursuing during this session increased funding that would help programs in Lake and Porter counties, along with others across the state. "It won't

work if it's not funded," she said. Before the state law, Indiana had four felony classes, with Class D being the least severe and Class A being the most severe. The change added two classes and numbered them from 1 to 6, with 1 being the most severe. It also ordered that anyone convicted of a Level 6 felony and sentenced to less than 366 days could not be sent to prison, unless it was for violating probation. The law went into effect last summer, but because it only applied to defendants who committed their crimes after July 1, the increased population hasn't yet hit community corrections programs, which consist of day-release programs and home detention. However, they know it's coming. "We're definitely anticipating an increase in our population," Kellie Bittorf, executive director of Lake County Community Corrections, said

TUESDAY WILL BE 'MILITARY AND VETERAN LEGISLATIVE DAY': Current and former service members will gather Tuesday at the Statehouse for the first ever Military and Veteran Legislative Day (Brown, *Statehouse File*). The event will be from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Rep. John Bartlett, D-Indianapolis, helped organize the event and is interested in making it happen annually during the legislative session. "In my opinion for the military and for the veterans, you're not Democrat, you're not Republican when you go to protect this country," Bartlett said. The Democrat was a chair of the board of trustees at Martin University when the school had an event for veterans. He started chatting with those who attended and "I was able to hear some of the problems." He came away thinking that a legislative day dedicated to veterans would be a good idea. All four legislative leaders – the speaker of the House, minority leader of the House, president pro tem of the Senate, and minority leader in the Senate – will be giving greetings at the event. Gov. Mike Pence will also speak at 11 a.m.

RELAXING SAWED-OFF SHOTGUN LAWS UNLIKELY TO ADVANCE: A bill that would allow some people to legally possess sawed-off shotguns seems likely to advance in the coming weeks, though Indiana lawmakers aren't expected to take up separate proposals to significantly relax the state's gun laws (Davies, *Associated Press*). Bills filed in the General Assembly include proposals to repeal the state's handgun licensing law and to prohibit state universities from banning guns on their campuses. House Public Policy Committee Chairman Tom Dermody, R-LaPorte, said the committee won't consider those bills as it will concentrate on legislation that would legalize Sunday carry-out alcohol sales and efforts to help the state's struggling casino industry. He said those issues are a higher priority since the Legislature is working on the new two-year state budget. "Right now, I'm focused on those type of bills and the big picture for this session," he said. A state Senate committee does plan to act on a bill that would repeal the state's ban on sawed-off shotgun possession. Bill sponsor Sen. Jim Tomes, R-Wadesville, said the change would bring state law into line with federal regulations allowing such ownership of such weapons — also known as short-barreled shotguns —

by those who pass background checks for permits from the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. "They are expensive to purchase, highly regulated and the people who buy those firearms buy them for collection purposes more than anything," Tomes said. Federal law prohibits someone from altering a shotgun to have a barrel less than a minimum length, he said.

'MOMS DEMAND ACTION FOR GUN SENSE' PLEASSED WITH BILL'S FATE: Nicki McNally, Indiana Chapter leader for Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, said the group was most concerned about those proposals and is pleased that they are unlikely to advance this legislative session (Davies, *Associated Press*). McNally said college campuses with large number of young adults and frequent alcohol use aren't a proper place for allowing guns and that it is important to keep some safeguards on who can legally carry handguns with the state licensing law. "We think it generally makes sense for Indiana and will save lives by keeping those basic standards in place," she said.

BILLS WOULD CREATE 3-FOOT BIKE PASSING LAW - A trio of bills filed at the Statehouse would require drivers to allow 3 feet of clearance when passing a bicyclist (Livingston, *Lafayette Journal & Courier*). House Bill 1233, authored by Rep. Edward DeLaney, and Senate Bills 36 and 250, authored by Sens. Philip Boots and Greg Taylor, respectively, would make violating that proposed law a Class C infraction, punishable by a fine of up to \$500. The bills are similar to ordinances already adopted by West Lafayette, Lafayette and a handful of other communities that in recent years have sought to make their streets safer for cyclists. "It'd be really exciting if that was coming to the whole state," said Aaron Madrid, co-founder of Bicycle Lafayette, an advocacy group that was a major proponent of the local ordinances. All three bills have received a first reading. Boots' bill was referred to the Civil Law Committee and on Thursday added Taylor and Sen. John Broden as co-author. Taylor's bill is before the Senate's Homeland Security and Transportation Committee and DeLaney's has been referred to the House's Roads and Transportation Committee.

REP. ERRINGTON'S MEDICAL POT BILL ASSIGNED TO 'GRAVEYARD'
CMTE:One of the backers of a medical marijuana bill introduced by Sen. Sue Errington, D-Muncie, is the father of a Muncie woman who died in her 30s of a terminal illness (Slabaugh, *Muncie Star Press*). "Her dad told me her best days were when she could get high-grade marijuana," Errington says. The fifth annual "Hoosier Survey," conducted in 2012 by Ball State University, found that 53 percent of Hoosiers supported decriminalizing marijuana by making it legal to possess small quantities. The 2013

"Hoosier Survey" found that 52 percent of Hoosiers supported making marijuana a regulated substance much like alcohol and tobacco, and that 78 percent of Hoosiers believed that marijuana should be taxed like cigarettes. But don't expect those findings to result in action by the Indiana General Assembly this year. "Hoosiers see marijuana as a possible source of income for the state, but I don't think we've reached critical mass yet for any immediate action on decriminalization," says Joe Losco, a BSU political science professor. "I don't think it's going anywhere quickly." In the seventh annual "Hoosier Survey," conducted last fall, marijuana was crowded out by other survey questions like Sunday alcohol sales and racial disparity in the treatment of individuals by police. Errington says the speaker of the House assigned her marijuana bill to the Rules and Legislative Procedures Committee, also known as "the graveyard." "Bills that go there usually don't come back out," Errington said. "I would like it to at least get a hearing, so people could come and tell their stories — patients and physicians and others. I keep hearing that there are physicians in Muncie and elsewhere who would write prescriptions if it were legal."

LEGISLATIVE REPUBLICANS HAVE BACKED MARIJUANA, HEMP BILLS: The Legislature is dominated by Republicans, including Sen. Doug Eckerty, R-Yorktown, who told *The Star Press* (Slabaugh, *Muncie Star Press*): "Karen brings that bill every year. I don't expect it's going to get legs. It's an interesting topic and something I need to learn more about, but I don't support it. It looks like a slippery slope to me. I would need to hear more about it from an awful lot of people including medical experts before venturing down that path." The Food and Drug Administration has approved Marinol for therapeutic uses, including treatment of anorexia associated with weight loss in AIDS patients. Marinol includes the active ingredient dronabinol, a synthetic tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) that is considered the psychoactive component of marijuana. Another FDA-approved drug, Cesamet, contains the active ingredient nabilone which has a chemical structure similar to THC, and is synthetically derived. Eckerty fields medical marijuana inquiries from constituents every year. Rep. Greg Beumer, R-Modoc, has received "multiple inquiries" from constituents on the subject. "Typically, people are very passionate about it, not so much legalization, but people who suffer from chronic pain firmly believe this is a benefit for them and would improve their quality of life." Beumer does not yet have a position on medical marijuana. Democrats in Indiana are more supportive of regulating marijuana like alcohol and tobacco (64 percent), while Republicans are evenly divided (49 percent in favor, 51 percent opposed). "It's certainly not part of the Republican agenda this session, and I think Republicans would see it as taking away from the consensus of their caucus," Losco said. "In other states, it's come in piecemeal, first through medical marijuana legalization, then decriminalization."

Congress

DELEGATION SCRUTINIZES TAX, COLLEGE PROPOSALS IN SOTU: Indiana's congressional delegation is awaiting details of President Obama's agenda in Tuesday night's State of the Union address (Berman, *WIBC*). Obama has already laid out several of his proposals in a series of speeches this month. Seventh District Democrat Andre Carson praises a proposal to pay for two years of community college -- he says it'll create more opportunities for the next generation of leaders. But Fourth District Republican Todd Rokita says Obama's call to fund that initiative by taxing college-savings "529" plans is "a terrible mistake." He says it'll limit families' higher-education choices. And Eighth District Republican Larry Bucshon argues the proposal addresses the wrong problem. He notes the government already administers Pell Grants to help students attend college, and predicts the same soaring tuition costs plaguing that program would undermine Obama's plan. Rokita and Bucshon both praise Obama's proposal to triple the child tax credit and increase the earned income tax credit, but say they'd prefer to see those credits in the context of a comprehensive tax reform plan. Obama has proposed pairing the tax breaks with a four-point increase in capital gains taxes on families earning more than a half-million dollars a year. Bucshon dismisses that plan as a "Robin Hood" approach that sounds appealing in theory but doesn't work in practice. He says any increase in revenue would evaporate after a couple of years. Carson says the tax proposals are "on the right track," and would steer tax relief to people who need it. Rokita says he'll need to see the details, but says he agrees with the administration's goal of preventing overleveraged firms from either submarining the economy or prompting another government bailout.

CARSON'S STATEMENT HONORING MLK: U.S. Rep. Andre Carson released the following statement Monday in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. (*Howey Politics Indiana*): "Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was a champion not only for the rights of African Americans, but for people of all races, ethnicities, and backgrounds. Today, we honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., for his perseverance in the face of impossible odds, his triumph in pursuit of civil rights, and his assertion that we will never have genuine equality without economic equality. As we reflect on the life and legacy of Dr. King may we also rededicate ourselves to creating a more just, equal, and peaceful world for everyone."

State

GOVERNOR: PENCE'S STATEMENT HONORING MLK – Gov. Mike Pence issued the following statement Monday in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (Howey Politics Indiana): "Today, we commemorate a true American leader, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. His dedication to justice and progress made an incalculable impact on our nation and on our state. Even today we feel the innumerable effects and gravity of his leadership as he continues to inspire our people. Not only today, but every day we are grateful for Dr. King's service. We continue to hold him in our hearts and embody his strength and persistence for progress. On this day I encourage my fellow Hoosiers to reflect on the memory and lessons of Dr. King and find an opportunity to keep his memory alive."

ENVIRONMENT: PURDUE PROF SAYS COLD WEATHER DOESN'T NEGATE GLOBAL HEAT - The lead climate change researcher at Purdue says new data from NOAA and other agencies reminds us that just because it is cold here doesn't mean it is cold everywhere else (Steele, *WIBC*). NOAA (the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) and NASA both say that 2014 was the warmest for the earth since 1880, the year when dependable temperature records began. Their data match those from at least two other weather agencies around the world. "Clearly we didn't feel that in Indiana, with our incredibly cold winter last year, but we were one of the few places in the world where we weren't feeling the heat," said Jeff Dukes, Purdue professor and director of the university's Climate Change Research Center. While Indiana, other parts of the Midwest and some Eastern states were cooler than normal in 2014, Dukes says Alaska, California, Arizona and Nevada all had their warmest years on record. Much of California has also been in a drought for the last three years. "It's the worst drought in 1200 years in California, and they are not out of it yet," Dukes said. The global temperature data is taken from 6300 surface weather stations around the world. While 2014's average global temperature was only marginally higher than previous record temperatures in 2005 and 2010, Dukes says that doesn't necessarily mean there has been a "pause" in the rising of temperatures, as skeptics of global warming claim. "The last 14 years, since 2001, every one of those years has been one of the top 15 warmest years on record," said Dukes.

EDUCATION: MANY TEACHERS MUST WORK SECOND JOBS - Teachers working part-time jobs is not a new concept, said Scott Hanback, superintendent of Tippecanoe School Corp. With weekends, holidays and summers off, administrators have seen teachers pick up work in retail stores or start their own landscaping or painting businesses, he said (Dover, *Lafayette Journal & Courier*). Low salaries, budget cuts, and fewer pay raises and incentives for teachers send educators to part-time jobs one or more days every week to make ends meet. "I think the concern right now is that teachers can't see their career trajectory anymore regarding salary," Hanback said.

While teachers generally don't enter the profession for the money, educators used to be more certain they would receive salary compensation each year for their work, Glenda Ritz, superintendent of public instruction, said in a statement. "I went to a restaurant and a teacher recognized me and my heart just dropped to my feet," Ritz told the *Journal & Courier* in a phone call. "I'm like, oh my gosh, here we have a teacher — which is a full-time profession — spending weekends working a second job to support their family. "(Teaching) has to be a good living wage, and we have to pay attention to that in the state of Indiana." In 2011, the national average teacher salary was \$52,181; in 2013, it dropped to \$51,188, according to the National Center for Education Statistics. The average salary for an Indiana teacher is \$33,000, with some salaries for first-year educators as low as \$25,000 annually.

GAMING: POTENTIAL NATIVE AMERICAN FACILITY NEAR SOUTH BEND - The Pokagon Band of the Potawatomi Indians owns three casinos in Michigan, and applied to the Department of the Interior three years ago to build one near South Bend (Berman, *WIBC*). Indiana Gaming Commissioner Ernest Yelton says an environmental study is expected to be complete in another year. Once it is, he says, the state is required to negotiate "in good faith" the terms of operation. Normal wagering taxes don't apply, nor can the state take into account the effect on existing casinos. And while Yelton says the Pokagon Band has indicated it wants a full-fledged casino, federal law allows it to open a facility limited to electronic bingo machines with no state input at all. Indiana casinos have cited the Pokagon facilities in Michigan and casinos in Ohio and Illinois as a factor in declining revenues, prompting pleas to the legislature to allow more favorable tax treatment or changes in operating rules.

ECONOMY: INDIANA IN TOP 10 FOR 'ECONOMIC FREEDOM' - The Fraser Institute's Economic Freedom of North America (EFNA) Report places Indiana in a good light (Parker, *WIBC*). The report measures and ranks U.S. states in economic freedom, which is factored by the state's size of government, taxation and labor regulation. Indiana came in as the state with the 10th-highest economic freedom in the country. Texas, South Dakota, North Dakota, Virginia, New Hampshire, Louisiana, Nebraska, Delaware and Tennessee joined Indiana in the top 10. Ball State Professor Cecil Bohanon says Indiana ranks high on the list due to a smaller public sector, well-operating courts, less regulation and lower taxes. But Bohanon adds Indiana actually dropped from 2007-2012, but he says so did many other states. Bohanon says Indiana fares much better than neighboring states, with Illinois at 35th and Ohio, Kentucky and Michigan all tie for 37th. He says despite the state's dependence on manufacturing, the state's ranking will likely improve in the future since Right to Work was not factored in this report, but will be included in the next report.

Nation

ECONOMY: IMF DOWNGRADES GLOBAL GROWTH FORECAST - The IMF now expects growth of 3.5% this year, compared with the previous estimate of 3.8% which it made in October (*BBC News*). The growth forecast for 2016 has also been cut, to 3.7%. The downgrade to the forecasts comes despite one major boost for the global economy - the sharp fall in oil prices, which is positive for most countries. The IMF expects that to be more than offset by negative factors, notably weaker investment. That in turn reflects diminished expectations about the growth prospects for many developed and emerging economies over the next few years. If business expects weaker growth, there is less opportunity to sell goods and services and so less incentive to invest. The eurozone is a case in point. The IMF does expect the recovery there to continue, but not strongly. It is estimating growth of 1.2% in the euro area this year and 1.4% in 2016. For the European Central Bank, the immediate priority is to tackle the deflation, or falling prices, now under way... The slowdown in China is another factor behind the revised forecasts. On Tuesday, official figures showed that China's growth slowed to 7.4% last year, from 7.7% in 2013. Next year, the IMF growth forecast for China is 6.3%, compared with an average of 10% over the three decades up to 2010... The sharpest downgrade of all is for Russia, which is forecast to see its economy contract by 3% this year and 1% next. That is the result of the fall in oil prices and what the report calls increased geopolitical tensions - in other words, the crisis in Ukraine and Western sanctions on Russia.

AVIATION: BOMB THREATS ON 2 DELTA FLIGHTS - Two separate airplanes, both Delta flights, were deplaned Monday night at JFK International Airport in New York while authorities searched the aircraft for explosive devices, according to a report from *NBC News*. Authorities were responding to two anonymous phone calls saying there was a bomb onboard a Delta flight 468. Two flights were numbered 486. One was a Boeing 777, due to depart JFK at 9:23 p.m. en route to Tel Aviv, Israel. According to the news report, passengers were removed from the plane and kept on buses on the tarmac while the plane was searched. No explosive devices were found onboard and the plane was clear for take-off. It was expected to take off close to schedule, the report said. The other Delta Flight 468, a Boeing 757, landed at JFK from San Francisco at 8 p.m. with 171 passengers.

VATICAN: POPE TO VISIT NYC, DC - Pope Francis confirmed Monday that his first visit to the United States since being named leader of the world's 1.2 billion Catholics will include trips to Washington and New York City in late September, as well as a previously announced stop in Philadelphia (*Washington Post*). Francis, named pope in March 2013, confirmed the three-city swing during an hour-long news conference on a flight back to the Vatican from a tour of Asia. The pontiff said that in Washington, he will canonize Junípero Serra, the Spanish Franciscan friar who began the California mission system in 1769, and will celebrate Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine.

OHIO: I-75 BRIDGE COLLAPSES AT CINCY - An overpass undergoing demolition collapsed on Interstate 75 in Cincinnati late Monday, killing a construction worker and injuring a semi tractor-trailer driver, emergency officials said (*Fox News*). The collapse occurred at approximately 10:30 p.m. local time, and sent several hundred tons of concrete tumbling to the road below. Cincinnati Police Chief Jeffrey Blackwell told Fox19 that he expects the southbound side of Interstate 75 to be closed for about 48 hours. Cincinnati City Manager Harry Black described the collapse as "in essence, an industrial accident ... Something went wrong, and a tragedy has occurred as a result."

World

IRAQ: CANADIAN TROOPS ENGAGE ISIS - A Canadian general disclosed Monday that Canadian special forces deployed to Iraq recently exchanged fire with the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria, in the first official acknowledgment that Western forces have directly engaged the terrorist group (*The Hill*). The incident took place sometime last week between ISIS fighters and Canadian forces, Canadian Brig. Gen. Michael Rouleau said at a press briefing in Ottawa. Like U.S. troops, Canadian special forces have deployed to Iraq in a non-combat role. However, they can fire on the enemy to protect themselves. Rouleau said the Canadian forces had accompanied senior Iraqi officials to the "frontlines" during a planning meeting, and came under "very effective and very direct mortar and machine gun fire."

SYRIA: ISIS THREATENS JAPANESE HOSTAGES - Japan's Prime Minister vowed Tuesday to save the lives of two Japanese hostages threatened with beheading in an online video purportedly released by the Islamic State terror group (*Fox News*). In the video, identified as being made by the Islamic State group's al-Furqan media arm and posted on militant websites associated with the extremist group, a militant threatened to kill the men unless a \$200 million ransom was paid within 72 hours. If confirmed to

be from Islamic State, better known as ISIS, the video would mark the first public demand for ransom from the group in exchange for the release of captives. Speaking in Jerusalem, Abe called on ISIS to immediately release the hostages, saying that "their lives are the top priority."

TERROR: SCORES KILLED, CHURCHES BURNED IN GLOBAL ISLAMIC RIOTS -

Forty-five churches were torched over the weekend in Niger's capital during deadly protests over the publication of a Prophet Mohammed cartoon by the French satirical weekly Charlie Hebdo, police say (*Australian Broadcasting Corporation*). The protests, which left five people dead and 128 people injured in Niamey, also saw a Christian school and orphanage set alight, said Adily Toro, a spokesman for the national police. Similar unrest sparked by the French satirical publication, which was targeted by a bloody Islamist raid on January 7, saw five people killed, 45 wounded and the French cultural centre burned in the southern city of Zinder. "The French flag was burned," Mr Toro said, adding that 189 people, including two minors, were arrested by police. Demonstrators also pillaged and burned numerous premises, including five hotels and 36 bars.

Local

CITIES: 7 MAYORS PREPARE FOR U.S. CONFERENCE - Seven Indiana mayors travel to Washington on Wednesday for the U.S. Conference of Mayors' winter meeting (*WIBC*). Gary Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson is among the speakers at the three-day conference. She'll be part of a panel on community policing. She says when police only interact with the public when there's an emergency, there's more potential for tense situations to turn ugly. When they've been active with the community all along, she says there's more mutual understanding of what officers do and why. Indianapolis Mayor Greg Ballard and Carmel Mayor Jim Brainard will also take the stage at the conference. Ballard co-chairs the mayors' Water Council, and is part of the conference's Professional Sports Alliance. Brainard co-chairs a task force on energy independence and climate change. Brainard notes it's the federal government that has to set and implement policy affecting climate, but says the combined voices of hundreds of mayors can help shape the Washington debate. He and Freeman-Wilson both say the chance to buttonhole federal officials one-on-one is a key part of what makes the meeting valuable. Six Cabinet secretaries will be speaking at the conference, and the mayors will have a White House meeting with President Obama. Freeman-Wilson's planning to press Labor Secretary Thomas Perez about ways to facilitate job opportunities in the airport footprint. Also attending the conference are Mayors Mark Myers of Greenwood,

Pete Buttigieg of South Bend, Thomas McDermott of Hammond and Jeff Gahan of New Albany.

CITIES: INDY FACES DELAYS IN SPENDING LEAD PAINT REMOVAL GRANT -

The city of Indianapolis is moving at a slow pace spending a \$3 million grant intended to help low-income children by removing lead-based paint from older homes (*Associated Press*). Since 2013, Indianapolis has spent just a fifth of the grant that's overseen by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Local and federal officials downplay the severity of HUD monitoring reports that flagged the city as a "high risk" grant recipient. But The Indianapolis Star reports the struggles in getting the program off the ground raise questions about the city's handling of public dollars. Department of Metropolitan Development administrator Jennifer Fults says the program was initially sidetracked by the departure of the city's grant manager. That person's replacement was later pulled off the job to help with an FBI investigation.

CITIES: SOUTH BEND'S CHASE TOWER WILL BE VACANT - In about a month, South Bend's iconic skyscraper, the Chase Tower, will be a 25 story vacant building (Peterson, *WNDU-TV*). "It is going to be a big vacant eyesore in downtown South Bend," said Brent Sheppard with Xanatek, a long-time tenant at the Chase. "We haven't been given a time frame yet, we've all been given a verbal notice that we need to move out." While plans call for the building to be re-occupied after repairs are made, the original plans never envisioned a need to get rid of all the office tenants in the first place. "For me, I'll say I'm extremely upset because I'm scrambling now to try and find office space for 20 employees and parking and everything that goes with it," said Brent Sheppard. "Not to mention it's a large costly expense just to move in." On the north wall of the Chase Tower there is a thick icicle that spans about four stories from the ground.

CITIES: SOUTH BEND WILL HIRE DIVERSITY STAFFING CONSULTANT - Mayor Pete Buttigieg announced Monday that the city will hire a consultant to help analyze and fix barriers that keep minorities from taking jobs in public safety and on the rest of the city staff (Dits, *South Bend Tribune*). Buttigieg said the city has yet to look for and hire the consultant. In fact, a lot of details have yet to be worked out, including whether it would be a consultant firm, agency or even a company that just so happens to have the expertise. "Everything is on the table — whoever can do the job best," he said in an interview after he briefly announced the effort to the 700 or so people who'd come to the Century Center for the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Service Recognition Breakfast

CITIES: FORT WAYNE AIRPORT TRAFFIC WAS 324K IN 2014, UP

8%: Bolstered by a record-breaking December, passenger traffic at Fort Wayne International Airport increased 8.5 percent in 2014, officials reported Monday (Wyche, *Fort Wayne Journal Gazette*). The growth marks the fifth consecutive year that departures rose at the travel hub. In 2014, 324,151 people boarded flights, compared with 298,661 the previous year. Last month, 29,653 passengers departed from the airport, a 21 percent increase over December 2013. The previous December record was set in 2000 with 26,939 passengers. The Fort Wayne-Allen County Airport Authority board reviewed the data during its regular meeting Monday.

CITIES: THREE CHOICES FOR HIGHLAND'S \$19M DRAINAGE WOES - The town has found three potential solutions to lessening the amount of water needing treatment by the Hammond Sanitary District, but none will be inexpensive fixes (Quinn, Post-Tribune). Terry Hodnik, a principal with Hammond-based Nies Engineering, will make a presentation to the Town Council at its Monday night meeting outlining the need for an 8 million gallon water-storage tank and pumping station at Fifth Street, just south of the Little Calumet River. The council will then be tasked with approving a \$19 million bond issue to fund the project.

CITIES: RICHMOND COUNCIL WILL CONSIDER \$640K TAX ABATEMENT - The Richmond Common Council Tuesday will consider a request for a 10-year tax abatement on equipment for J.M. Hutton Stamping Division (Richmond Palladium-Item). The Hutton request is valued at \$640,799, including \$20,946 of information technology equipment, and will not create any new jobs but will retain 86, according to the abatement ordinance. Council is expected to hold a public hearing on the request.

COUNTIES: MARION TAX DECISION COULD IMPACT STATE'S BIG-BOX STORES - Indiana big-box stores could see a cut in property tax bills after a decision in Marion County, and the West Lafayette Meijer is making a similar case in Tippecanoe County (Campbell, *WFLI-TV*). The Indiana Board of Tax Review ruled a Meijer in Marion County should have been valued more than \$10 million less than what the county assigned. Looking at 10 years of data, the review board decided the store should have been valued at about \$7 million not \$19 million. The argument is whether or not big-box retailers tax value should be assessed as "market value-in-use" or its best use. The Board of Tax Review ruled the assessment should be made on its market-value-in-use. "They are built for a very specific purpose, but they are often sold for some secondary

use and a lot of the controversy is over how reflective are these secondary sales in determining its value in its current use," Tippecanoe County Assessor Eric Grossman said. Grossman said the West Lafayette Meijer just filed an appeal, but says the assessed value for the local store is more in line with what the review decided for the Marion County store. "I can't imagine, based on this appraisal, we're going to be very off," he said. "It's not like \$20 million versus \$10 million, it's probably going to be \$11 million versus \$10 million, or \$9 million or something like that."

Scott.A.Milkey

From: Denault, Christina
Sent: Monday, January 12, 2015 7:46 AM
To: Keefer, Sean (GOV)
Subject: Re: Request to Present at the Third House Legislative Forum in the M.S.D. of Wayne Township

Me, too.

Christy Denault
Communications Director
317/ [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 12, 2015, at 6:34 AM, Keefer, Sean (GOV) <skeef@gov.IN.gov> wrote:

2 hour delay for kids so won't be in until 10:15

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 11, 2015, at 3:33 PM, McGrath, Danielle <DMcGrath@gov.IN.gov> wrote:

Hi Everyone -

We've been asked to present the infographic from the *Making The Grade* education agenda at the upcoming Third House Legislative Forum in the M.S.D. of Wayne Township on January 24. There will be folks (CTE Directors, teachers, etc) from Wayne Township, in addition to the following legislators: Senator Mike Delph, Senator Mike Young, Representative Robert Behning, Representative Karlee Macer, and Representative Justin Moed.

When this was first presented to us via Rep. Behning, it appeared to be on a much smaller scale; however, as you can see, this will be a more formal event. Further, speakers from Wayne Township will be addressing each element of the Governor's education agenda following our brief presentation to kick off the event. Can we please discuss tomorrow?

Thanks,
Danielle

Scott.A.Milkey

From: Denault, Christina
Sent: Sunday, January 11, 2015 11:06 PM
To: McGrath, Danielle;Atterholt, Jim;Keefer, Sean (GOV);Brookes, Brady
Subject: RE: Request to Present at the Third House Legislative Forum in the M.S.D. of Wayne Township

Danielle, you had mentioned needing a correction on that, so let's be sure it gets made.

Christy Denault

Communications Director
Office of Governor Mike Pence
Phone: 317/233-9997
Cell: 317/████████

From: McGrath, Danielle
Sent: Sunday, January 11, 2015 3:33 PM
To: Atterholt, Jim; Denault, Christina; Keefer, Sean (GOV); Brookes, Brady
Subject: Request to Present at the Third House Legislative Forum in the M.S.D. of Wayne Township
Importance: High

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Danielle

Scott.A.Milkey

From: Gilson, Katie
Sent: Friday, January 02, 2015 8:46 AM
To: Gilson, Katie;Cleveland, Bridget;Keefer, Sean (GOV);Atkins, Chris;Espich, Jeff;Neale, Brian S;Streeter, Ryan T;Denault, Christina;McKinney, Ted;Bausman, David;Atterholt, Jim;Myers, Janille;Pitcock, Josh;McGrath, Danielle;Brookes, Brady
Subject: [GovClips] Legislative Insight
Attachments: 1-1-15 Legislative Insight.pdf; 1-5-15 Legislative Insight.pdf

Katie Gilson, *Staff Assistant*
Office of Governor Mike Pence
KGilson@gov.in.gov
Phone: (317) 232-1198
Fax: (317) 232-3443



The good, the bad, & the uncertain

With forecast in place, the parameters are understood - or are they?

You now have the preliminary parameters for the budget discussion that will dominate legislative activity over the next few months. And while there will be the usual plethora of policy issues on the agenda, you can expect some of the big ticket items - education funding and reform, propping up the gaming industry against competition from other states, and family and social services resources, corrections matters, and even a new soccer stadium for Indianapolis - to be wrapped up within the untidy confines of the budget given both their respective fiscal implications and the desire of leaders to keep members from having to vote on them individually (or to allow for some minor compromises outside of legislation).

But now the economic overview and forecast are in, and the news for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2015 (January - April) was mildly disappointing. Revenues are expected to be about \$129 million less (- 0.9%) than what was forecasted when the current budget was drafted, meaning further belt-tightening . . . and additional pressure to spend from reserves, particularly for programs not meeting legislative mandates.

The general economic forecast served up by IHS Global Insight was slightly more positive than many had expected, with revenue estimated to grow 2.4% in FY 2016 and 3.2% in FY 2017. Some \$30 billion will be available to spend assuming the numbers hold true, with almost \$843 million in new dollars to be reaped from the anticipated economic improvement.

But when you parse those numbers, they are not particularly encouraging.

Speaking early in December at the Bingham Greenebaum Doll Legislative Conference in association with INGroup, Senate Committee on Appropriations Chair Luke Kenley (R) suggested that even a 10% boost in resources wouldn't fully accommodate the reasonable requests he had been entertaining.

Speaker Brian Bosma (R) would like to raise K-12 spending by more than the two percent served up in the last budget, but even one percent annual growth would cost almost \$70 million. Superintendent of Public Instruction Glenda Ritz (D) seeks another \$560 million for schools. And the Indiana Commission for Higher Education reveals that the State will need more than \$90 million in additional funds over FY 2015 spending levels to fully fund the 21st Century Scholars Program in the upcoming biennium as the high school graduating Class of 2015 is the largest cohort the program has ever seen (and an increase of more than 10,000 students from just two years ago).

Correction officials also claim to need new prison facilities. That and other issues DOC claims are precipitated by the new criminal code revisions will require almost \$75 million in new dollars, according to agency officials.

As we haven't even mentioned the billions (not mere hundreds of millions) of dollars that the Indiana Department of Transportation deems necessary to shore up aging bridges and roads; complete I-69 from Bloomington to Indianapolis; finish the promised U.S. 31 upgrades north of Westfield; and more - including adding an extra lane to key interstates.

But let's back things up a bit first.

For more, please see the following page . . .

Catching up on Tony awards

IG report, Curry raise more Qs than As

Before he left the Associated Press to join the *Indianapolis Star*, Tom LoBianco took another deep dive into the ethical issues surrounding the tenure of former superintendent of public instruction Tony Bennett (R) and informed Hoosiers that there was more than just the seven-page Office of the Inspector General report released to the public after Bennett agreed to a settlement of ethics charges with the State Ethics Commission.

LoBianco reported that there was an extensive 95-page report that had been provided to the Office of the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, and to the Marion County Prosecutor's Office. The public IG report noted that criminal prosecution had been declined by the local prosecutor, but LoBianco also discovered that there had been some confusion over whether the IG materials had actually reached Prosecutor Terry Curry (D). LoBianco broke the news that OIG investigators "found ample evidence to support federal wire fraud charges . . . more than 100 instances in which Bennett or his employees violated federal wire fraud law. That contrasts sharply with an eight-page formal report issued in July that said the office found minimal violations, resulting in a \$5,000 fine and an admonishment that Bennett could have rewritten rules to allow some campaign work on state time."

What was lost in the flurry of questions over what Prosecutor Curry had actually seen (and what Curry might now do after reviewing the lengthier report and attendant notebooks full of evidence), why federal prosecutors declined to pursue charges, and why the 95-page report was neither released to the public nor referenced by the Inspector General or State Ethics Commission (the latter chose not to publicly question Bennett nor his attorneys before approving the settlement agreement): why OIG declined to follow up on a potential prosecution of its own.

Recall that in the event of a declination to prosecute, the statute allows the IG to ask the governor to recommend the inspector general be appointed as a special prosecutor, with a separate filing in the Court of Appeals. We're told that the IG did not make such a request of the Governor to pursue prosecution.

Recall that revenue estimates for the current budget fell short (confirmed by the numbers in the December forecast), and Governor Mike Pence (R) ordered major budget reversions from state agencies.

Thus, when you factor in inflation (House Committee on Ways and Means Chair Tim Brown (R) is looking at a 1.7% inflationary growth factor), add back those reversions to get to FY 14-15 levels, and account for increased spending obligations (like at least \$100 million more for Medicaid – but difficult to project with HIP 2.0 in federal limbo; expanded social services rolls; and maintaining new state highway miles), you’ll only find a minimal amount – perhaps well under \$100 million – available for new spending.

Even that presumes legislative fiscal leaders, bitten before by overly optimistic projections, ultimately base their final decisions on the full amount of growth economists forecast.

Sen. Kenley had been hoping for revenue growth in excess of two percent, and the economists delivered for him with a “moderately positive forecast.” Nevertheless, he says that he is prone to “be very cautious on this.”

Sen. Kenley has been bitten by overly optimistic forecasts in the past decade, and takes to heart concerns from the Revenue Technical Forecast team about a poor labor market recovery; the extended recovery period Indiana has been experiencing (we’re in the 73rd month of recovery, vs. the state’s usual average of 58 months to dig out); revenue from casinos and racinos falling below FY 2003 levels in FY 2015 (despite three additional properties contributing to the mix that were not in operation in FY 03); and energy and housing costs.

There is also disquietude over the direction of gas taxes, and while the legislative supermajority and Governor remain in no mood to hike taxes, a targeted push to perhaps add a nickel or dime to the gas sales tax now that prices are hovering below \$2 per gallon (and Indiana’s statewide gas price average was fourth-lowest in the nation as of December 31 according to AAA Hoosier Motor Club) may find some favor among those who recall Fall polling that showed strong public sentiment for increases in infrastructure funding – and who want to see local road and bridge projects completed with the help of state funding.

Lieutenant Governor Sue Ellspermann (R) last week told WITZ 990-AM in Jasper last week that “We know we have to fix the gas tax. As we drive very fuel-efficient vehicles, we’re not paying what we used to pay per mile, and those roads require maintenance. So almost all of our dollars from the gas tax are being used in just maintaining the state’s roads.” She notes that “Hoosiers only pay about \$300 per year for the privilege of driving on all these roads,” a small amount, she notes, compared to what we pay for things like cell phone and internet access.

The LG says that not to anticipate a gas tax fix “in this budget session, but within the next two years.”

Lt. Governor Ellspermann looks forward to “that new way” of financing roads and bridge construction and maintenance that would be more balanced and stable than today, adding that “In the mean time, I think the legislature will likely continue to supplement what’s in there. But we have to be careful not to take too many dollars away, out of that General Fund, because then it can’t be applied to education, or it can’t be applied to other places.”

Yet if you dive deeper into her comments, and take her at her word that a fix will not be achieved this session, that means under her two-year time frame for a solution, we’re looking at next year, which is not only a election year, but a gubernatorial election year, and lawmakers and the governor will likely be even more reluctant to raise any taxes.

Don’t be surprised to see something framed as an “infrastructure investment fee” pushed through in the budget this session, with the understanding that any necessary adjustments would be made in 2017, after we see the interaction between the economy, gas prices, fuel-efficient vehicle sales, travel patterns, road-bustling pressure, and politics . . . and how it would affect such a new fee, which may also be pushed by road-building interests as a toll.

Missouri is seriously contemplating tolling I-70 – at a cost of as much as \$30 for a car trip and \$90 for trucks – across the Show Me State as a means of raising revenue to renovate it. Recall that we told you a decade ago about discussions (that included Indiana) to improve and add tolled commercial vehicle lanes for much of the national length of I-70.

But back to the broader picture.

While his House counterpart may not be quite as penurious, don’t be surprised if Sen. Kenley seeks to trim the revenue growth estimates in half as a budget starting point, looking to later backfill should collections prove strong for a six- to eight-month run.

With most key lawmakers and Gov. Pence calling this an education-first session, the lack of any substantial amount of new cash makes it challenging to attack problems with dollars. There is considerable sentiment for reforming the school funding formula, but, as always, different ideas abound as to how to accomplish this.

And while there is some partisan politics involved in this debate, the fruits of redistricting have altered some of the political dimensions.

Most Democrats want the urban districts they largely represent to receive additional dollars based upon the complexity index, accounting for factors such as poverty, special education needs, and non-English-speaking students constituting a growing proportion of those districts. They also want to compensate such schools for losing students, particularly to private and charter schools, even though the deghoster, which has helped compensate for this change, no longer exists.

Many Republicans would prefer the formula accommodate the growing suburban school districts which now receive less money per student despite a need to expand and build facilities to physically house them. Superintendents from many of those districts are well-organized for a major lobbying effort.

But an increasing number of Republicans aren't on board. These renegade Repubs represent rural districts, where school corporations with enrollment declines find themselves slighted for some of the same reason as urban districts.

And there are more Republicans than in the past with such districts, as Democrats in both the House and Senate have lost ground in rural areas (and some legislative districts with urban territory but no real suburbs, such as the former Skinner Senate district). Further, referenda results demonstrate that rural districts have a much harder time convincing local taxpayers to dig deeper into their pockets than do their suburban counterparts where residents are more accepting of referenda requests.

Gov. Pence is offering a third option as well, advocating what he labels as a "fairness" and "equity" approach further empowering parents and their students by lifting both the individual and overall caps on Choice Scholarships and tax credits. The proposals have some immediate appeal for many Republicans, but some are also concerned about the impact on funding of public schools in their respective districts, and more generally being perceived as the party opposed to public schools - and a previous gubernatorial quest to uncap vouchers was quashed over general cost concerns.

Things become more complicated when lawmakers look ahead to expanding pilot pre-school education programs, even as Democrats talk up funding full-day kindergarten and making textbooks free to all students (as the public tab grows for paying textbook bills for families in poverty). Some Republicans advocate extra help for high-performing teachers. Testing costs (IDOE is asking for \$20 million more in testing bucks than in 2013) - and associated technology improvements to satisfy testing mandates - continue to mount.

There is also an important Indiana Supreme Court ruling expected soon on whether school corporations are required to provide free bus transportation for students. That could carry a hefty price tag, and depending on the scope of the ruling, the potential exists to impact how a myriad of school services are funded.

Perhaps much more than in recent budget sessions, there will be a (bipartisan) tension over just how much to spend, and the outlines of overall spending may prove to be just as messy as filling in the blanks once those numbers are agreed upon.

This session will feature a battle of budget priorities, led by education spending. "I think the focus on school funding reflects the right priority," confirms Appropriations chair Kenley, but he adds that "a lot of the suggestions about overall funding are pretty ambitious so far. They are going to have to be prioritized within a smaller number of dollars than they appear to be asking for."

Leaders must either pare down requests or expectations (we can hear echoes of the Meeks mantra of "There is *no* new money"), and Democrats will pound away at disintegrating infrastructure and diminished services at the expense of the \$2 billion surplus Republicans plan to maintain.

With no game-changing revenue enhancements on the horizon, the gap between perception and reality on the forecast can't realistically be bridged.

IN Politics

Federal Office Races . . .

- This was the first congressional campaign cycle in Indiana that we can recall in which the total amount of cash raised, total amount of cash spent, and neither cash raised nor cash spent by congressional challengers failed to hit \$1 million. Outside of the campaign of Dr. Joe Bock (D) in CD 02, no challenger even raised six figures without the help of loans from the candidate, another amazing statistic.

- Among incumbents, U.S. Rep. Pete Visclosky (D) was the sole members of the delegation to not raise at least \$1 million (he checks in just above \$901,000), while U.S. Rep. André Carson (D) spent the least to win re-election (about \$767,000). Neither Rep. Visclosky nor Rep. Carson had an opponent who even bothered to file a campaign finance report, suggesting that they raised and spent less than \$5,000 each.

- We told you that the lack of effective competition would allow Hoosier incumbent members of Congress to stockpile cash against the prospect of 2016 challenges, and that's the case. The average Hoosier incumbent raised \$1.48 million, somehow managed to spend \$1.1 million (for a spending efficiency rate of about 74%), and banked \$387,000. Based upon the post-election reports, U.S. Rep. Todd Rokita (R) - who entered the cycle with the largest balance in the bank - added enough to give him the cash-on-hand lead of \$1.1 million headed into the 2016 cycle. U.S. Rep. Susan Brooks (R) is next up with cash-on-hand of some \$879,000, followed by U.S. Rep. Todd Young (R) and his \$800,000, and \$719,000 for U.S. Rep. André Carson (D).

- Rep. Young (\$720K banked) and Rep. Brooks (\$620K banked) clearly outdistanced their colleagues in building campaign treasuries. Though both spent over \$1M, they also raised much more than the average, and spent at a much more efficient rate (Young at 65.5% and Brooks at 63.3%). In addition to Reps. Young and Brooks, Rep. Rokita at \$440K, U.S. Rep. Luke Messer (R) with \$399K, and U.S. Rep. Larry Bucshon (R) and his \$393K top the \$387K banking average. Bear in mind how easy this cycle was for incumbents, however: even U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski (R), who faced the only serious challenge in the delegation - and spent 88% of what she raised and led all 2014 Hoosier congressional candidates in expenditures - was able to add more than \$250,000 to her campaign treasury in the process.

State Office Races . . .

● Indianapolis business owner Fred Klipsch, treasurer of the Mike Pence for Indiana Committee, is one of a cadre of (as-yet) unidentified “generous donors who have stepped forward and offered to double-match every single dollar that comes in” to the Pence gubernatorial committee in the final (seven to nine) hours of 2014, according to a fundraising appeal e-mailed to Pence backers Wednesday afternoon.

Mayoral Races . . .

● Linda DiVall’s American Viewpoint was in the field polling for Carmel Mayor Jim Brainard (R) in December.

Other Political News . . .

● The Indiana Republican Party moves its physical location in downtown Indianapolis a bit closer to the State House, landing on the 22nd floor of 101 West Ohio Street.

● In as much a flashback to 2008 as a look ahead to 2016, former U.S. Sen. Evan Bayh (D) talks to the *Wall Street Journal* about the prospects of a populist presidential candidacy by U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D). Bayh “warned against choosing a candidate who is comparatively unknown, however charismatic that person might be. More important is to find a candidate skilled at making government work properly, he said. ‘We don’t have the luxury of falling in love with inspiration for its own sake,’ he said.”

● Just after a lengthy *Washington Post* article outlining the pros and cons of a Pence presidential candidacy, Governor Mike Pence (R) visited Palm Beach, Florida December 12 to dine “with a group of about 40 top Republican donors at Palm Beach’s exclusive Everglades Club, reports National Review Online. “The dinner was hosted and organized by investment manager Thomas W. Smith, who has been a generous donor to conservative causes. The billionaire investor Wilbur Ross was also present, [and] with a group of establishment-minded donors, Pence ‘knocked it out of the park,’ according to one person present at the dinner. The governor told the crowd he would have voted against the omnibus spending bill but, on the more pertinent question, he remained coy about his future, saying he would make a decision in the spring.”

□ By Spring, the Governor may know a bit more about the practicalities involved in running. Sen. Mike Delph (R) authors SB 200, legislation which would allow an incumbent governor or legislator to file for nomination to both their “same office” and federal office, including President of the United States, and may appear on the general election ballot as well for both offices (assuming nomination). As written, the bill would also allow Gov. Pence to be on the ballot for re-election as governor and also for Vice President of the United States as well. The law was last tweaked in the late 1980s to pave the way for then-U.S. Rep. Lee Hamilton (R) or then U.S. Sen. Richard Lugar (R) to run for vice president and re-election in 1988, but a different Hoosier serving in federal office got such a nod in 1988.

● The Governor’s visit to Israel and sit-down with its prime minister attracted lots of national political media attention, and just like he did with his April remarks on foreign affairs during his visit to Berlin, the Guv took time December 30 to deliver some strong comments in Tel Aviv about how “America must uphold Israel’s right to live in peace within secure and defensible borders and this week must reject any effort by the UN Security Council to impose conditions on negotiations that would undermine Israel’s security.” He called upon the U.S. to “continue providing foreign assistance to Israel, with full military financing and funding for research and development of anti-rocket and missile defense systems which supports Israel’s security and jobs across America.” He also wants the U.S. to “renew production of our most advanced aircraft [and consider making it available to our most cherished ally. This too would promote the security and prosperity of the United States and Israel.” He specifically cites the F-22, which could have used Indiana-built engines, noting that it is “the best plane capable of evading the advanced radar in the surface-to-air missile defense system Russia says it will provide to Iran to guard its nuclear weapons facilities”

● The final count on 2014 general election turnout: a mere 30% (1,388,965) of Indiana’s purported 4.5 million registered voters cast a vote in the one election in the 12-year cycle in which there was not a gubernatorial or U.S. Senate race on the ballot. The last time this occurred was in 2002, when voter turnout was 39 percent. Jay County led the state with a 52% turnout rate.

IN Brief

IN Federal Circles . . .

● U.S. Sen. Dan Coats (R) lands a coveted spot on the Senate Finance Committee, a post that has eluded Hoosier senators for almost 40 years. Then-U.S. Sen. Vance Hartke (D) was the last Hoosier who served on the powerful panel, and he did so for the duration of his whole tenure (from 1959-1976), joining as a 39-year-old freshman due to his close relationship with LBJ, who was the Senate majority leader when Hartke was elected in 1958. He relinquishes his post on the Senate Committee on Appropriations to move to Finance. *CQ* reports that “The fact that Coats saw more value being a junior member on Finance than a cardinal on Appropriations could be indicative of where GOP priorities will be in the new Congress.” Indeed, look for him to use his new perch to advocate passage of the Coats-Wyden tax reform bill . . . Sen. Coats, the ranking Republican on the Senate Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security (for a few more days), approves of the lawsuit filed by the State of Indiana, along with 16 other states, which seeks to block the President’s recent executive action to grant legal status to millions illegally in the United States. He says “I support this action by Governor Pence because the president’s executive action on immigration well exceeded his Constitutional authority. President Obama’s role is to faithfully execute the law, not alter or ignore it as he sees fit. I am hopeful that the legal challenge filed by Indiana and many

other states will be successful” . . . Sen. Coats, a member of the Senate Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense (until the new session begins this week), complimented the President’s nomination of Dr. Ashton Carter as secretary of defense – a post for which Sen. Coats was once considered in the Bush 43 Administration. “I welcome this nomination and believe it is a good choice,” Sen. Coats said, also speaking positively on the floor about the fact that Dr. Carter “understands the inner workings of the Pentagon and the demanding requirements of this important national security position. My concern is that Carter’s experience and well-respected credentials will be squandered by micromanagers in the White House. The President’s indecisive and flawed strategies to address recent crises have put our military and national security in an unsustainable position. As the Senate considers Carter’s nomination, my hope is that he will put forth a candid assessment of the serious issues we face.” On the Senate floor, Sen. Coats related his work with Dr. Carter on a 2008 Bipartisan Policy Center report on U.S. policy toward Iranian nuclear development (an effort he co-chaired with a retired Democratic senator) concluding that a “A nuclear weapons-capable Islamic Republic of Iran is strategically untenable,” and offering means for “preventing the untenable” . . . in an op-ed about the current Iranian nuclear negotiations, Sen. Coats writes that “the Obama Administration has ignored not only the U.N. Security Council, but Congress as well,” and it “would be a serious mistake” for the Administration “to circumvent Congressional scrutiny of any deal because of widespread, bipartisan opposition” . . . Sen. Coats, a member of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, set forth his views on the release of the report on the Central Intelligence Agency’s interrogation program, reminding Hoosiers in a tweet that “The hallmark of a free society is open and transparent government, but certain disclosures must be carefully weighed,” and [continuing in a statement] “against the potential damage to the national security interests of the United States and the security of the men and women who serve our country overseas. This report contains no recommendations and offers only an unconstructive, partisan account of the last decade’s counterterrorism efforts. It is now time for the Senate Intelligence Committee to move past this long-settled issue and focus on the vitally important national security challenges currently facing our country.” Live on Fox News December 10, he lamented that the report didn’t even serve up recommendations, and offers only a partisan account of the last decade’s counterterrorism efforts . . .

- U.S. Sen. Joe Donnelly (D) will continue to serve on the Senate Committee on Armed Services, Committee on Agriculture Committee, and the Special Committee on Aging, but adds the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee to his portfolio (recall that he was a member of the House Committee on Financial Services) . . . Sen. Donnelly sees the President sign into law the Jacob Sexton Military Suicide Prevention Act of 2014 as part of the national defense bill. The Donnelly measure, named for a member of the Indiana National Guard from Farmland who

committed suicide while on leave from Afghanistan, is intended to prevent military suicides by requiring an annual mental health assessments for all service members, and not just active duty personnel, as well as an evaluation of prevention and intervention programs . . .

- On the 219-206 vote by which the House passed the \$1.1 trillion “CRomnibus” spending bill to keep the government agencies operating through September, U.S. Rep. Marlin Stutzman (R) joined Indiana’s two Democratic House members in voting against the measure, while when the bill crossed to the Senate, both of Indiana’s U.S. senators voted for the bill.

- When U.S. Rep. Pete Visclosky (D) is sworn in for his 16th term on January 3, he will move up to 11th on the overall House seniority roster, and sixth among House Democrats. First elected in 1984, he will break the tenure of former U.S. Reps. Dan Burton (R), Andy Jacobs, Jr. (D), and John Myers (R) on January 11, and at the end of February, he will pass the intermittent tenure (30 years, one month, and 27 days from 1859-1897) of William S. Holman (D) to move into sole possession of fourth place in Hoosier congressional tenure. He’ll need another four years of service to move into the realm of former House Republican Leader Charles Halleck (R), and former U.S. Reps. Lee Hamilton (D) and Ray Madden (D) – the latter (who effectively once held the Visclosky seat) the dean by a day at 34 years and nine days.

- Note that all of those members with lengthy tenure in the 20th or 21st Century held top caucus leadership posts, major committee chairs, served on the committees on Rules, Appropriations, or Ways and Means, or enjoyed a combination of these roles.

- Subcommittee assignments have been designated for the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, and Hoosiers will be sitting on four of the six panels. U.S. Reps. Susan Brooks (R) and Larry Bucshon (R) will both serve on the Subcommittee on Health and the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations; Rep. Brooks joins the Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade; and Rep. Bucshon will be a member of the Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy. Neither Hoosier will be part of two key panels: the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology and the Subcommittee on Energy and Power.

- U.S. Reps. Marlin Stutzman (R), Luke Messer (R), and Jackie Walorski (R) see the lame-duck session of the House pass H.R. 647, the “Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act,” legislation that they co-sponsored to help individuals with disabilities by allowing families to create tax-free savings accounts, similar to college savings accounts, for their children with disabilities to allow them to be economically self-sufficient when they enter adulthood. H.R. 647 passed the House 404-17.

- U.S. Rep. Susan Brooks (R), as we told you to expect, relinquishes her House Committee on Education and the Workforce assignment as part of her move to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

- U.S. Rep. Todd Young (R) will remain on the House Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Human Resources Subcommittee and the Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures, and will also serve on the Subcommittee on Social Security, a panel once chaired by then-U.S. Rep. Andy Jacobs, Jr. (D) almost a generation ago . . . one of the first legislative votes to be taken by the House in the new Congress - tentatively scheduled for January 8 - will be on the full-time work week bill authored by Rep. Young. His "Save American Workers Act," coauthored by U.S. Rep. Dan Lipinski (D-IL), would repeal the Affordable Care Act's 30-hour definition of full-time employment and replace it with the 40-hour standard. The bill has passed the House in prior years, but will now receive priority consideration as a result of the change in party control in the Senate. U.S. Sen. Joe Donnelly (D) is a cosponsor of a companion bill in the Senate . . .
- U.S. Rep. Pete Visclosky (D) was the sole member of the Indiana congressional delegation to vote against the "Tax Increase Prevention Act," the one-year renewal of more than 50 individual and business tax breaks that expired at the end of 2013. The measure passed 378-46 in the lame-duck session, and Rep. Visclosky was one of only 20 Democrats to oppose the bill . . . Rep. Visclosky schedules a series of 12 town forums throughout CD 01 during January.
- U.S. Rep. Marlin Stutzman (R) approves the Governor's decision to join a multi-state effort challenging the President's executive action on immigration. "I commend Governor Mike Pence and Attorney General Greg Zoeller for joining many other states in the lawsuit to fight President Obama's unconstitutional executive action on immigration. These states are rightly challenging the White House's disregard for representative democracy and the separation of powers created by our Founders" . . . Rep. Stutzman was a surprise vote in early December against H.R. 5759, the "Executive Amnesty Prevention Act of 2014" or "Preventing Executive Overreach on Immigration Act" pushed by tea party-affiliated conservatives. He was one of only seven Republicans who opposed the measure which rebuked the President (NBC's First Read described them as "mostly immigration moderates from districts with high Latino populations," which does not describe Rep. Stutzman and CD 03). The congressman explained that the measure did not go far enough. "President Obama's executive action on immigration represents an open disdain for the Constitutional system our Founders' created, and from the time it was announced, I promised my constituents in Indiana that I would fight it. The President has ignored the voices of the American people, set an irresponsible precedent for future administrations, and shown a blatant disregard for our checks and balances system of government. While I believe [this] bill is well intentioned, I am afraid it is nothing more than a symbolic gesture at best and does little to prevent the President's dangerous action from being put into place. I strongly believe Congress should continue to listen to our constituents and find meaningful ways to stop it. For these reasons I do not support this bill."
- U.S. Rep. Larry Bucshon (R) gives up his seat on the House Committee on Education and the Workforce as part of his shift to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.
- U.S. Rep. Todd Rokita (R) will remain chair of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education; continue to serve on the House Budget Committee; and adds the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure to his portfolio. Look for him to expand his aviation legislation work in his new role on the panel, in addition to trying to increase Indiana's share of our always-shortchanged transportation funding. He is the only Midwesterner among the 12 new majority members, and one of only two new members who are not freshmen . . .
- U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski (R) will serve on the House Committee on Agriculture and chair the Subcommittee on Nutrition, and remain on the Committee on Armed Services and Committee on Veterans' Affairs. The subcommittee that she will chair has jurisdiction regarding agency oversight, special investigations, food stamps, and nutrition and consumer programs . . . Rep. Walorski expressed her concern with the high rate of military sexual assaults after a report released by the Department of Defense reported 19,000 incidents of unwanted sexual contact in 2014. She says that "Sexual assault remains a significant problem in the Armed Forces. While these findings show legislation I authored [in 2013] to provide protection for whistleblowers of military sexual assaults is making progress, I remain concerned that there were 19,000 victims of sexual assault in our nation's military last year. One case of sexual assault is one too many and it's clear there's still a lot of work left to try and change the culture inside our Armed Forces" . . . Rep. Walorski approves of the nomination of Dr. Ashton Carter as secretary of defense, observing that she has "worked with Ashton Carter previously and believe he is fully capable of performing his new duties as Secretary of Defense. Like his three predecessors, he must provide a strategy to protect our nation and our allies while the president continues to cut the defense budget" . . . Rep. Walorski took to the House floor December 9 to support H.R. 5059, the "Clay Hunt Suicide Prevention for American Veterans (SAV) Act," legislation that would help reduce the number of military and veteran suicides by providing greater access to mental health care . . . early in the morning of December 17, Rep. Walorski appeared live with Brian Kilmeade on *FOX & Friends* to comment on a recent report that the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs misled the American public about how many veterans died or suffered serious harm as a result of extreme treatment delays. "It's absolutely outrageous," she said. "We ask them to go fight for our freedom and liberty and they do and they come home and the government turns its back on them and walks away." "The VA lied to the American people again. They lied to the media again." She was disappointed that after four months under a new law, things appear not to have changed on the personnel front. "They should be fired and somebody needs to be in prison."

- U.S. Rep. André Carson (D) sees the House pass and the President sign the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2015, which included provisions he authored to provide mid-deployment assessments to detect and begin treatment of mental health issues that arise while overseas and could negatively impact performance or become life threatening. Currently, service members only receive mental health screening before and after deployment. The 2015 NDAA includes provisions from Carson's H.R. 1463, the Military Suicide Reduction Act (the House version of the Senate measure introduced by U.S. Sen. Joe Donnelly (D)). This is the culmination of an effort that began in 2011, when Rep. Carson first authored legislation mandating that service members deployed in combat receive mid-deployment mental health assessments. He has introduced - and passed through the House - similar provisions every year since.

IN State Circles . . .

- As Democrats continue to target the \$2 billion state surplus (which Office of Management and Budget Director Chris Atkins reminds policymakers is enough to run state government for 45 days, down a few days from estimates as to how far the surplus two years ago would have taken us then), Rep. Ed DeLaney (D) is working on a proposal to direct revenue sharing from the surplus to local units of government. He wants these funds be used to strengthen law enforcement, build roads, and provide pre-school opportunities for all children.

- The Office of the Attorney General says that it is reviewing what it labels as "a complicated ruling" from Judge Jane Magnus-Stinson of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Indiana in *Planned Parenthood of Indiana and Kentucky v. Comm'r of the Indiana State Dep't of Health*, 1:13-cv-01335-JMS-MJD, the lawsuit challenging the 2013 state law (SEA 371-2013) that regulated nonsurgical abortion clinics as surgical abortion clinics, but differently from physicians' offices. Judge Magnus-Stinson found that part of the statute violates the Constitution's Equal Protection clause, but has not yet issued a final judgment, so no appeal can be filed yet. OAG cautions that additional court proceedings are likely (the judge assigned the case to a federal magistrate judge to schedule a status hearing on remaining matters in the case).

□ The State had argued that the General Assembly may constitutionally regulate non-surgical abortion clinics differently from physicians' offices, but the judge ruled that the State had presented "no rational basis for this unequal treatment." Mike Fichter, president and CEO of Indiana Right to Life, found some solace in the details. "The silver lining of this ruling is that it shows legislators how the law could be simply reworded in the next legislative session to ensure patient safety is truly met."

- The Governor authorizes pay-for-performance raises for State employees once performance evaluations are completed in January.

□ State employees who "meet expectations" will receive a 2.0% percent raise, those who "exceed expectations" will be in line for a 4.0% raise, and those rated "outstanding" are eligible for a 6.0% raise.

- The State of Indiana (through the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, the Indiana Office of Energy Development, the Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor, the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission, and the Department of Natural Resources) submitted comments to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency urging EPA to withdraw its proposed carbon dioxide emission rules. In a letter to EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy accompanying the comments, Governor Mike Pence (R) labels the proposed rules as "ill-conceived and poorly constructed," and asserts that they exceed the legal authority granted to the agency under the Clean Air Act. "The U.S. EPA proposal does not strike the proper balance to protect the health of the environment with the health of our economy and our position in the global marketplace," he writes. "It will impede economic growth and prosperity at a time when we need to promote it."

- We told you in our last issue about some state agencies acknowledging to the State Budget Committee they were not in compliance with state law on certain staffing standards despite recent budget reversions, and one of them was the Department of Child Services (which requires at least 77 more case managers statewide to comport to the law). Senate Democrat Leader Tim Lanane (D) wrote a letter to the Governor raising concern with -as he framed it - "DCS's refusal to meet standards enacted to protect children." Sen. Lanane sat down with DCS Director Mary Beth Bonaventura to discuss the staffing issues December 16 after telling the Guv the State should dip into the surplus to fund the positions instead of deciding what elements of the law it should or shouldn't comply with.

- At the behest of the Indiana Supreme Court, IBM Corporation and the State of Indiana have agreed to mediation February 25, presided over by Indianapolis attorney John Van Winkle, as a way to achieve "a mutually agreeable resolution" to their dispute over the mega-litigation stemming from the decision by then-Gov. Mitch Daniels (R) to cancel his Administration's much-vaunted \$1.3 billion welfare modernization contract with IBM. While IBM is seeking some \$50 million in claims even after courts have found the company failed to fulfill its responsibilities, there were questions about the material nature of the breach and whether the State was entitled to damages of far more than IBM's potential recovery.

- We recently told you about what seemed to be a disconnect of sorts between the Governor and the Attorney General on the President's immigration proposals . . . and that appeared to play out in December. In a letter to Attorney General Greg Zoeller (R), Governor Mike Pence (R) directed that the State of Indiana join 17 other states in a Texas-directed lawsuit seeking to have the presidential executive order on immigration laws ruled unconstitutional because it changed the law without input from Congress.

□ The Governor declared that “the President’s unilateral action was an unacceptable end run around the democratic process and joining other states in pursuing legal recourse to challenge this action is the right thing to do. This lawsuit is not about immigration. It is about denying states such as ours the opportunity to be represented in policy making through our elected members of Congress. This lawsuit seeks to have the federal courts restore the rule of law and proper balance to our constitutional system of government. I encourage the President to rescind his executive order and immediately begin to work with Congress to pass legislation that will secure our nation’s border and update our immigration laws. That is the proper way to deal with this or any other issue our nation faces.”

□ The Governor formally wrote to the AG, “While we have previously had informal discussions about Indiana joining this lawsuit, I am formally directing you to use any and all legal means necessary to represent the State of Indiana as a plaintiff in the suit being filed by the State of Texas,” but General Zoeller, who has taken a more moderate policy stance on immigration issues, opted against his office’s participation, instead authorizing the Governor’s Office to retain Peter Rusthoven and Joe Chapelle from Barnes & Thornburg LLP to represent the State of Indiana in the litigation - at the expense of the Governor’s own budget . . . and some in the legal community are privately grumbling about the Governor “unilaterally” bringing suit against the President on behalf of the State of Indiana, while continuing to criticize the President for unilateral action purportedly undertaken on behalf of the United States.

□ Intriguingly, while 24 states have formally signed on to the Texas litigation, 20 states are on the case caption as states per se, including “State of Indiana,” while Michigan’s participation is through its attorney general, and Mississippi, Maine, North Carolina, and Idaho are listed as participating via their specifically named respective governors. OAG’s Bryan Corbin explains to us that under I.C. 4-6, “The ‘State of Indiana’ is the proper party, so this matter is therefore captioned that way in the multistate complaint. Individual state officials would not be the proper party under our statute for this type of lawsuit. By contrast, other state governments that operate under their own, different statutes might list their individual state officials as the named parties, but Indiana’s statute does not permit that in this instance.”

□ Almost coincidental with the AG’s declination, he revealed what we had hinted about here when we told you that Zoeller had not signed a Republican Attorneys General Association letter about immigration issues. General Zoeller is working with a bipartisan group of attorneys general urging Congress to become an active participant in the immigration debate. He was one of a bipartisan group of 18 AGs signing a December letter to congressional leaders urging them to make reform of the federal immigration system a priority. With the Supreme Court of the United States determining that immigration is a federal responsibility, the letter from the AGs encourages Congress to act to fix the “dysfunctional” legal immigration system.

□ Zoeller and Mississippi Attorney General Jim Hood (D-MI) are co-authors of the letter that was also signed by AGs from 14 other states and two U.S. territories.

- An innocuous Natural Resources Commission notice simply notes that a proposed rule “Amends 312 IAC 9-3-3 governing equipment authorized for deer hunting,” but you can expect a healthy dose of public comment on the measure - even from deer hunters and outdoor enthusiasts - because it would effectively open deer hunting in Indiana to those using high-powered rifles. The panel also proposed allowing coyotes to be taken year-round without written permission of the landowner (while consent would still be required, it would not have to be in writing). Look for a final NRC vote on the proposals next Spring.

- Since the Bureau of Motor Vehicles in July offered Hoosiers the ability to take advantage of the agency’s Reinstatement Relief Program that allows suspended drivers to pay temporarily reduced reinstatement fees (a 50% discount) and earn reinstatement, as long as all other legal requirements for reinstatement are met, more than 10,800 people have paid back \$2.2 million+ in reinstatement fees.

- Americans for Prosperity - Indiana began airing radio ads after Christmas outlining its agenda for 2015, and asking lawmakers to end the Common Construction Wage; fight “Washington overreach; expand “education reform”; and keep taxes and spending low. AFP’s broadcast campaign began in February last year.

- Look for the Department of Veterans Affairs to hire a full-time coordinator for matters affecting female veterans.

- The Indiana Supreme Court issued a procedural order December 16 formally dismissing *Zoeller v. United Steel*, No. 45S00-1407-PL-492, a lawsuit originally brought by United Steel, Paper and Forestry, Rubber, Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial and Service Workers International Union that challenged the 2012 Right to Work statute. The Lake County Circuit Court had ruled in favor of the plaintiffs and invalidated the statute, but the Supreme Court ended the appeal by remanding the United Steel case back to the Lake County Circuit Court - whose original ruling had been stayed - with orders for the lower court to dismiss the plaintiffs’ original complaint. The practical impact: the Indiana Department of Labor - which has been able to enforce the Right to Work law during the stay - can continue enforcement efforts without interruption..

- Gary Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson (D) was one of five mayors invited to an early December dialogue on police-community relations with the President at the White House. She was also one of four mayors to appear on a two-night series on the *CBS Evening News* December 11-12 to discuss the state of race relations in our country, and was also named by the U.S. Conference of Mayors to chair a national working group comprised of mayors and police chiefs charged with developing policy recommendations in response to the aftermath of the Missouri police-shooting incident.

- Writing in the *Fort Wayne Journal Gazette* about the fact that Governor Mike Pence (R) has granted no pardons to date, Niki Kelly indirectly raises an interesting prospect: governors going forward may be able to avoid many potentially politically problematic pardon requests by simply suggesting to the requestor that s/he follow the new expungement process.

IN the Economy

- State General Fund revenues for November tallied to \$1.024 billion, representing a year-over-year improvement of \$116.6 million (12.8%) but falling short of the December 2013 estimate by \$47.8 million (- 4.5%). Collections have now failed to meet expectations in four of the past five months, and November's miss is the largest thus far this fiscal year - on both a percentage and real-dollar basis. Moreover, General Fund revenue is up from prior-year levels in each of the first five months of Fiscal Year 2015, and the November growth represents the largest of the five in both percentage and real-dollar terms. For the July - November period, total state General Fund revenues are running below the December 2013 forecast by \$85.1 million (- 1.5%) but are above collections for the first five months of FY 2014 by \$197.4 million (3.6%).

- Sales tax collections came in at \$582.9 million for November, topping the forecast by \$6.2 million (1.1%) and surpassing the November 2013 haul by \$37.2 million (6.8%). Through the five months of FY 2015, sales taxes are running above the target by \$40.9 million (1.4%) and have improved from the same five months in FY 14 by \$169 million (5.9%).

- Both key categories of gaming tax revenues missed the November target by a double-digit percentage, the first time both categories reported a double-digit shortfall in the same month since November 2013. Through November, gaming taxes (riverboat and racino wagering taxes) are running 16.3% below the December 2013 forecast target, and are 16.1% below the same 11-month period in Fiscal Year 2014. Riverboat wagering taxes for November of \$19.4 million trailed the December 2013 forecast by 30.4% (- \$8.5 million), representing the largest real-dollar shortfall between the monthly estimate and actual results to occur so far in Fiscal Year 2015. After failing to hit the projections in each of the first five months of Fiscal Year 2015, riverboat wagering taxes now lag the year-to-date target by 23.1% (- \$22.9 million). We have now seen declines from prior-year levels in each of the five months of the fiscal year. For the fiscal year-to-date, riverboat wagering taxes have dipped compared to actual collections during the same July - November period in FY 2014 by 21.4% (- \$20.9 million). Racino wagering taxes for November generated state revenue of \$5.9 million, slipping from last year by \$100,000 (- 1.0%), and for the first five months of the fiscal year, racino wagering taxes are down by \$1.7 million (- 4.1%) compared to the July - November period in Fiscal Year 2014. The fiscal year-to-date collections remain slightly ahead of the forecast, up by \$200,000 (0.6%).

- Individual income tax collections of \$386.5 million during November underperformed the estimate by \$42.6 million (- 9.9%) but beat November 2013 numbers by a healthy \$82.1 million (27.0%). Through the initial five months of FY 2015, the personal income tax take has grown from the same period a year ago by \$168.7 million (9.3%) but remains south of the year-to-date forecast by \$100.4 million (- 4.8%). Corporate tax collections finished the month at \$4.0 million, easily exceeding the monthly target of just \$200,000. For the Fiscal year-to-date, the category is ahead of expectations by \$8.0 million (3.2%). The November corporate tax collections improved from November 2013 by 200%, yet the five-month experience for corporate taxes trail those posted during the same period one year ago by \$22.7 million (- 8.0%).

- A nine-day December trip to Israel by the Governor included visits to cultural sites and a three-day jobs mission to meet with government and business leaders to expand economic ties between Indiana and Israel. He was intending to focus on the aerospace industry leading into a major 2015 emphasis on this sector which, as we outlined to you a bit over a year ago as the state pursued a Boeing assembly plant, is a field in which the state plays widely, but without a cohesive focus, and thus Indiana and its related resources are often overlooked.

- During the trip, the Governor met with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Israeli Minister of Economy Naftali Bennett, and other government officials, as well as leaders of Israeli companies and potential investors in key innovation sectors, including life sciences, technology, and advanced manufacturing, in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. He spent the majority of Tuesday afternoon at the Israeli Ministry of Defense meeting with Minister of Defense Moshe Ya'alon; Maj. Gen. Amos Gilad, director of the Political-Military Affairs Bureau; and Michel Ben-Baruch, director of the International Defense Cooperation Agency. He also delivered remarks highlighting Indiana-Israel economic ties and U.S.-Israeli relations at a luncheon hosted by the Israel-America Chamber of Commerce in cooperation with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in Tel Aviv.

- The Governor's family traveled with him to celebrate Christmas in Jerusalem and also tour Christian holy sites (and he was also penciled in to participate in an evening symposium hosted by Republicans Abroad in Jerusalem; Terre Haute attorney Jim Bopp is counsel for this element in the name of Republicans Overseas). The trip expenses of the Governor and First Lady were covered by Christians United for Israel; they will personally pay for the travel expenses of their three children.

- Breitbart takes note of a Facebook post by Caroline Glick, senior contributing editor of the *Jerusalem Post*: "As a visiting dignitary, Pence and his family were invited to PLO chief Mahmoud Abbas's annual Christmas dinner, where he was notified that a car would be sent to fetch him to Abbas's office for an unscheduled and unsolicited meeting at 10:45pm. Governor Pence in his inimitable wisdom, politely and firmly declined the summons."

□ Former Rep. David Orentlicher (D), Indiana chair of Israel Bonds, also delivers strong praise for Indiana's past two elected state treasurers, Tim Berry (R) and Richard Mourdock (R), noting, in advance of the Governor's trade mission to Israel, that the State of Indiana's current investment in Indiana through Israel Bonds stands at \$50 million, with Mourdock alone authorizing \$75 million in such purchases during his years as treasurer.

● The Indiana Forecast Summary:

| | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|--------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| Total Employment | 1.2% | 1.8% | 1.7% | 1.3% |
| Unemployment Rate | 7.5% | 5.8% | 5.5% | 5.7% |
| Personal Income | 1.8% | 2.1% | 4.0% | 4.5% |
| Housing Starts (000s) | 16.8 | 17.3 | 19.5 | 21.4 |
| Retail Sales | 4.2% | 1.9% | 2.3% | 4.0% |
| Real Gross State Product | 2.1% | 1.9% | 2.3% | 2.2% |

● Marion General Hospital in Marion will eliminate almost 70 jobs by the beginning of February as it outsources surgical services, but many will likely be picked up by the new service provider . . . the North Judson-San Pierre School Corporation eliminates eight staff jobs at the end of the school year to cope with budget cuts . . . another Indiana foundry turns off its furnaces. After restarting the plant almost four years ago, Navistar International Corporation plans to close its Indianapolis foundry, which supplies engine blocks and cylinder heads for Navistar truck engines, by Spring. The closure will mean the loss of 180 jobs, and comes despite the fact that Navistar already had entered into a local incentive settlement which cost the City of Indianapolis millions . . . Lane Automotive, Inc. a supplier of performance parts and accessories for race cars, hot rods, trucks, and off-road vehicles, has outgrown its current Berrien County, Michigan facility but opts to expand operations there and add almost 140 new jobs after Michigan was chosen over competing sites in Tennessee and Indiana . . . Caremark Rx, the prescription benefit management subsidiary of CVS Health, files a New Year's Eve notice with the Department of Workforce Development indicating that it intends to close an Indianapolis facility by the end of February, ending pharmacy-related jobs for almost 125 workers.

● Impact Forge, a vehicle industry supplier, plans to invest \$7.5 million in new equipment to add production lines and new products, and wins a 10-year business personal property tax abatement from the Columbus City Council that it says will help it add some 40 new jobs by early this year . . . NIBCO INC., a Charlestown manufacturer of valves, fittings, and flow control products, plans to invest \$5.6 million to update and equip its current 187,000 square-foot local facility, expecting to create up to 40 new jobs by 2017. The Indiana Economic Development Corporation offers NIBCO up to \$150,000 in training grants. The City of Charlestown approved additional incentives . . . New Jersey-based Mercy Diagnostics, a medical diagnostic company, enters into a 10-year lease on a building in Portage for operations that should employ some 60 people . . . Iowa-Based Grain Processing Corporation (GPC), a subsidiary of Kent Corporation, a manufacturer and marketer of corn-based products, plans to invest \$70 million to expand its Daviess County operations instead of a facility in its Iowa hometown, expecting to create more than 16 new jobs in Washington by 2019 as it grows maltodextrins capacity over the next few years at its 600-acre local complex. IEDC offers GPC up to \$250,000 in performance-based tax credits . . . Sigma Packaging, LLC, a dealer of pre-owned packaging and processing machinery,

plans to invest \$5.51 million to purchase and equip a new 231,000 square-foot facility in Evansville within which to expand its local operations, expecting to create almost 45 new jobs by 2018. IEDC offers Sigma Packaging up to \$350,000 in performance-based tax credits, and the City of Evansville is evaluating a 10-year property tax abatement and a \$30,000 training grant for newly hired Evansville residents . . . Lear Corporation, a global supplier of automotive seating and electrical distribution systems, plans to invest \$7.28 million to lease and equip a new 93,000 square-foot facility in Portage within which to expand its local operations, expecting to create more than 95 new jobs by 2019. IEDC offers Lear Corporation up to \$675,000 in performance-based tax credits, and the City of Portage approved additional incentives . . . the Warrick County Council unanimously approves a 10-year business personal property tax abatement for Alcoa Warrick Operations for an \$81 million investment in upgrading the smelter's antiquated furnace system. Alcoa expects that the work will result in 35 new jobs with an average hourly wage of almost \$29 per hour . . . the Logansport City Council approves a \$550,000 loan to S.G. Preston Company as part of package of incentives as the company evaluates where to site a \$400 million diesel production facility that would convert a by-product of ethanol into diesel fuel. The plant would add some 160 jobs, with average annual wages of \$46,000.

IN Transition

● Dr. Ryan Streeter leaves his post as gubernatorial deputy chief of staff for policy and strategy to become director of the Center for Politics and Governance at the University of Texas at Austin January 2 . . . but 206 will still be on his speed-dial.

● As the Center for Education and Career Innovation dissolves effective on or before February 20, Special Assistant to the Governor for Career Innovation Jaclyn P. Dowd will become COO at the Department of Workforce Development . . . and Special Assistant to the Governor for Education Innovation Claire Fiddian-Green joins the Richard M. Fairbanks Foundation as president and CEO this month.

□ Look for the new senior education advisor to the Governor to be named soon.

● Michael Neal, chair of the Indiana Federation of Young Republicans and Midwestern Regional vice chair of the Young Republican National Federation, Inc. (he's also a candidate for YRNF secretary), becomes the new director of community relations for the Office of the Governor, where he'll oversee community outreach activities.

● The Governor names Judge David Cook of the Marion County Superior Court 7 Criminal Division as director of the Alcohol and Tobacco Commission. The former chief public defender of Marion County will assume his ATC role on January 5, at the expiration of his current judicial term (to which he was named by the Indiana Supreme Court).

□ Although we told you to expect a retired judge assume the ATC chair, we didn't realize that the Guv would tap a second retired judge, David H. Coleman of Hendricks County, to serve the remainder of a four-year term through January 31, 2018.

- Leslie A. Barnes leaves her post as Democratic co-counsel for the Indiana Election Division after eight years (and countless election cycles).
- Joey Fox leaves his post as a special assistant to the Lieutenant Governor to join the Indiana State Department of Health as director of legislative affairs.
- Chetrice Mosley becomes the new executive director of external affairs for the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission. She will be responsible for overseeing the Commission's communications, leading the consumer affairs division, and serving as the agency's chief legislative liaison. Mosley has served the State since 2008. and comes to IURC from the Indiana Department of Revenue where she was the public relations project manager.
- Chris Greisl leaves his post as director of conciliation for the Indiana Education Employment Relations Board to become the first city attorney for the City of Fishers. Greisl has also been an attorney with the Department of Education, including service as its labor policy counsel.
- Illinois Governor-elect Bruce Rauner (R-IL) hires Jason Barclay as counsel to the governor, a role Barclay played in Indiana in the Daniels Administration before he moved to Barnes & Thornburg.
- John Dement becomes the new director of technology commercialization for the Indiana Office of Defense Development (IODD). He joins IODD from Crane Naval Surface Warfare Center under an Intergovernmental Personnel Act loaned executive program transfer.

IN the Lobby

- Kokomo city attorney Lawrence McCormack will leave that post after four years to join the government relations department at Cummins Inc. Before serving as corporation counsel for Kokomo, McCormack was assistant director of government relations for the Indiana State Medical Association.
- Caryl A. Auslander moves from The Corydon Group to the Indiana Chamber of Commerce, where she becomes vice president of education and workforce development policy. She has served as state director of government affairs for Verizon Communications; a legislative policy specialist with the Washington, D.C. firm of Patton Boggs, LLP; and as assistant legislative director of the staff of then-U.S. Sen. Richard Lugar (R), among other work experience.
- Asher Agency files a federal lobby registration on behalf of ChangePartner LLC of Morgantown, West Virginia (which describes its business as "Personal Change-Resilience workshops and tools helping employees win-not spin-during change"), to "Explore federal funding and strategic partnerships to develop an Institute for Behavior-Based Healthcare Delivery Excellence."

IN Court

- John O. Feighner of Fort Wayne has been elected to serve as the Indiana Judicial Nominating Commission district three representative. Feighner was elected by attorneys to fill a vacancy that occurred December 31 when the term of former Rep. John Ulmer (R) of Goshen expired. This will become Feighner's third (non-successive) term.
- The Indiana Supreme Court decides that going forward, the supervision and oversight of court technology objectives, initiatives, and projects will be consolidated under the authority of the Court, including administration of all functions previously performed by the Judicial Technology and Automation Committee - which it eliminates after 15 years - the e-filing project, and appellate court technology ad hoc committees. Justice Steven David and Court of Appeals Judge Paul Mathias will lead this integrated court technology effort on behalf of the Supreme Court, with Justice David also serving as the chair of the Judicial Technology Oversight Committee. Justice Mark Massa will serve as the chair of the Supreme Court's Records Management Committee.

□ Expect this reorganization to at least help partially overcome past personality and turf concerns that have persisted over the years between the state and local levels.

□ The Supremes also decree that "The court records of each Indiana county and court are the exclusive property of the courts, and the offices of the Clerk of the Circuit and Superior Courts in each Indiana county have been historically understood to serve the courts as custodians of said records, subject to the authority and direction of the Supreme Court of Indiana, the Court of Appeals of Indiana, and the respective local courts." County clerks must maintain "court records pursuant to in a manner consistent with the directives of the Supreme Court of Indiana, and the judges of the trial courts directly served by the Clerk."

□ The court says that the changes are being made "to increase transparency, implement new technology, maintain court records and seamlessly share information"

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Lawmakers lament Lemmon law *Counterintuitive correction cash call catches committee cold*

Department of Correction Commissioner Bruce Lemmon issued “a message of warning” to lawmakers in his submission to the State Budget Committee, expressing concern over several elements in the recent overhaul of Indiana’s sentencing and corrections laws and how they are and may be applied.

He seeks substantial “targeted” increases in his agency’s funding, and notes that further diversions from IDOC’s facility operational budgets to accommodate unfunded mandates (he contends the \$11 million in additional 2013 funding “bypassed IDOC’s discretionary control” and went instead to local jails and community corrections or third-party contractors). Commissioner Lemmon frankly admonishes BudCom members that “any future cuts would have severe, possibly violent, consequences.”

Commissioner Lemmon explains that the new sentencing laws “have an, as of yet, unplanned for fiscal impact on IDOC.” Reduction of credit time opportunities means “a larger portion of sentences will be served in prison [and] significantly increase the need for additional prison capacity beginning January 1, 2016.” He complains truth-in-sentencing language, restrictions in credit time, and longer periods of incarceration that will follow “will increase - not decrease - prison population. There will be no savings to IDOC. On the contrary, DOC’s capacity needs is [sic] expected to increase”

The IDOC commissioner also notes certain expansions of local programs are supposed to be funded by “savings from the closing of a facility to cover costs of this expansion, but IDOC does not anticipate closing of any facility of any significant size. On the contrary, IDOC will need to expand medium/maximum security capacity to accommodate future growth in prison population” - even as “The number of Americans under supervision of state adult correctional systems has fallen to the lowest level in a decade,” as the *Washington Post* reported on New Year’s Eve based on new data from the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

DOC now plans to build five new housing units at the Miami Correctional Facility and three more at the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility to open between January 2017 and April 2018 . . . clearly frustrating members of the State Budget Committee, who were not expecting the tab of some \$50 million - before the annual operating expenses that must then be added to the baseline budget. In addition to the capital costs, Lemmon seeks \$22 million more in funding by FY 2017 than his agency received in FY 2015.

And it gets a bit worse, too. The corrections chief warns solons “local community corrections and probation leaders will argue an increase in diversion cannot take place until they receive funding to increase local capacity.” And the hits just keep coming. He adds that programs for diversion of those with special needs “also assume that IDOC will have additional funding to contribute.”

The commissioner also complains that the diversion of lower-risk felons from prison will still require IDOC to pay the mandated \$35 per diem (which has remained constant for 20+ years), but it actually “incentives jails over community corrections and probation, both of which operate at a per diem significantly lower than \$35. It also ignores the fact that the majority of IDOC’s operating budget is fixed” and only \$11 to \$13 per day in variable costs would be “saved” in the case of a diverted felon.

For more, please see the following page . . .

Your newest newbies

Hamilton County’s new House GOP duo

Your two newest House members both hail from Hamilton County: Donna Schaibley (R) of Carmel in HD 24, and Tony Cook (R) of Cicero in HD 32. Each won very different caucus elections.

Cook, 63, earned a B.A. from Anderson College, his master’s degree from Butler University, and an education specialist degree from Purdue University. He served 32 of his 40 years in education in Hamilton County, 25 of those years at Hamilton Heights School Corporation, where he worked as a junior high school principal, high school principal (welcoming Ryan White to school), assistant superintendent, and superintendent. Cook was also principal at Noblesville High School from 1998-2005. He retired in December 2013 from Hamilton Heights.

Cook, whose wife is an attorney in private practice in Frankfort, was the sole candidate to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Eric Turner (R) of Cicero, who is directing his attention to business and charitable interests. His district includes parts of six counties including Delaware, Grant Hamilton, Howard, Madison, and Tipton.

The more intriguing contest was in the HD 24 caucus to replace Zionsville’s Steve Braun (R), who left to run the Department of Workforce Development. Five candidates filed in a district that includes 24 precincts in Boone County and 27 in Hamilton County.

Speech language pathologist Raju Chinthala (R) of Carmel was eliminated after the first round of voting, and former Department of Commerce staffer Elise Nieshalla (R) of Zionsville, daughter of former Rep. Cindy Noe (R), was dropped after the second round.

Schaibley, former secretary of the Hamilton County Republican Party and a key force in the Carmel/Clay GOP Club, and Zionsville Town Council Member Susana Suarez (R) were tied at 22 votes each on the second ballot (26 were needed to win), while Dr. Alex Choi (R), a Zionsville anesthesiologist who serves on the Board of Trustees of the Indiana State Medical Association and was a member of the Pence gubernatorial campaign Health Policy Task Force, ran a distant third.

For more, please see “IN Politics,” p. 2 . . .

“In other words,” Lemmon continued, “IDOC would save \$12, but would be required to pay \$35/day for each offender diverted from prison to jail.”

After July, the new policy “would dramatically expand the scope of this law and increase the State’s overall cost for covering those maintained within Indiana’s 91 county jails, estimated at an additional \$30 million for the biennium.” Reductions in the 365-day hold restriction “would also speed up the expected timeline on population growth and the need for additional capacity.”

Commissioner Lemmon also laments “It is indisputable that, if prosecutors and courts continue to sentence as they always have, HEA 1006 will prove to be nothing more than a net-widening sentence enhancement bill that drastically increases the need for criminal justice resources on all fronts, including additional prisons.”

But lawmakers cited conflicting data - from DOC, the Legislative Services Agency, and the outside contractors engaged to assess the impact - along with questioning DOC assumptions in the course of the unsettling hearing.

And there will also be pressure from prosecutors, through the Indiana Prosecuting Attorneys Council (helped by former St. Joseph County prosecutor and ex-lawmaker Mike Dvorak (D)) to restore some of the previous stiffer penalties for drug-related crimes, which law enforcement officials deride as too low.

Lemmon’s bottom line: “without adequate resources to invest ... the agency is at risk of losing hard-won ground and subject to inefficiency, sluggishness, and costly outbreaks of large-scale violence.” And his need and call for cash is going to be matched by local officials who will be seeking resources to support the shift in burden to their facilities.

IN Politics

State Office Races . . .

- Former U.S. Rep. Baron Hill (D) certainly sounds like a likely 2016 Democratic candidate for governor in a recent interview with Maureen Hayden of CNHI . . . and doesn’t seem too torn up about potentially facing off in a primary against his former State House colleague, former Speaker John Gregg (D). Hill, who has been out of office since losing his 2010 race for re-election to Congress, made a strong and imaginative statewide bid for U.S. Senate in 1990 against U.S. Sen. Dan Coats (R) in a special election.

State Legislative Races . . .

→ *Cont. from page one . . .*

Schaibley, whose husband is an Indianapolis attorney, won the race with 27 votes in the third round to 23 for Suarez and one for Choi. Suarez had a tough time increasing her vote total in each round because of the stronger numbers (and weaker second-tier candidates) from Hamilton County.

The state and local politics here were intriguing, even as the man whose seat was being filled, former Rep. Braun, did not get involved in the process to choose his successor.

We had told you as the filing was unfolding that Schaibley is close to the conservative grassroots activists, particularly the actively engaged Constitutional Patriots, and is identified with the Delph/Schneider faction locally. She was actually recruited to the race by Sen. Mike Delph (R). Hamilton County Republican Party Chair Pete Emigh was behind Schaibley, seeking not only a winner from Hamilton County, but to solidify his ties with the local tea party flank, which supported Schaibley.

While there was a real establishment-grass roots tension in the contest and vote, the actual composition of the precinct officials involved in the caucus itself was decidedly not conservative at all.

Zionsville Town Councilor Suarez, vice president of corporate affairs and communications for Allegion, and a member of the Indiana Commission for Higher Education, was viewed as the local establishment candidate, with strong support from Zionsville Council President Jeff Papa (R) (town mayor-in-waiting), the top Senate Majority Caucus staffer. Suarez ran for town council on a ticket with Papa, and also had the backing of Purdue University official Chad Pittman, until recently executive vice president for the Indiana Economic Development Corporation.

Dr. Choi is someone to watch for going forward. While he didn’t have a chance of winning in the caucus due to the internal party politics and dynamics, he felt it important to enter the race simply to put state and local party officials and local community and business leaders on notice that he wants to play a more active role in area politics looking ahead to 2016.

On a more global note . . . the Speaker acknowledges the concerns over allowing candidates to remain on the ballot after they have publicly stated that they will not serve if elected . . . and will be looking at options for changing the early (July) withdrawal date. Changes in technology (electronic voting) may make later withdrawals more logistically possible to handle, but mitigating this is the longer absentee and early voting period.

Mayoral Races . . .

- Anderson could see the rubber match between Mayor Kevin Smith (R) and former mayor Kris Ockomon (D). In their first tilt, 2007, Ockomon defeated Smith, but Smith won the 2011 rematch. Ockomon is gearing up for a rematch, but will face primary opposition from four-term (and leading vote-getter) at-large City Councilmember Rodney Chamberlain (D), and local business owner Don Muckelbauer (D). At-large City Councilmember David Eicks (D) has opened an exploratory committee . . . Auburn Mayor Norm Yoder (R) says he will pursue a fifth term . . . former union leader Charlie Wyatt (D) is running for mayor of Boonville . . . Columbia City Mayor Ryan Daniel (R) will seek a second term . . . Crawfordsville Mayor Todd Barton (R) will seek a second term . . . two-term Goshen City Councilmember Jeremy Stutsman (D) will seek

the open Maple City mayoral office with the backing of outgoing four-term Mayor Allan Kauffman (D) . . . with Greencastle Mayor Sue Murray (D) opting against a third term, Jim Wright (R), a 20-year former city street commissioner and a Walmart retiree, plans to reprise his unsuccessful 1983 primary bid . . . while Evansville Mayor Lloyd Winnecke (R) revealed on New Year's Eve to run for a second term, Rep. Gail Riecken (D) is expected to throw her hat into the ring as well on January 10 after earlier demurring, with Ds seeing her as the sole candidate who could unite the Davis and Owen factions in the local party. There has also been some talk that former Department of Local Government Finance commissioner Cheryl Musgrave (R), a former county commissioner who ran a close race against Rep. Riecken for the House in 2010, may unleash an independent bid . . . Fort Wayne City Councilmember Mitch Harper (R), who spent a dozen or so years in the Indiana House, is running for mayor of Fort Wayne, where Mayor Tom Henry (D) presumably will seek a third term, but there is talk that he could be primaryed . . . Hammond Mayor Tom McDermott, Jr. (D) will seek to become the city's first four-term mayor, but will likely face a challenge from City Councilmember Homero "Chico" Hinojosa, Jr. (D), and there's bad blood between the two (McD polling shows low name ID for Hinojosa outside of Hessville) . . . Huntington County Chief Deputy Coroner Greg Sprinkle (R) and Larry Buzzard (R), president of Huntington County Commissioners, will challenge Huntington Mayor Brooks Fetters (R), who seeks a second term as chief exec of the Lime City. This will be Buzzard's third run for the office . . . in Indianapolis, Rep. Ed DeLaney (D) ends his mayoral bid as he says he looks to address some related issues through a Committee on Ways and Means assignment; Sen. Jim Merritt (R) decides not to seek the office; and the Rev. Charles Harrison of the 10-Point Coalition opens an exploratory committee for a Democratic or independent run; and former secretary of state Joe Hogsett (D) raises \$916,899 for his race between August 13 and November 21 . . . Jonesboro Mayor Terry Poling (R) has decided to resign after serving since his initial election in 1995. Former utility superintendent Robert McNutt (R) was the sole candidate who filed for the caucus to replace him . . . looking for a third term is Knox Mayor Rick Chambers (D) . . . LaPorte Mayor Blair Milo (R) will seek a second term, and will face a primary challenge from City Councilmember Roger Galloway (R) . . . Ligonier Mayor Patty Fisel (R) makes a bid to become the first mayor of the city to serve three consecutive terms . . . Linton Mayor John Wilkes (D) will seek a second term . . . in Logansport, Lewis-Cass Jr.-Sr. High School English teacher Dave Kitchell (D), the former long-time editor of the *Logansport Pharos-Tribune*, will run for mayor . . . Madison Mayor Damon Welch (R) announces a run for a second term . . . Michigan City Council President Duane Parry (D) will challenge Mayor Ron Meer (D) who seeks a second term . . . Noblesville Mayor John Ditslear (R) will compete for the opportunity to become the city's first four-term chief exec . . . Petersburg loses its second mayor to resignation since the 2011 election. Frank Coleman, Jr. (R) resigned in December, after winning a caucus in 2013 to replace Jon Craig (R). The new mayor is R.C. Klipsch (R),

a retired businessman and city employee, and he will seek election on his own in 2015 . . . Portland Mayor Randy Geesaman (D) plans a run for a second term . . . a while back we told you of the formation of Leadership Richmond PAC, a group comprised of key business and civic leaders in the Rose City (and led by a former Republican mayor). They sought to raise \$50,000 to back a candidate for Richmond mayor with long-time Mayor Sally Hutton (D) deciding to step aside after her current term, claim to have \$40K committed, and plan to bring in even more as they expand their focus to council candidates as well. The business-minded PAC leaders have interviewed six potential mayoral candidates and are backing Kyle Ingram (R), a high school softball coach and NCAA basketball official. WFMG-FM radio personality Dave Snow (D) has Mayor Hutton's support as her successor, despite his lack of political involvement. Former Richmond Common Council member Diana Pappin (R) is also running, and former Wayne County Council member Monica Burns (D) is also contemplating a bid, as are, according to WOLK-FM in Richmond, State Excise Police superintendent Matt Strittmatter (R), a former Wayne County sheriff; and Lorenz + Williams architecture and engineering firm principal Gary Turner . . . Rushville Mayor Mike Pavey (R) will vie for a second term . . . Shelbyville Mayor Tom DeBaun (D) seeks re-election . . . Terre Haute Mayor Duke Bennett (R), the first Republican elected to a second term in the Queen City of the Wabash since the 1920s, plans to pursue a third term. Pete Chalos (D) (the city's second-longest-serving mayor) was the last mayor elected to a third term, serving 1980 - 1996, before a spate of mayors who were denied second terms . . . Pike Township firefighter Jeff Harpe (R), a Westfield resident who is challenging the validity of financing some aspects of Grand Park, is a likely primary opponent to the City's founding mayor, Andy Cook (R).

Other Political News . . .

- Meet the new boss/Same as the old boss? Former U.S. Rep. Chris Chocola (R) steps aside as president of the Club for Growth after almost six years at the helm as he moves his principal home further north in Michigan and seeks to cut down on inconvenient travel . . . and he is replaced by former U.S. Rep. David McIntosh (R), who leaves his position as a partner in the Washington, D.C. law firm of Mayer Brown, for whom he has been a registered lobbyist. Chocola will remain on the Club for Growth board of directors. Politico.com's headline: "Pence ally to head Club for Growth."

- The *National Journal* writes that "McIntosh signaled that the group, which promotes an often-uncompromising message of free-market advocacy, won't back off its criticism of Republicans who support a softer approach to governing - even though those same Republicans argue their agenda is necessary to win competitive races in swing districts and purple states."

- On Kyle Babcock's internet radio show on the Indiana Talks network December 15, McIntosh said that "this year we will look very closely at the presidential primary," given that candidates the Club for Growth has supported for other office in the past are likely to be running for president. He explained that staff will "take it up with the Board and think about it." Also a possibility for CFG expansion: gubernatorial races.

IN Brief

IN Federal Circles . . .

● U.S. Sen. Dan Coats (R) joined 22 of his Republican Senate colleagues in a December letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy expressing their deep concern about the impact that the agency's proposed clean power plan would have on electricity prices and power grid reliability. They write that EPA's proposal "will constrain Americans' energy choices and inflict significant economic harm without producing any tangible environmental benefits." The senators observe that "the emission rate targets are front-loaded, requiring a disproportionate percentage of emission rate reductions in the early years of the program. These unrealistic reduction rates do not account for the time needed to accommodate the infrastructure changes needed to achieve them." They also note that "states have very little time to prepare and submit implementation plans - 13 months from the time EPA issues a final rule with a possibility of a one-year extension for individual state plans or two-year extension for multi-state plans. This is simply not enough time for states to plan and prepare for such significant changes to their electricity generating portfolio, let alone address 'beyond-the-fence' energy efficiency programs" and allow regional transmission operators to evaluate and provide feedback on the state plans to address impacts on regional markets and ensure power reliability." The third fundamental issue they say needs to be resolved is "how EPA will account for electricity resources generated in one state but used in another." The senators conclude, "We strongly believe the best way to address the aforementioned concerns is by withdrawing this ill-conceived and overreaching rule in its entirety" . . . Sen. Coats voted against the nomination of Dr. Vivek Murthy to serve as U.S. Surgeon General. "It is baffling to me that the Obama Administration would put forward a candidate so wholly unqualified to serve as the nation's top doctor," said Sen. Coats. "Given the wide range of pressing health issues facing our country, the next surgeon general should have substantial experience in the medical field, which Dr. Murthy simply does not have. His history of controversial political activism in support of Obamacare and gun control is troubling. Partisanship and a liberal political agenda is not the prescription for the nation's leading spokesman on matters of public health" . . . Sen. Coats joined a bipartisan group of senators in a letter calling on Secretary of State John Kerry "to take expeditious action to protect Christians and other vulnerable religious minorities" facing persecution in Syria and Iraq, such as Christians and Yazidis, and to help them find refuge in the United States. The senators also urged the State Department to provide these minorities with better access to U.S. humanitarian aid . . . in a Facebook post, Sen. Coats sets the record straight for confused constituents on what the CRomnibus bill did, and why he voted for it. "This bill does not fund Obama's amnesty because funds appropriated by Congress aren't being used to implement any of what the Obama Administration plans to do. Instead, the administration is going to pay for its plan by using visa fees

... This means that once the Obama Administration starts granting amnesty, it will be paid for by fees collected from those trying to legally immigrate to the United States, not funds appropriated by Congress. What Congress can do to stop President Obama's amnesty plan is pass a bill prohibiting the use of visa fees to implement the executive action or attach this language as a rider on an appropriations bill. Republicans wanted to attach such a rider to the spending bill Congress just approved, but given that Democrats still control the Senate, it had no chance of passing. This is why Republicans fought to only fund DHS through February 27, 2015. By funding DHS only through February, a Republican House and Senate can attach a rider blocking Obama's amnesty plan to the next DHS appropriations bill."

● U.S. Sen. Joe Donnelly (D) joined four of his Senate Democratic colleagues in a December letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy expressing concerns with EPA's proposed rule to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from existing U.S. power plants. Sen. Donnelly and his colleagues identify key provisions of the Clean Power Plan, which the senators believe must be addressed in order to give states more flexibility to create their own plans to best meet the 2030 carbon dioxide emissions goals while "minimizing negative impacts on electric reliability and consumer rates across the country." The senators are particularly cynical about the initial year 2020 reductions developed by EPA, the 13-month timeframes for states to develop implementation plans (which do not take into account the full regional and national analysis required when multiple states set out to change key portions of their energy generating infrastructure, and the treatment of renewable electricity generation that crosses state lines), and the treatment of renewable electricity generation that crosses state lines that renders it difficult for states to account for renewable energy generation in their emission reduction plans.

IN State Circles . . .

● Bad news for the state. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is disapproving a December 5, 2012, request from the State of Indiana to redesignate Lake and Porter Counties to attainment of the 2008 ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS or standard) because Indiana has not demonstrated that the Chicago-Naperville, Illinois-Indiana-Wisconsin ozone nonattainment area, which includes Lake and Porter counties, has attained this NAAQS.

□ EPA is also disapproving Indiana's ozone maintenance plan and Motor Vehicle Emission Budgets for Volatile Organic Compounds and Nitrogen Oxides, submitted with Indiana's ozone redesignation request.

● In a 55-page ruling in *White v. State of Indiana*, 29A05-1312-PC-641, Court of Appeals Chief Judge Nancy Vaidik finds for a unanimous panel that three of the six counts against former secretary of state Charlie White (R) should be vacated, but upholds the key convictions and one-year home-detention sentence (Hamilton County Superior Court I Judge Steve Nation had imposed concurrent sentences for each charge).

□ While White failed to raise double-jeopardy violations in his appeal, the court, as was evidenced by Judge Vaidik in the oral argument (and the deputy attorney general arguing the case who adroitly sidestepped responsibility for the charging decision), found his fundamental rights sufficiently prejudiced that it raised the double jeopardy issue *sua sponte*. “White was convicted and punished for the very same act – making a false statement regarding his address on the form he used to change his voter registration,” as well as convicted and punished twice “for the very same act – the act of voting in the May 2010 primary election in Delaware Township when he lived in Fall Creek Township.”

□ A perjury count based on the address White provided on his marriage license application was also overturned (the conviction had been based upon him providing a street address, “which was not material to his marriage-license application – only the county of residency is material”) but the panel made it clear that it probably would have upheld such a conviction on false information, rather than perjury charges).

□ The appellate panel – comprised of three judges first appointed by Democratic governors – was decidedly unsympathetic to the rest of his “eight freestanding claims and eight claims of ineffective assistance of trial counsel” – requests for redress related to insufficient evidence, errors in jury instructions, prosecutorial misconduct, selective charging, and ineffective counsel by former Marion County prosecutor Carl Brizzi (R).

□ On his *Indiana Talks* online radio show after the ruling was handed down, White spent his full hour outlining his belief that the court still got it wrong on the counts that were upheld, explaining why the Republican establishment sought to silence him after his crusade to clean up Hamilton County (naming names and citing concerns ranging from pay-to-play international junkets for elected officials to mistreatment of women by party leaders), and continuing to insist that Indiana’s two most recent Republican governors should have faced residency charges as he did. He blasted the “psychopath” local prosecutor that initiated the chain of events, the “corrupt” special prosecutors who pursued charges against him, and contended that Attorney General “Greg Zoeller is continuing to protect them and their lies about the laws,” and promised more to come on the “elites.”

□ The Court of Appeals also uses the *White* case to suggest a pair of recommended changes to election law, and one seems to be phrased a bit more conclusively than the other. I.C. 3-14-3-1.1(1) requires an individual submit multiple materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent applications, and White contended a conviction on such charges required submission of multiple. The State argued that “to require more than one application would lead to absurd results and excuse a legitimate instance of voter fraud.” The panel noted the law “is indeed written in the plural. The legislature may wish to consider amending this section.

□ The appellate panel also observed that I.C. 3-5-2-3, which regulates a paper ballot, ballot card, or ballot, poses “a problem,” because “Hamilton County used a MicroVote Infinity direct-record electronic voting system in the May 2010 primary election. According to White, this electronic voting system does not utilize a paper ballot, ballot card, or ballot label, meaning it does not use a ballot as currently defined by Indiana Code section 3-5-2-3. As the State pointed out at oral argument, the statute has yet to be amended to account for new voting technology. Given the likelihood that electronic voting systems will be used with increasing frequency in the future, the legislature should amend Section 3-5-2-3’s definition of ballot to be more inclusive.”

- We told you a few months ago that you should expect efforts to regulate e-cigarettes and vaping in the 2015 session. The Office of the Attorney General will be pushing for new restrictions, and with the December revenue forecast anticipating a drop in cigarette tax collections, Rep. Ron Bacon (R), a respiratory therapist by training, will be carrying a bill to tax e-cigarettes at the same rate as tobacco cigarettes, looking to add another \$1 million to state coffers.

- While it took longer to undo Prohibition through a constitutional amendment than chip away at Indiana’s generations-old regulatory system for alcoholic beverage regulation, the chisel this session may be a bit sharper in recent years. Coming off her successful political efforts for Indianapolis Mayor Greg Ballard (R) and U.S. Rep. Luke Messer (R), Megan Robertson spearheaded the legislative lobbying effort against H.J.R. 3 (not missing a beat, she was also ready to campaign to against the amendment had it been on the Fall ballot), and she’s now leading Hoosiers for Sunday Sales, a coalition that includes the Indiana Chamber of Commerce, in an attempt to permit the sales of alcoholic beverages on Sundays in drug, grocery, liquor, and convenience stores.

□ While the package stores have traditionally found strong legislative allies in efforts to oppose any change, House Speaker Brian Bosma (R) is well aware of recent Ball State University Bowen Center for Public Affairs polling showing that a majority of Hoosier consumers believe that state law should be changed to legalize Sunday alcohol sales at retail stores, and he won’t be standing in its way. House Committee on Public Policy Chair Tom Dermody (R) spent the part of his Summer not devoted to collecting input on casino industry change options listening to business and consumer interests and public sector leaders on all levels of alcohol regulation and dereg, and is said to be readying a Sunday sales measure of his own.

□ The package stores point out that “More than 630 individuals are registered to lobby in the state of Indiana on the topic of alcohol,” and “very few work on behalf of the Indiana Association of Beverage Retailers representing package stores.” They are portraying this as an effort launched and funded by non-Hoosier interests and big-box retailers “with some local faces for appearances and window dressing,” and encourage Hoosiers to pull back the curtain on the Sunday Sales lobbying campaign and examine who is exactly pulling the strings.

□ Meanwhile . . . the day after session opens, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit will hear oral argument in Chicago in *Indiana Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Ass'n v. Johnson*, No. 14-2559, the equal protection appeal filed by the convenience stores over May's ruling by the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Indiana that state laws governing the conditions of sale of cold beer are justified by the State's interest in controlling alcohol sales. The Office of the Attorney General, in its reply brief defending the regulatory scheme, argues that the State has discretion under the 21st Amendment to regulate such sales, and the constitutional rights of the c-stores are not implicated. The brief positions the rubric as "rational because it clearly serves to greatly limit the sales of cold beer and places time and manner restrictions on its sale. The Indiana Legislature has clearly determined that it wants to reduce sales of cold beer, limit when cold beer may be sold and only permit such sales under strict sales requirements. All of these requirements rationally limit the immediate consumption of take-out beer after a sale and limit opportunities for juveniles to attempt to obtain cold beer."

● You may soon be able to legally purchase marijuana in Indiana, as the U.S. Department of Justice released a December 11 memo affirming the right of Native American tribes to grow and sell marijuana on their sovereign lands provided that they adhere to the minimal set of federal guidelines that govern use and sale of marijuana in the four states which have already legalized recreational use of the drug. That means that while state and local officials have been worrying about the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians opening a full-fledged casino near downtown South Bend when they gain federal approval for the land in trust, the bigger issue might be that the Pokagons could grow and sell marijuana to adults on the property, and do so without any state or federal taxation. Use of any such marijuana would still be prohibited outside the sovereign land, but you could foresee a situation where Hoosiers are able to pull into a convenience store on the Pokagon property close to DTSB, purchase gas without state sales tax, buy some cigarettes without tithing to the state, and also purchase some marijuana to smoke (or marijuana munchies to snack on) in the casino while gambling - gambling which would offer no return to the state unless the tribe were to deign to offer a minor share in compact "negotiations." The Pokagon casino a few minutes north of the Indiana border pays nothing to government units on its table win, six percent of slot win to the state, and two percent of slot win to local governments. In contrast, the Indiana casino just 10 minutes away pays an effective tax rate of 40% for every dollar through the door.

□ In case you didn't do a deep dive into December's controversial CRomnibus bill, Sen. Karen Tallian (D) did, and she discovered that the measure effectively offers protection for federal opposition to legalized medicinal marijuana programs in the 23 states that have authorized such efforts. She reports that "I have a bill ready to file to legalize medical marijuana. I am ready and eager to get to work after this last major federal obstacle has been lifted."

● The Indiana University Public Policy Institute hopes to generate that chief justice-lieutenant governor karma again with a new bicentennial legacy project co-chaired by former CJ Randy Shepard and former LG Kathy Davis (D) which will involve a trio of place-based commissions evaluating issues affecting Indiana's urban communities, suburban and medium-sized communities, and rural communities, culminating in a gubernatorial forum in August 2016. Discussion and recommendations will be framed around issues such as workforce development and education; sustainability and the environment; infrastructure; health, arts, amenities and recreation; and local government finance. The "Policy Choices for Indiana's Future: Thriving Communities, Thriving State" end-product will involve recommendations to state and local policy leaders about which current policies help or hinder communities, where policy gaps exist, and what policy changes are needed to support communities.

● The Family and Social Services Administration is casting about for a vendor to satisfy the State's need for Enrollment Broker Services to serve the Medicaid managed care programs, which includes Hoosier Healthwise, Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP), and the Hoosier Care Connect care management program. The enrollment broker services for the Medicaid managed care programs include educating enrollees, facilitating enrollment, and maintaining the Hoosier Healthwise, HIP, and Hoosier Care Connect Help lines. In the aggregate, the State spends ≈ \$4.1 million annually on Enrollment Broker Services.

□ FSSA separately seeks a vendor to supplement in-house public relations and advertising capabilities and satisfy the its need for a public relations "agency of record" that can provide quality advertising and public relations services (public awareness, marketing, advertising, or public relations) support for internal and external audiences. Respondents will be required to provide account management and production work under such a contract, which may include such responsibilities as working with stakeholder groups; offering website development and social media strategies, content, and updates; evaluating and coordinating event sponsorships and participation; and e-mail campaigns. The respondent will be paid a monthly retainer covering a significant number of hours each month, hourly for all work authorized that exceeds those retained hours, plus pre-authorized travel or production expenses. In the aggregate, FSSA anticipates it will spend at least \$120,000 annually on public relations services covered by this RFP, plus pass-through costs for production.

● The Office of Utility Consumer Counselor is recommending \$114.8 million in rate relief for Duke Energy customers in connection with ongoing cost recovery for the utility's Edwardsport Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle (IGCC) Station. In testimony filed December 15, OUCC is asking the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission to require Duke to refund approximately \$51.6 million to Indiana customers based on projected estimates of the plant's expenses once it was technically "in service." Those costs have been included in the utility's rates since September 2013. OUCC also recommends that IURC disallow about \$63.2 million in costs Duke is seeking to recover from Indiana customers through rates.

□ A 2012 settlement agreement requires costs related to “startup, testing, validation, and commissioning” be borne by Duke shareholders, and not by Indiana ratepayers. The key disagreement in the pending cost recovery case focuses on when the Edwardsport plant was actually placed “in service.” Duke Energy, in its testimony, considers the plant “in service” and fully operational as of June 7, 2013. However, OUCC testimony contends that the plant remained in a “start-up” status before and after the alleged “in-service” date, and all throughout the periods that are currently being reviewed for cost recovery. Indiana Utility Consumer Counselor David Stippler explains that “While state law allows a utility to recover costs through rates for a plant that is fully operational and providing electricity to customers, these costs do not rise to that level.” Duke Energy has until January 15 to file rebuttal testimony in this case, with an IURC evidentiary hearing scheduled to start on February 2.

● A new Congressional Research Service analysis details how many chemical facilities in each state threaten the lives of Americans, using data submitted by the chemical industry to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to calculate how many people would be threatened by the release of chemicals caused by a terrorist attack or accident at chemical facilities in each state. The EPA database includes facilities that use large quantities of 140 of the most toxic and flammable chemicals, including chlorine, chemicals containing arsenic, and propane (but not yet including ammonium nitrate). Indiana ranks sixth nationally among states with the greatest number of chemical facilities with dangerous chemicals, with 458 such facilities. Two of the other states in the Top 10 are adjacent to us: Illinois in second place (939 facilities) and Ohio in ninth (402).

● Last Winter, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security County Travel Status Map was the most visited page on IN.gov, generating almost 5 million unique visitors between December 1, 2013, and March 31, 2014.

● Attorney General Greg Zoeller (R) was one of 22 state attorneys general signing a letter urging the Department of Defense to strengthen proposed revisions to regulations implementing the federal Military Lending Act (MLA).

● Look for Sen. Scott Schneider (R), joined by Sen. Dennis Kruse (R), to author legislation to try to allow Indiana to become the 20th state to pass a religious freedom law. One lawmaker who was an ardent advocate of H.J.R. 3 last year tells us that this bill “may rip open the marriage amendment wounds.”

□ You may see this measure ultimately merged with the “Merry Christmas Bill” authored by Sen. Jim Smith (R) that passed the Senate on a unanimous vote last year, but was never considered by the House. Sen. Smith plans to broaden his 2014 measure from allowing Christmas celebrations in public schools as long as they do not encourage a certain belief, to protecting religious displays on city and town properties if they are coupled with secular displays or recognize multiple faiths.

● The Office of the Attorney General filed an amicus brief co-authored by the State of Indiana and 39 school corporations with the Supreme Court of the United States December 29 in *King v. Burwell*, No. 14-114. The Supreme Court in 2015 is expected to hear oral arguments soon in *Burwell*, an appeal from the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, in which petitioners contend the Internal Revenue Service is unconstitutionally interpreting the Affordable Care Act to require tax credits and employer mandate penalties in the 27 states that do not operate a health-insurance purchasing exchange. The petitioners argue that ACA language means the tax credits and employer mandate penalties apply only in those states that have established an exchange – and don’t apply in states that opted against establishing one. In the amicus brief, the school corporations are represented by Bose McKinney & Evans LLP; the State is represented by OAG. Solicitor General Thomas M. Fisher co-authored the amicus brief.

□ The Supreme Court’s ultimate decision in *Burwell* will have a direct bearing on a lawsuit that the State of Indiana and 39 school corporations, as employers, brought against the IRS to negate the employer mandate penalties of \$2,000 per employee. That case, *State of Indiana v. IRS*, is pending in U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Indiana. Attorney General Greg Zoeller (R) reiterates his position that “The Employer Mandate’s tax penalty – if applicable without a State’s consent – is a direct tax on the State and its political subdivisions” that applies to each state entity directly as an employer, and not indirectly as an excise tax. “It forces each State either to pay the tax or to engage in Congress’ desired behavior. Such a direct tax would plainly be unconstitutional if Indiana levied it on the United States, so it is hard to understand how it could be constitutional when roles are reversed.” He adds, “The IRS’s interpretation that it could tax a state government or its local units violates intergovernmental tax immunity, we contend, and raises significant Tenth Amendment questions. Rather than joining another state’s amicus brief, it was important that Indiana and the 39 schools submit our own brief for the Supreme Court’s understanding.”

● The Coliseum at the State Fairgrounds cut a new naming rights deal with Carmel-based Indiana Farmers Mutual Insurance after spending a bundle to retain Denver-based Impression Sports & Entertainment to honcho the search . . . but you may be interested to know they may have passed up a bigger deal with another Hoosier home-owned company as a result of a deal quietly inked with the new Indianapolis Fuel hockey team which plays in the facility. A naming rights contract with the Fuel prohibited the State Fair folks from soliciting liquor, tobacco, gaming (and specifically the Hoosier Lottery), and a few other industries for naming rights, and though that agreement ended December 31, the State Fair Commission announced the new 10-year, \$6 million deal with Indiana Farmers early in December (and the cash goes to the Fuel, not the Fairgrounds). The move pre-empted at least one prominent local company involved in the ag-equine business which had made inquiries as early as the Summer from being able to top the offer, as we understand the Commission told the big-bucks potential sponsor that it would not even talk to them until the calendar turned to 2015.

- In Advisory Opinion No. 14-I-27 (issued in December), the State Ethics Commission holds that even though a state employee “is currently in dissolution proceedings,” because she is still married to her “spouse, who is a registered executive branch lobbyist with a major law firm, and who also represents clients that have or may be seeking to have contracts with the state employee’s agency],” the conflict of interest statutes apply.

□ Further, the Commission notes that “A parent is not included in the definition of ‘immediate family’ for the purposes of IC 4-2-6-9. Therefore, a conflict of interest under this provision would not arise for [the employee] if she were to participate in a decision or vote in which her father would have a financial interest in the outcome of the matter as long as her relationship with her father would not be considered that of a housemate. However, to avoid even the appearance of impropriety, it would be advisable for the [agency] to implement their proposed screening procedures to prevent [the employee] from involvement in any and all decisions, planning, and involvement in any matters relating to her father or his clients, or matters that may include her father’s current employers.”

- WDRB-TV in Louisville reports that “CSX and Jeffersonville, Ind.-based Louisville & Indiana Railroad Co., which owns the Indiana line, proposed a privately-funded deal last year in which CSX would invest up to \$90 million to improve the line between Louisville and Indianapolis and pay \$10 million for the rights to use the renovated tracks. The U.S. Surface Transportation Board is reviewing the companies’ application and taking comments until Dec. 1. The board could rule on the deal by early 2015. If approved, the move would shuffle existing railroad traffic in the region, removing some trains from the Louisville-Cincinnati route, according to documents filed with federal regulators. More trains would start using other tracks in Louisville and Southern Indiana,” and comments in the docket suggest that grade crossing delays can increase, and in Clark County, “a longer line of vehicles waiting to cross Charlestown Road would temporarily block an Interstate 65 exit ramp,” and “farther north, in Indiana and Ohio, some elected officials worry about increased delays at already congested railroad crossings and whether more trains will hinder emergency responders. But few other concerns are mentioned in comments submitted to federal regulators.” “The project involves replacing links of older tracks with a modern, continually-welded line that will allow faster and longer trains, with individual cars carrying 18,000 pounds of additional freight.”

□ But the plans to improve more than 100 miles of train tracks between Indianapolis and Kentucky are received a mixed reaction, with some local officials in communities already having issues with train-induced traffic delays lamenting increased rail movement, while business leaders and economic development officials throw their weight behind the upgrades, citing the attendant potential increases in employment from the better logistics.

- Porter County Prosecutor Brian Gensel (R) is seeking a special prosecutor “to decide if a criminal charge will be filed against newly-elected state Rep. Michael Aylesworth, R-Hebron, on allegations he was illegally inside a polling place for several hours on election day,” reports Bob Kasarda for the *Times of Northwest Indiana*. Rep. “Aylesworth, a former Porter County commissioner, former member of the County Council and former county GOP chair, is accused of using GOP-issued credentials to serve as a poll book holder within the Hebron Community Center where all five Boone Township precincts vote The county election board first heard the complaint, but referred it to the county prosecutor after determining the criminal nature of the accusation was beyond its charge. The members also did not want to foul the investigation. Indianapolis-based attorney Steve Runyan ... argued before the election board that Aylesworth left the polling place when asked and thus committed no offense because he was not acting in a reckless manner”

IN the Economy

- Indiana’s seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate held steady in November at 5.7%, the third consecutive month at that rate during a period in which our surrounding states and the nation as a whole have seen a drop in their respective rates. Department of Workforce Development officials continue to attribute the failure of the rate to decrease to the return of a large number of individuals (12,344 in November - 11th-best nationally, down from 14,095 in October) to the Hoosier labor force. Almost two-thirds (63.6%) of Hoosiers are participating in the labor force, which is almost one full percentage point higher than the national average. November marked the eighth month in a row in which Indiana has exceeded the national rate.

□ While Indiana and its adjacent states - and 41 states in toto - all enjoyed year-over-year declines in their respect unemployment rates (although Indiana did not improve as much as our neighbors), only Indiana and Illinois failed to post an improvement from October to November (but Illinois is at its lowest jobless rate since June 2008). Among the 12 U.S. Census-designated Midwestern states, Michigan posted the region’s highest unemployment rate for November, followed by Illinois and then Indiana. As has been the case since May, Ohio’s unemployment rate is lower than Indiana’s rate, but in only two of the first 11 months of 2014 has the Indiana unemployment rate topped six percent. The Indiana unemployment rate has been below the national rate in every month of 2014 so far, with an 11 consecutive-month streak beginning in January. Indiana’s decline of 5.1 percentage points since July 2009, the low point of recession-era employment in the state, ranks third in the nation, up from fourth in October. November also marks the 11th consecutive month Indiana’s unemployment rate has been below the national average. Indiana’s unemployment rate has not grown since May to June, but the decline stalled in October after dropping progressively from July through September (Illinois also saw seven consecutive months of declines stymied in October).

□ Over the past year, Indiana’s labor force has increased by 75,345, which ranks seventh in the nation in raw numbers added. The state grew by 15,800 private sector jobs in November, the largest number of jobs the state has added in a one-month period in 15 years, with the state ranking sixth nationally in this category for the month. During November, the 0.6% rate of private sector growth in Indiana was double that of the 0.3% national rate. Since the low-employment point in July 2009, Indiana has added 264,800 private sector jobs, which ranks ninth in the nation, at a rate of 11.4%, which ranks seventh nationally. Private sector gains spanned almost every sector, led by large increases concentrated in Professional & Business Services. Indiana has now experienced private sector job growth in almost 75% (17) of the past 23 months, with gains averaging 4,500 per month during that period. Since July 2009, the low point of recession-era employment in Indiana, the Hoosier State has added 264,800 private sector jobs, with the Manufacturing sector accounting for more than one-third of the total (94,700). Indiana’s Total Nonfarm employment (3.02 million) now exceeds the all-time peak of employment in March 2000 of 3,017,200.

□ Sectors that were able to post gains in November include: Professional and Business Services (6,400, third in the nation, and the growth rate of two percent also ranks third nationally); Trade, Transportation & Utilities (3,400, seventh in the U.S.); Manufacturing (2,300, 10th in the nation); Financial Activities (1,900, fifth in the nation, at a rate of 1.4%, which also ranks fifth); Private Educational & Health Services (1,800), and Construction (1,500). The Leisure and Hospitality (-1,500) sector was the only one to experience declines in November. Total nonfarm employment increased in November by 15,100. The Terre Haute MSA recorded the nation’s second-largest increase in construction jobs over the past 12 months.

□ We continue to lead the nation in Manufacturing job growth in 2014 (24,900), and also lead with our five percent rate of growth in 2014. Indiana has also added the second most Manufacturing jobs nationally (94,700) in the U.S. since July 2009, at a 22.1% rate that ranks third nationally.

| | 10/14 | 10/13 | 09/14 | 08/14 | 07/14 | 06/14 | Monthly | Annual |
|----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|---------|
| Indiana | 5.7% | 7.1% | 5.7% | 5.8% | 5.9% | 5.9% | 0.0% | (-1.4%) |
| Illinois | 6.6% | 9.1% | 6.6% | 6.7% | 6.8% | 7.1% | 0.0% | (-2.5%) |
| Kentucky | 6.2% | 8.2% | 6.7% | 7.1% | 7.4% | 7.4% | (-0.5%) | (-2.0%) |
| Michigan | 7.1% | 8.6% | 7.2% | 7.4% | 7.7% | 7.5% | (-0.1%) | (-1.5%) |
| Ohio | 5.3% | 7.4% | 5.6% | 5.7% | 5.7% | 5.5% | (-0.3%) | (-2.1%) |
| National | 5.8% | 7.2% | 5.9% | 6.1% | 6.2% | 6.1% | (-0.1%) | (-1.4%) |

□ No county has placed in the double-digit unemployment range since February (when two counties were at 10.0% or greater), but November’s unemployment rate for the most troubled county in the state was edging up closer to eight percent (7.9% the same as the July high, up from 7.3% in October and from 7.2% in September, but down from 8.8% in June for the county with the highest Hoosier unemployment). There were only 22 counties at 5.0% or lower November unemployment, down from 43 in and 52 in September, the fewest at 5.0% or less since 12 counties trailed that level in June.

□ During November, the Elkhart-Goshen metropolitan area posted the nation’s third-largest over-the-year percentage increase in nonfarm payroll employment (4.6%), trailing only two areas in Texas. Northwest and Northeast Indiana had tough months, but Southwest Indiana fared better in terms of jobless rates. After two successive months in third place, Fayette County joins Lake County (“Joblessness rose in every major city and town in the Calumet Region by at least 0.4 percentage point in November,” finds Joseph Pete of the *Times of Northwest Indiana* after parsing the numbers) atop the chart in November with 7.9% unemployment. Lake County leaped to the top of the chart in unemployment rate in August, at 7.7% and remained there in September at 7.2%, but in October, Sullivan County’s 7.3% eclipsed Lake County for the state’s highest unemployment rate, moving up from 7.1% in September . . . and kept climbing, but its 7.7% November rate placed third. Fayette County last led the state in May. Once again, no counties reached 8.0% unemployment, but nine hit 7.0% or higher (after three in October and two in September, the highest number since 10 did so in July). Five counties were at 8.0% or higher in June, and as recently as February, there were 24 counties posting unemployment rates of 8.0% or higher.

□ At the other end of the scale, Dubois County continues to post the lowest unemployment rate (for the 26th time in the last 31 months), but its 4.1% rate is higher than October’s 3.8% and September’s 3.4% rate (its highest since 4.3% in June). Hamilton County and Bartholomew County again post second-best unemployment rates, edging up to 4.4% each the month, up from 4.4% for both in October and 3.8% for both in September. They last touched four percent in August.

● Indiana’s Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund loan balance with the federal government declined to \$850.55 million as of December 23, 2014. Only three states had higher balances: California, Ohio, and New York, and only nine states had any outstanding balances, down from 18 states at this time last year.

□ If a state has taken out UI Trust Fund loans to meet its state unemployment benefits liabilities and has not repaid the loans within the allowable timeframe, a reduction in the credit against the full Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA) tax rate is levied. This means that employers paying wages subject to UI tax in those states, such as Indiana, will owe a greater amount of FUTA tax. The U.S. Department of Labor reports the states tapping the feds for UI Trust Fund bucks all applied for a waiver of the 2014 additional credit reduction – and the feds determined that each of these states met all of the criteria of that section necessary to qualify for the waiver of the additional credit reduction. “Further, the additional credit reduction of section 3302(c)(2)(B) is zero for these States for 2014. Therefore, employers in these States will have no additional credit reduction applied for calendar year 2014.”

□ Indiana’s outstanding debt means Hoosier employers face a FUTA credit reduction of 1.5% (an additional \$105 per employee) for 2014, up from 1.2% in 2013 (an additional \$84 per employee). Indiana is one of only two states (the other is Connecticut, at 1.7%, an additional \$119 per employee) with a FUTA credit reduction for 2014 of at least 1.5 percent.

□ Indiana has now been borrowing for more than six years from the federal government - since November 2008. Current projections have Indiana paying off the Trust Fund loan balance in May 2016, which would mean the elimination of the FUTA penalty beginning in 2017 - which is only about 18 months away, and comes well ahead of the original timeline that projected a return to solvency in 2020.

□ Indiana will have paid out about \$425 million in unemployment insurance benefits in 2014, down from a peak of \$1.865 billion in 2009. Premiums, which have exceeded benefits since 2012, totaled \$704 million in 2014.

● As January loomed, Indiana's 13 gaming properties continued on track to report the largest year-end revenue decline the state has ever experienced, we recently told readers of our sister newsletter, **INDIANA GAMING INSIGHT** (a phenomenon we initially laid out in discouraging detail in a mid-year forecast).

● In addition to its expensive advertising partnership with the Indiana Pacers, the Indiana Economic Development Corporation signs on for an undisclosed amount of cash to be an associate sponsor for CFH Racing (the Sarah Fisher - Ed Carpenter partnership) for the Angie's List Grand Prix of Indianapolis, the Indianapolis 500, and the 2015 Verizon IndyCar Series season-concluding Grand Prix of Sonoma.

□ Carpenter is the stepson of Tony George; the Hulman-George family won a \$100 million bonding package from the State last year . . . and Fisher has appeared in television ads touting Western Governors University Indiana. Angie's List, the new big-buck sponsor of the May road course event, received a big infusion of state support just before announcing its 2015 race sponsorship.

● The Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council releases its 19th annual "Small Business Policy Index 2014: Ranking the States on Policy Measures and Costs Impacting Small Business and Entrepreneurship," ranking the 50 states according to 42 different policy measures, including a wide array of tax, regulatory, and government spending measurements. Indiana ranks eighth nationally on the SBE Council ladder.

● The U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Natural Resources Revenue announced that more than \$2.2 billion was disbursed to 36 states, counties, and political subdivisions as part of the state share of Federal revenues collected in Fiscal Year 2014 from energy and mineral production that occurred on Federal lands within their borders, and offshore on the Outer Continental Shelf . . . and Indiana pockets just \$6,482.09 from the federal largesse *we'd tell you what percentage of the total this was, but our calculator doesn't display that many zeroes to the right of the decimal).

● Indianapolis was the only market to suffer a year-over-year decline (- 2.6%) in home values during 2014, according to the online real estate marketplace Zillow, even as the national average rose by 6.1 percent.

● While assorted other governmental, quasi-governmental, and not-for-profit entities are taking property off the tax rolls, the Indianapolis Airport Authority announces a land use initiative to support economic development by returning 9,000 acres with an estimated value of \$83 million to productive use while creating an estimated annual tax value of \$1.7 million and preserving land for future terminal expansion and wildlife habitats. IAA is taking a collaborative, regional approach to airport-area development through the IND AeroVision Interlocal Cooperation Agreement, involving the surrounding entities who have a stake in the airport's daily operations.

● Michigan-based Chase Plastic Services, Inc., a specialty engineering thermoplastic stocking distributor, plans to expand its South Bend operations with an investment of \$5.82 million to construct and equip a new 125,000 square-foot facility, expecting to create up almost 15 new jobs by 2017. IEDC offers Chase up to \$114,000 in performance-based tax credits, and the City of South Bend approved additional incentives . . . Scorpion Protective Coatings Inc., a Cloverdale manufacturer of specialty coatings, window films, and truck-bed liner systems, plans to invest \$270,000 to expand and renovate its Putnam County headquarters and production facility, expecting to create as many as 25 new jobs by 2018. IEDC offers up to \$150,000 in performance-based tax credits . . . Safety Training Services, Inc., a consulting and training firm for workplace safety, today to invest \$1.33 million to purchase and equip a new 18,000 square-foot facility within which to expand its in Highland operations, expecting to create more than 15 new jobs by 2017. IEDC offers Safety Training Services, Inc. up to \$85,000 in performance-based tax credits, and up to \$35,000 in training grants. The City of Highland approved additional incentives . . . FCA US LLC plans to invest an additional \$266 million in its Kokomo Transmission Plant to increase capacity of the fuel-efficient TorqueFlite transmission . . . after considering sites in eight states and narrowing the list down to three, Memory Ventures, a digital conversion and consumer home décor company, plans to shift its operations from Torrance, California to a building under construction in downtown Fishers, bringing more than 20 employees with them, and looking to hire about 115 additional workers locally . . . Conner Insurance, Inc., a provider of custom employee benefits and commercial insurance, plans to invest \$1.07 million to expand and equip its offices in Indianapolis, expecting to create almost 25 new jobs by 2019. IEDC offers Conner Insurance up to \$425,000 in performance-based tax credits and up to \$175,000 in training grants . . . Indianapolis-based Simple Meds LLC, a startup pharmaceutical home-delivery firm plans to invest \$900,000 to equip a 5,500 square-foot share of a building in northeast Indianapolis for use as a distribution center, and seeks a three-year business personal property tax abatement from the city to help it with plans to hire more than 45 workers by the end of 2020.

IN Transition

● Jen Pittman becomes communications director for Indianapolis Mayor Greg Ballard (R) January 5. Marc Lotter leaves the Ballard Administration to pursue other opportunities after having served since November 2010. Pittman currently is vice president of programs at Simon Youth Foundation, where she leads public-private partnership development efforts focused on dropout prevention and recovery. In previous work for the City, she was deputy director of Indy Parks, and marketing director in the Mayor's Office. She also led communications director at the Friedman Foundation for Educational Choice and for the (Rokita Administration) Secretary of State's Office.

- Lewis Ricci, executive director of the Indiana Arts Commission, is elected to his second term on the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA) board of directors.

- After spending more than 20 years as a reporter for the *Indianapolis News* and *Indianapolis Star*, Bill McCleery turns from being an ink-stained wretch to a digital one, heading to work for “the Indiana Office of Technology working on web content for a number of state agencies.”

- The Governor makes new appointments and reappointments to assorted boards and commissions: John Meredith of Wayne County is appointed to serve a two-year term on the State Workforce Innovation Council through October 31, 2016 . . . reappointed to the Medical Licensing Board for four-year terms through November 30, 2018 are Dr. Rebecca Moredock-Mueller of Hancock County and Victoria McCann of Hamilton County . . . Derek Dyer of Huntington County joins the Chiropractic Board of Examiners for a three-year term through October 31, 2017 . . . the Auctioneer Commission roster will have some old and new faces familiar to legislative observers. John Kruse of DeKalb County and Pete Shawver of Jay County are appointed to serve three-year terms through October 31, 2017, while those reappointed to three-year terms through October 31, 2017 are Jack Lawson of Hendricks County, Jimmie Yagle of Knox County, and Gregory Michael of Carroll County . . . Gregory Xanders of Knox County is appointed to the Board of Mines and Mining to serve a four-year term through October 31, 2018 . . . Gina Stuart of Vigo County is appointed to serve a four-year term on the Real Estate Appraiser Certification Board through October 31, 2018 . . . new to the State Soil Conservation Board are Martin Chattin of Knox County and Robert Woodling of Monroe County, both appointed to serve four-year terms through November 30, 2018. Warren Baird of Tipton County and Larry Clemens of Steuben County are reappointed to serve three-year terms through November 30, 2017, and Scott Ham of Floyd County and Robert Eddleman of Marion County are reappointed to serve four-year terms through November 30, 2018 . . . Dr. Maria Poor of Hancock County is appointed to the State Board of Behavioral Health and Human Services to serve the remainder of an unexpired three-year term through April 30, 2017.

IN the Lobby

- Barnes & Thornburg LLP files a federal lobby registration on behalf of Stonecastle Advisors, LLC, a New York City-based closed-end investment fund to lobby on “Amendment to the Investment Company Act of 1940.”

- District Economics Group LLC of Washington, D.C., files a federal lobby registration for Navient, the Fishers-based affiliate of Sallie Mae that is its servicer for federal student loans, to lobby Congress on “Private debt collection of federal tax debts.”

- Venn Strategies, LLC of Washington, D.C. filed a federal lobby registration on behalf of Indianapolis-based Herff Jones, Inc., a manufacturer of educational recognition and achievement products, to lobby Congress on “ERISA issues impacting ESOPs.”

- Capitol Counsel, LLC of Washington, D.C., files a federal lobby registration for Evansville-based Mead Johnson Nutrition to lobby Congress on “Issues related to the Reauthorization of the Child Nutrition Act.”

- Duke Energy’s Laura Schenkel Johnson is promoted to government affairs specialist, expanding her role and activities for the energy company at the State House.

- Hilary Segura leaves the Illinois governor’s office to join the Property Casualty Insurers Association of America state government relations team with regional staff duties overseeing states including Indiana. She also served as senior policy advisor for Illinois’ Department of Insurance and oversaw state relations for American Family Insurance in several Midwest states.

IN Court

- If you were listening closely to the keynote address by Chief Justice Loretta Rush at the Bingham Greenebaum Doll Legislative Conference in association with INGroup, you heard the CJ make an important announcement in her typical low-key manner. She says that the Supremes are looking into developing a business court model for commercial litigation, replete with specialized judges and its own docket. This would be revolutionary for Indiana . . . and if it should progress to the point of requiring legislation to be authorized and implemented, you can look for lawmakers who have long viewed the operations of the Indiana Tax Court with a jaundiced eye to try to restructure that appellate tribunal.

□ Chief Justice Rush also noted that the Court is working to expand the integrated case management to all 92 counties and fully implement electronic filing requirements. She noted that paper filing is “costing the State lots of money.” Expect to hear some details on pending changes in the State of the Judiciary Address this month.

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