



STATE OF INDIANA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
State House, Second Floor
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Eric J. Holcomb
Governor

November 20, 2017

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Mr. Tony Cook
Reporter
Indianapolis Star
tony.cook@indystar.com

Re: Public Records Request 17-28

Dear Mr. Cook:

The Office of Governor Eric J. Holcomb ("Governor's Office") has received your requests for public records that were made pursuant to Indiana's Access to Public Records Act ("APRA"). Originally, you submitted a letter containing eight (8) public record requests, as follows:

1. *Mike Pence's personal email accounts (including but not limited to mpence1314@aol.com) and any non-state government account (that is, any account that does not end with "in.gov") from Jan. 13, 2013 to July 13, 2013, containing the words "security," "homeland," "safety," "terror," "terrorism," "terrorist," "terrorists," or "national guard."*
2. *Mike Pence's personal email accounts (including but not limited to mpence1314@aol.com) and Bill Smith from Jan. 14, 2013 to July 13, 2013, containing the word "security," "homeland," "safety," "terror," "terrorism," "terrorist," "terrorists," or "national guard."*
3. *Mike Pence's personal email accounts (including but not limited to mpence1314@aol.com) and any non-state government account (that is, any account that does not end with "in.gov") from Nov. 1, 2015 to April 20, 2016, containing the word "refugee," "refugees," "Syria," or "Syrian."*
4. *Mike Pence's personal email accounts (including but not limited to mpence1314@aol.com) and Bill Smith from Nov. 1, 2015 to April 20, 2016, containing the word "refugee," "refugees," "Syria," or "Syrian."*
5. *Mike Pence's state and personal email accounts (including but not limited to mpence1314@aol.com, mpence1959@aol.com and MRP@gov.in.gov) and Donald Trump from June 25, 2016 to Dec 31, 2016, containing the word "Vice President," "VP," "veep," "Ted," "Cruz," "running mate," "golf," "New Jersey," "breakfast," "dinner," "audition," "pick," "meet," or "meeting."*

6. Mike Pence's state and personal email accounts (including but not limited to mpence1314@aol.com, mpence1959@aol.com and MRP@gov.in.gov) and any non-state government account (that is, any account that does not end with "in.gov") from June 25, 2016 to Dec 31, 2016, containing the word "Trump," "Donald," "DT," "DJT," "Vice President," "VP," "veep," "running mate."

7. Mike Pence's state and personal email accounts (including but not limited to mpence1314@aol.com, mpence1959@aol.com and MRP@gov.in.gov) and Bill Smith from June 25, 2016 to Dec 31, 2016, containing the word "Trump," "Donald," "DT," "DJT," "Vice President," "VP," "veep," "running mate."

8. Mike Pence's state or personal email accounts (including but not limited to mpence1314@aol.com, mpence1959@aol.com, and MRP@gov.in.gov) and Jim Atterholt from June 25, 2016 to Dec 31, 2016, containing the word "Trump," "Donald," "DT," "DJT," "Vice President," "VP," "veep," "running mate."

In August, the Governor's Office produced certain records to you that were responsive to Request #2 above, along with a letter indicating that we were performing searches on Requests #4, #5, #7 and #8 and would complete them and respond to you on a rolling basis. Subsequent thereto, the Governor's Office produced additional records in late September pertaining to searches conducted with respect to Requests #4, #5, #7 and #8, again on a rolling basis.

The above-referenced August letter to you also indicated that Requests #1, #3 and #6 needed clarification before records could be located and produced. In response, you sent a letter amending and replacing Requests #1, #3 and #6, with the following two (2) new requests:

- Any electronic communications between Mike Pence (including both his state email account, personal email accounts used for state business) and Bill Smith, Jim Atterholt, Christy Denault, Kara Brooks, Victor Smith, Katelyn Hancock, Karen Pence, Steve Akard, Kent Anderson, Dan Coats, Marc Short, Marty Obst, Nick Ayers, Josh Pitcock, or Andrea Thompson from Jan. 1, 2014 to June 30, 2014 that include the following keywords: Russia, Russian, Russians, Putin, missile, shield, NATO, Germany, Berlin, Poland, Czech, Ukraine, sanctions, sanction, Crimea, foreign policy, military action, Turkey, Syria or cybersecurity.
- Any electronic communications between Mike Pence (including both his state email account and personal email accounts used for state business) and Bill Smith, Jim Atterholt, Matt Lloyd, Victor Smith, Karen Pence, Dan Coats, Marc Short, Marty Obst, Nick Ayers, Josh Pitcock, Michael Flynn, Donald Trump, Donald Trump Jr., Eric Trump, Paul Manafort, Steve Bannon, Jared Kushner, Jeff Sessions, Reince Priebus or Andrea Thompson from July 1, 2016 to Dec. 31, 2016 that include the following keywords: Russia, Russian, Russians, Putin, missile, shield, NATO, Germany, Berlin, Poland, Czech, Ukraine, sanctions, sanction, Crimea, foreign policy, military action, Turkey, Syria, cyber security, foreign agent, Flynn, Donald, Trump, DJT, D.J.T., DT, D.T., President or President-elect.

As a courtesy, we are providing responsive records to you free of charge. In connection with your first new request set forth immediately above, we have searched the emails maintained by the State and those produced electronically by the former governor from his email accounts for documents to/from (or which cc'd or bcc'd) Bill Smith, Jim Atterholt, Christy Denault, Kara Brooks, Victor Smith, Katelyn Hancock, Karen Pence, Steve Akard, Kent Anderson, Dan Coats, Marc Short, Marty Obst, Nick Ayers, Josh Pitcock or Andrea Thompson, in the relevant time period, for emails containing one or more of the words: "Russia," "Russian," "Russians," "Putin," "missile," "shield," "NATO," "Germany," "Berlin," "Poland," "Czech," "Ukraine," "sanctions," "sanction," "Crimea," "foreign policy," "military action," "Turkey," "Syria," or "cybersecurity."

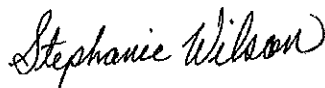
In connection with your second new request set forth above, we have searched the emails maintained by the State and those produced electronically by the former governor from his email accounts for documents to/from (or which cc'd or bcc'd) Bill Smith, Jim Atterholt, Matt Lloyd, Victor Smith, Karen Pence, Dan Coats, Marc Short, Marty Obst, Nick Ayers, Josh Pitcock, Michael Flynn, Donald Trump, Donald Trump Jr., Eric Trump, Paul Manafort, Steve Bannon, Jared Kushner, Jeff Sessions, Reince Priebus or Andrea Thompson, in the relevant time period, for emails containing one or more of the words: "Russia," "Russian," "Russians," "Putin," "missile," "shield," "NATO," "Germany," "Berlin," "Poland," "Czech," "Ukraine," "sanctions," "sanction," "Crimea," "foreign policy," "military action," "Turkey," "Syria," "cyber security," "foreign agent," "Flynn," "Donald, Trump," "DJT," "D.J.T.," "DT," "D.T.," "President" or "President-elect."

Please note we also completed our searches in connection with Requests #4, #5, #7 and #8 (including the emails maintained by the State), for which we previously provided a response to you back in September.

Certain records, and/or portions of records, have been withheld from disclosure, and are not being produced in this response, in accordance with and as permitted by the laws of the State of Indiana, as follows: (i) Indiana Code § 5-14-3-4(b)(6), records that are advisory or deliberative material; and (ii) Indiana Code § 5-14-3-4(a)(8), records declared confidential under rules adopted by the Indiana Supreme Court, specifically attorney-client privilege documents pursuant to Indiana Trial Rule 26(B)(1) and the Indiana Rule of Professional Conduct 1.6(a). The person responsible for the denial and/or withholding of records, or portions thereof, is Mr. Joseph R. Heerens, General Counsel.

In light of the above and the records that are enclosed herewith, the Governor's Office has completed its response to your public records requests and is closing its file at this time.

Sincerely,



Stephanie Wilson
Press Secretary

Enclosures
cc: File

From: Brooks, Kara D
Sent: Wed 4/16/2014 3:27 PM (GMT-04:00)
To: "Matt Lloyd" <matthewhlloyd@gmail.com>, "Denault, Christina" <CDenault@gov.IN.gov>
Cc: "Mike Pence" <MPENCE1314@aol.com>, "Joshua Pitcock" <joshpitcock@ [REDACTED]>, "Marc Short" <mshort@ [REDACTED]>, "Smith, William A" <BSmith@gov.IN.gov>
Bcc:
Subject: RE: national press coverage

The FOX producer told me this morning that Wendell Goler is putting together a package on Ukraine and is incorporating the Governor's speech into that story tonight. I believe his package is running at 6:00 p.m. EST.

From: Matt Lloyd [mailto:matthewhlloyd@ [REDACTED]]
Sent: Wednesday, April 16, 2014 2:53 PM
To: Denault, Christina
Cc: Mike Pence; Joshua Pitcock; Marc Short; Smith, William A; Brooks, Kara D
Subject: Re: national press coverage

Sorry--his speech will be a topic--not sure if it'll be during Baier's segment or second half of show during panel. They're still working on it. If I hear which block I'll def let you know.
M@

On Wed, Apr 16, 2014 at 2:48 PM, Denault, Christina <CDenault@gov.in.gov> wrote:
Matt, when you say "appearance on Fox" tonight do you mean a mention or an actual appearance?

Christy Denault
Communications Director

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 16, 2014, at 2:44 PM, "Matt Lloyd" <matthewhlloyd@ [REDACTED]> wrote:

Governor,

Here's the quick and dirty on coverage of your Berlin speech. I made sure everyone has your speech as delivered as well.

FOX's morning tip sheet gave you the lead. The below was featured on Fox's website with your photo and was linked on Drudge prominently this morning:

<http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2014/04/16/first-in-fox-news-first-pence-hits-obama-on-missile-shield-in-berlin-speech/>

FOX News First: April 16

By Chris Stirewalt

Buzz Cut:

- *First in Fox News First: Pence hits Obama on missile shield in Berlin speech*
- *ObamaCare puts docs on hook*
- *O'Malley hints at plan for meaningful defeat*
- *Power Play: Bayou Battle*
- *Who could blame him?*

FIRST IN FOX NEWS FIRST: PENCE HITS OBAMA ON MISSILE SHIELD IN BERLIN SPEECH

Gov. **Mike Pence**, R-Ind., will deliver a speech today at the historic Hotel Adlon by Berlin's Brandenburg Gate in which he will decry "Russian aggression" and call on **President Obama** to resurrect a planned missile-defense shield for Eastern Europe that Obama scrapped in 2009. Pence, who said he will make a decision on a potential 2016 presidential run in the coming months, is in Germany on a privately funded trade mission. But touting his decade on the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Pence will strike a hawkish tone.

From the prepared remarks provided to Fox News First: "With Russian aggression on the rise, clearly conciliatory diplomacy has failed. While sanctions are of some value, in the interest of our alliance, I believe the United States and the EU must respond with deeds more than words to strengthen our economic and strategic defenses."

Missile shield - "And, with continued instability in the Middle East, Iran's ongoing effort to develop long-range missiles and nuclear technology, and Putin's annexation of Crimea and aggression in Ukraine, I believe we must take immediate steps to deploy a robust missile defense in Europe – especially Poland and the Czech Republic – to protect the interests of our NATO allies and the United States in the region."

[Obama's approach - "Some presidents take their foreign policy from the idealism of **Woodrow Wilson**, some from the realism of **Henry Kissinger**. This is foreign policy from Monty Python." – **George Will** on "Special Report with Bret Baier."]'

You were featured on FOX around 9:15 with Hemmer and Stirewalt talking about your Berlin speech. Here is clip:

Fox News 4/16/2014 9:13:40 AM

Please follow the below link to the download site.

<http://mnis.tveyes.com/MediaDownload.asp?MDID=3063023&MDS=4714>

Politico's Morning Score featured excerpt from your speech as well:

SNEAK PEEK - PENCE TALKS FOREIGN POLICY IN BERLIN: Indiana Gov. Mike Pence is in Berlin today as part of his weeklong trade mission in Germany. He'll deliver a

speech at the Hotel Adlon, right across the square from the Brandenburg Gate - where he'll talk foreign policy, one of his policy strengths and an area he'd likely showcase if he ran for president in 2016. Here's an advance look at what he'll say: "I believe the United States and the EU must respond with deeds more than words to strengthen our economic and strategic defenses. Europe and America should work together to strengthen our economic ties. ... And, with continued instability in the Middle East, Iran's ongoing effort to develop long-range missiles and nuclear technology, and Putin's annexation of Crimea and aggression in Ukraine, I believe we must take immediate steps to deploy a robust missile defense in Europe - especially Poland and the Czech Republic - to protect the interests of our NATO allies and the United States in the region. Stronger economic ties and stronger defenses is the strategic response to Russian aggression."

Fox is telling me you will probably make an appearance on Special Report tonight as well...

That's all for now.

Danke,
Matt

From: Pitcock, Josh
Sent: Tue 4/15/2014 11:40 AM (GMT-04:00)
To: "MRP (mpence1314@aol.com)" <mpence1314@aol.com>
Cc: "Ryan Streeter (rstreeter@gov.in.gov)" <rstreeter@gov.in.gov>
Bcc:
Subject: Sept 2009 Statement

Governor – below is your statement from Sept. 2009 on missile shield.

**Pence Condemns Administration's Decision to Abandon Missile Shield
September 17, 2009**

U.S. Congressman Mike Pence, Chairman of the House Republican Conference, delivered the following remarks today after announcements that the Obama administration will abandon plans to place a missile defense system in the Czech Republic and Poland after Russia expressed displeasure with the idea:

"Only a year since Russia invaded Georgia, and 70 years to the day since the Soviet Union invaded Poland, the Obama administration is continuing its policy of appeasing adversaries at the expense of our allies.

"History teaches us that weakness and appeasement invite aggression against peaceful nations. In advance of direct talks with an Iran that has publicly ruled out discussions over its nuclear program, the administration now seems to be appeasing Russia, a country with deep ties to that dangerous regime.

"The first nine months of the Obama administration have emboldened rogue dictators across the globe, and now an increasingly antagonistic Russia has been rewarded for bullying and threatening its neighbors. Not since the Carter administration has America looked so weak on the international stage."

Scott.A.Milkey

From: Smith, William A
Sent: Sunday, April 27, 2014 9:14 AM
To: Mike;Brooks, Kara D;Denault, Christina;Springer, Marilee J
Subject: Fox preview

Just watched the preview by Chris Wallace and he teased "gun rights, Ukraine and his political aspirations"

So, while you should be ready for common core, I thought you would want to know about this morning's promo

Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE DROID

From: Mike
Sent: Tue 5/13/2014 12:38 PM (GMT-04:00)
To: "Brooks, Kara D" <kbrooks@gov.in.gov>
Cc: "Hancock, Katelyn" <KaHancock@iedc.IN.gov>, "Streeter, Ryan T" <RStreeter@gov.IN.gov>
Bcc:
Subject: Re: UPDATE for WSJ Today

Got it

Sent from my iPhone

On May 13, 2014, at 10:23 AM, "Brooks, Kara D" <kbrooks@gov.in.gov> wrote:

Sir,

The first segment of the Wall Street Journal interview will include questions about the Healthy Indiana plan. The second segment will include your speech in Germany, the future of the Republican party and 2016.

Kara Brooks

Press Secretary

Office of Governor Mike Pence

317-232-1622 (Office)

317-9[REDACTED] (Mobile)

kbrooks@gov.in.gov

From: Brooks, Kara D
Sent: Sun 4/27/2014 7:12 AM (GMT-04:00)
To: "Mike" <mpence1314@aol.com>
Cc: "Smith, William A" <BSmith@gov.IN.gov>, "Denault, Christina" <CDenault@gov.IN.gov>, "Pavlik, Jennifer L" <JPavlik@gov.IN.gov>
Bcc:
Subject: FOX Sunday update

Sir,
FOX just moved you to the second segment. They are now leading with affirmative action and then a report on Ukraine. Your segment will follow Ukraine. You will still be solo on your segment and the topics will remain the same. Your LIVE hit time is now 9:25 am.
Thank you.

Kara Brooks
Press Secretary
Office of Governor Mike Pence
Sent from my iPhone

From: Kbrooks@gov.in.gov
Sent: Sun 4/27/2014 8:21 AM (GMT-04:00)
To: "mpence1314@aol.com" <mpence1314@aol.com>, "Kbrooks@gov.in.gov" <Kbrooks@gov.in.gov>
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: CNN - Russia complains of Ukrainian troop buildup

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- updated 7:57 AM EDT 04.27.14 Russia complains of Ukrainian troop buildup By Ralph Ellis, Laura Smith-Spark and Gul Tuysuz, CNN

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Kiev, Ukraine (CNN) - The world must unite to show Russia disapproval of its actions in Ukraine, U.S. President Barack Obama said Sunday.

- Rather than going with sanctions alone and making it a United States versus Russia issue, "it's important for us to make sure that we're part of an international coalition in sending that message and Russia is isolated, rather than (the perception that) the U.S. is trying to pull Ukraine out of his orbit," he said, speaking from Malaysia, where he is on a diplomatic visit.

"Russia has not lifted a finger to help -- in fact, there's strong evidence that they've been encouraging the kinds of activities that have taken place," Obama said, referring to the actions of armed pro-Russian protesters.

A team of European and Ukrainian military observers seized Friday by pro-Russian separatists in Slavyansk remains in their control despite international pressure for the inspectors' release.

At least seven of the inspectors from the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe appeared before journalists at a news conference staged Sunday by the self-declared mayor of Slavyansk, Vyacheslav Ponomarev.

The head of the OSCE delegation, which includes eight Europeans and several Ukrainians, said they were being held in the cellar of a building.

No indication was given of when, or if, the team will be released.

The observers said that they have diplomatic status but had given the press conference so their families could see them.

Another OSCE delegation is due to arrive in Slavyansk on Sunday and is expected to discuss ways to free the imprisoned delegation, a spokeswoman for the mayor, Stella Khorosheva, told CNN.

Militants in the town of Gorlivka have also captured Ukrainian Security Service officers who were seeking to arrest a Russian citizen suspected of murdering a pro-Kiev lawmaker, the security service said Sunday.

CNN's Gul Tuysuz reported from Kiev and Laura Smith-Spark wrote and reported from London. CNN's Andrew Carey and Nick Paton Walsh in Slavyansk and journalist Victoria Butenko in Kiev contributed to this report. CNN's Alex Felton, Bharati Naik, Ben Brumfield and Borianana Milanova also contributed.

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CANCEL SUBMIT

From: Pitcock, Josh
Sent: Fri 5/09/2014 9:06 AM (GMT-04:00)
To: "Cleveland, Bridget" <BCleveland@gov.IN.gov>, "Mike" <mpence1314@aol.com>, [REDACTED]
Cc: "Denault, Christina" <CDenault@gov.IN.gov>, "Brooks, Kara D" <kbrooks@gov.in.gov>, "Ahearn, Mark" <MAhearn@gov.IN.gov>, "Espich, Jeff" <JEspich@gov.IN.gov>, "Smith, William A" <BSmith@gov.IN.gov>, "Simcox, Stephen" <SSimcox@gov.IN.gov>, "Crabtree, Chris" <CCrabtree@gov.IN.gov>, "Atkins, Chris" <catkins@gov.in.gov>, "Springer, Marilee J" <MSpringer@gov.IN.gov>, "Streeter, Ryan T" <RStreeter@gov.IN.gov>, "Gibson, Ashley" <AGibson@gov.IN.gov>, "Keefer, Sean (GOV)" <skeef@gov.IN.gov>, "Kossack, Andrew" <AKossack@gov.IN.gov>
Bcc:
Subject: RE: [Clip] Washington Post - GOP woos Mike Pence for 2016, and Indiana governor says he's 'listening'
Attachments: image00100001.png

FYI – this story is running front page, just below the fold in the print edition today.

From: Cleveland, Bridget [mailto:BCleveland@gov.IN.gov]
Sent: Thursday, May 8, 2014 2:35 PM
To: 'Mike'; [REDACTED]
Cc: Denault, Christina; Brooks, Kara D; Ahearn, Mark; Espich, Jeff; Smith, William A; Simcox, Stephen; Crabtree, Chris; Atkins, Chris; Springer, Marilee J; Streeter, Ryan T; Gibson, Ashley; Pitcock, Josh; Keefer, Sean (GOV); Kossack, Andrew
Subject: [Clip] Washington Post - GOP woos Mike Pence for 2016, and Indiana governor says he's 'listening'

GOP woos Mike Pence for 2016, and Indiana governor says he's 'listening'

Phillip Rucker and Robert Costa

For a governor who says he is focused squarely on his home state of Indiana, Republican Mike Pence keeps popping up elsewhere.

There he was in Palm Beach, Fla., in February, evangelizing free-market conservatism and drawing a standing ovation from wealthy donors at a private dinner. In Germany last month, he assailed what he called President Obama's "policy of conciliatory diplomacy." In Milwaukee, he urged Republican faithfuls last week to "never relent."



Pence is also quietly cultivating influential Washington figures such as Bill Kristol and Gary Bauer, while becoming one of the loudest voices attacking Common Core, a set of education benchmarks that has sparked a revolt among tea party activists.

The moves all bear the hallmarks of a potential run for president in 2016 — and some Republican leaders have begun talking up Pence as an under-the-radar standard-bearer who could return the GOP to the White House, according to interviews with more than two dozen prominent Republicans. They say the talk-radio-host-turned-congressman-turned-governor has the capacity to electrify grass-roots voters while uniting the constituencies that make up today's deeply divided Republican Party.

"Pence could bridge really every group — the social conservatives, the fiscal conservatives, the foreign policy conservatives," said Chris Chocola, president of the Club for Growth and a friend of Pence's. "He's not viewed as a fringe guy."

In an interview with The Washington Post, Pence acknowledged he was weighing his 2016 options amid calls from some supporters to consider a presidential run.

"In the last few months, people have reached out," Pence said. "I'm listening."

At 54, Pence — who was also talked about as a presidential candidate in 2011 — has the option of waiting another four or eight years to make a White House bid. He is in his first term as Indiana's governor and will be up for reelection in 2016.

The new pressure to think hard about a presidential race comes amid continuing turmoil in the GOP field. Former Florida governor Jeb Bush is openly unsure about whether to run, New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie has been seriously damaged by a lane-closing scandal, and Sen. Rand Paul (Ky.) and his libertarian views on foreign policy are considered unpalatable by the party's hawks.

But Pence would face several serious challenges in a crowded field of GOP stars, including the need to raise tens of millions of dollars to be considered a viable candidate. He also would have to assemble a national network and boost his name recognition beyond the engaged partisans who remember him from his days as a rabble-rouser in the House, where he served for 12 years, including two as chairman of the Republican conference.

Pence traveled to Michigan on Wednesday night to raise money for Republican Gov. Rick Snyder's reelection and will be in New York City on Monday to attend a gathering of Wall Street financiers and conservative columnists at the Grand Hyatt hotel. Next month, he will visit Alabama to keynote the state GOP's convention.

"My message is about how I think the wellspring of national renewal is what is happening in the states," Pence said. "I am someone who doesn't believe there is something wrong with the Republican agenda. What our party needs to do is renew our confidence in our ideals and carry that message to every neighborhood."

Former House Republican leader Richard K. Armey of Texas likened Pence's political talent to Ronald Reagan's, and predicted he could become a top-tier candidate. "He would start out with

people like, 'Who is he?'" Arney said. "But then they'd say, 'Hey, have you listened to this guy?' and he would catch on."

Arney added: "If Mike got in the race, I'd probably endorse him immediately."

A veteran Republican strategist with both establishment and social conservative ties explained the growing interest in Pence: "The right is always waiting for Godot, wandering around on this barren beach with a metal detector looking for that buried Manchu dynasty, solid-gold vase that's going to both be the real deal — it's in his heart, he's one of us — but can also raise money, has credibility and might be able to win. And that's the promise that Pence offers."

When Pence took office last January, he inherited a relatively stable state government from former governor Mitch Daniels, a Republican celebrated for balancing Indiana's budget with austerity measures and clashing with public-sector unions. Pence's tenure has been low-key by comparison.

"Pence still needs a big thing," said Grover Norquist, an anti-tax activist. "If he's going to be up there at a primary debate, alongside governors like Rick Perry, Bobby Jindal, and Scott Walker, he is going to need something more."

Last year, Pence sought a 10 percent cut in the state income tax, but the GOP-controlled legislature only agreed to a 5 percent cut. Pence also shepherded a repeal of the state's inheritance tax.

Pence said he is perhaps most proud of his state's improving economy: The jobless rate has fallen to 5.9 percent since he took office, slightly lower than the national average. "We are the fiscal envy of the country," he said.

Battling Common Core — math and reading standards for K-12 that have been fully adopted by 44 states and the District — has become a signature issue for Pence. He successfully pushed to replace it with targets "written by Hoosiers, for Hoosiers."

The new state standards do not differ significantly from Common Core, however, and some conservatives have criticized Pence for pursuing them. And Democrats say opting out of Common Core — Indiana became the first state to do so — was an orchestrated appeal to the Republican base in anticipation of a presidential run.

"Everything that has been done in Indiana — the Common Core, the two tax cuts — has been done solely for how it plays in a presidential race," said John Gregg, a former Democratic state House speaker who lost to Pence in the 2012 governor's race.

Nationally, many Democrats dismiss Pence as a weak potential challenger to former secretary of state Hillary Rodham Clinton, who leads the Democratic field as a possible 2016 candidate.

"Clinton would be heavily favored," said Robert Shrum, a longtime Democratic consultant. "All of this sudden talk about Mike Pence is more of a reflection of the decline of Chris Christie and the need for the Republican establishment to find an alternative."

But former Mississippi governor Haley Barbour, an influential GOP establishment voice, said Pence's experience as governor would serve him well in a presidential run.

"He's got executive responsibility, and that's an advantage," Barbour said. "I think people around the country will like him the more they get to know him."

Bauer, a former presidential candidate who has run several social conservative organizations, including the Campaign for Working Families, said Pence has earned a reputation for being "solid in his votes and in his views, but also being Reaganesque in how he presents those views."

In conversation, Pence is known for a soft and smooth Midwestern patter, honed during his years as host of "The Mike Pence Show," a 1990s talk-radio program in Indiana that Pence has described as "Rush Limbaugh on decaf." On the stump, however, he turns up the volume, and is known as a fiery speaker on the conservative circuit.

There is little evidence that Pence has made overtures to key Republicans in the states that will hold early caucuses or primaries. But there are pockets of support for him already, especially among evangelicals who hold outsized influence in Iowa and South Carolina.

"He would be a force to be dealt with," said Bob Vander Plaats, a social-conservative leader in Iowa. "He's not going to walk away from the sanctity of human life. He's not going to walk away from God's design for the family and marriage. He fully understands whose role it is to raise and nurture the children."

Pence was not always a prototypical evangelical Republican. His parents were Roman Catholic Democrats and displayed pictures of John F. Kennedy in the family's home.

Pence's alliance with the GOP's business wing is also strong. He was one of the Club for Growth's first endorsements soon after it was formed in 1999, and he addressed the group's conference in Florida earlier this year. Stephen Moore, the conservative economist and the Club's co-founder, is a Pence confidant, while industrialist David H. Koch was a major backer of his 2012 gubernatorial campaign.

Kristol, the editor of the Weekly Standard, is Pence's link to the foreign policy community and informally advised Pence as the governor prepared for his trip to Germany. The two men met recently for lunch at the Hamilton, a restaurant that sits a block east of the White House, and later compared notes at a policy seminar.

In Berlin, Pence bemoaned Obama's handling of Russia and called for "immediate steps to deploy a robust missile defense" in parts of Eastern Europe.

Despite all his travels, Pence casts himself as flattered and undecided on a 2016 run.

"I'm a small-town kid who grew up with a cornfield in the backyard and dreaming of serving my country in public office," he said. "The future will take care of itself."

Bridget Cleveland

Deputy Press Secretary
Office of Governor Mike Pence



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From: Smith, William A
Sent: Sun 4/27/2014 9:14 AM (GMT-04:00)
To: "Mike" <mpence1314@aol.com>, "Brooks, Kara D" <kbrooks@gov.in.gov>, "Denault, Christina" <CDenault@gov.IN.gov>, "Springer, Marilee J" <MSpringer@gov.IN.gov>
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: Fox preview

Just watched the preview by Chris Wallace and he teased "gun rights, Ukraine and his political aspirations"

So, while you should be ready for common core, I thought you would want to know about this morning's promo

Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE DROID

From: Kbrooks@gov.in.gov
Sent: Sun 4/27/2014 1:28 PM (GMT-04:00)
To: "mpence1314@aol.com" <mpence1314@aol.com>, "Kbrooks@gov.in.gov" <Kbrooks@gov.in.gov>
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: CNN - Russia complains of Ukrainian troop buildup

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- Breaking News
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- updated 12:46 PM EDT 04.27.14 Seized observers paraded by Ukraine militants By Laura Smith-Spark, Nick Paton Walsh, and Gul Tuysuz, CNN

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Slavyansk, Ukraine (CNN) - **[Breaking news update, 12:45 p.m. ET]**

- A Swedish member of a European observer team has been released by pro-Russian separatists in the Ukrainian city of Slavyansk for medical reasons, an OSCE official and a spokeswoman for the city's self-declared mayor said Sunday.

[Original story, last published 12:30 p.m. ET]

(CNN) -- Discussions appeared to be under way Sunday aimed at securing the release of Western

and Ukrainian military observers seized by pro-Russian separatists in Ukraine, shortly after several of them were paraded before the media.

At least seven of the inspectors from the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe appeared at the news conference staged by the self-declared mayor of Slavyansk, Vyacheslav Ponomarev -- who referred to them as "prisoners of war."

The observers said that although they have diplomatic status, they went along with the news conference because the mayor asked them to -- the implication being that they may have been forced to make this appearance.

The OSCE inspectors, who were seized Friday outside Slavyansk, also said they agreed to the news conference so that their families could see them.

Axel Schneider, leader of the delegation, said, "We are held here; I cannot go home on my free decision ... and it is logical in the eyes of the mayor, Ponomarev, that he can use us to present his positions."

Schneider said the team, which includes eight Europeans and several Ukrainians, was being held in the cellar of a building. No indication was given of when, or if, the delegation will be released.

Holger Schmuck, one of four German members of the team, said the conditions in which they are being held had significantly improved in the past 24 hours.

CNN's Nick Paton Walsh reported from Slavyansk; Gul Tuysuz reported from Kiev, and Laura Smith-Spark wrote and reported from London. CNN's Ralph Ellis, Andrew Carey, Alex Felton, Bharati Naik, Ben Brumfield and Boriana Milanova contributed to this report, as did journalist Victoria Butenko in Kiev.

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From: Mike
Sent: Sun 4/27/2014 7:19 AM (GMT-04:00)
To: "Brooks, Kara D" <kbrooks@gov.in.gov>
Cc: "Smith, William A" <BSmith@gov.IN.gov>, "Denault, Christina" <CDenault@gov.IN.gov>, "Pavlik, Jennifer L" <JPavlik@gov.IN.gov>
Bcc:
Subject: Re: FOX Sunday update

Thanks Kara

Sent from my iPhone

> On Apr 27, 2014, at 7:12 AM, "Brooks, Kara D" <kbrooks@gov.in.gov> wrote:
>
> Sir,
> FOX just moved you to the second segment. They are now leading with affirm=
ative action and then a report on Ukraine. Your segment will follow Ukraine.=
You will still be solo on your segment and the topics will remain the same.=
Your LIVE hit time is now 9:25 am.
> Thank you.
>
>
> Kara Brooks
> Press Secretary
> Office of Governor Mike Pence
> Sent from my iPhone