



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

Eric J. Holcomb
Governor

October 2, 2017

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Mr. Brian Slodysko
Indiana State Capitol Correspondent
The Associated Press
bslodysko@ap.org

Re: Public Records Request 17-21

Dear Mr. Slodysko:

Enclosed herewith are copies of records responsive to the public records request you sent pursuant to Indiana's Access to Public Records Act ("APRA"), which requested the following:

All records and emails addressing the subject of refugee resettlement that were routed through the address mpence1314@aol.com, between 11/1/2015 and 3/31/2016, that also include any of the following people on the chain: Matt Lloyd, Josh Pitcock, Jim Atterholt, Chris Crabtree, Cary "Lani" Czarniecki, John Wernert, Chris Johnson, and Kara Brooks.

As a courtesy, we are providing responsive records to you free-of-charge. To clarify, the Governor's Office is in receipt of emails produced electronically by the former governor from his email accounts and searched those accounts for documents to/from/cc Matt Lloyd, Josh Pitcock, Jim Atterholt, Chris Crabtree, Cary "Lani" Czarniecki, John Wernert, Chris Johnson and Kara Brooks, in the relevant time period, that contain the terms "refugee" or "resettlement."

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; (ii) Indiana Code § 5-14-3-4(a)(8), records declared confidential under rules adopted by the Indiana Supreme Court, e.g. attorney-client privilege documents pursuant to Indiana Trial Rule 26(B)(1) and Indiana Rule of Professional Conduct 1.6(a); and/or (iii) Indiana Code § 5-14-3-4(b)(2), the work product of an attorney. The person responsible for the denial and/or withholding of records, or portions thereof, is Mr. Joseph R. Heerens, General Counsel.

Mr. Brian Slodysko
(Public Records Request)
October 2, 2017
Page 2

In the interest of time and providing you with records as soon as reasonably possible, the enclosed copies of emails are being produced to you on a rolling basis as our office's review of these records is completed; and this production may be supplemented as additional responsive records are located and/or reviewed.

Our office is continuing its work to respond to the unusually large number of records requests pending at this time, and we appreciate your continued patience and understanding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stephanie Wilson".

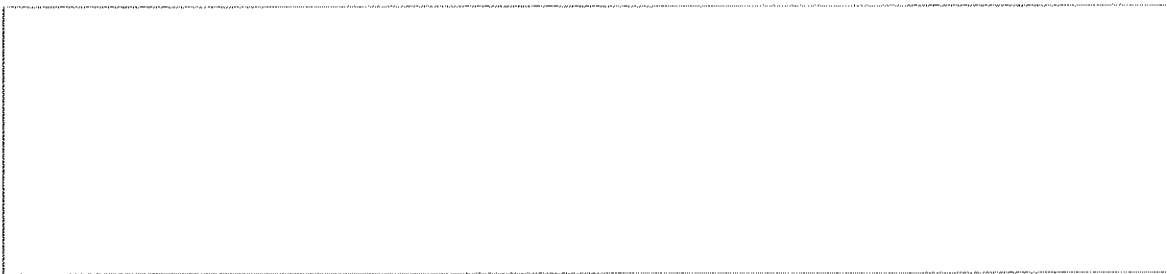
Stephanie Wilson
Press Secretary

Enclosures
cc: File

From: Pitcock, Josh
Sent: Mon 11/23/2015 5:03 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "MRP (mpence1314@aol.com)" <mpence1314@aol.com>
Cc: "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "Triol, Shelley" <STriol@gov.IN.gov>
Bcc:
Subject: FW: Coats Column: Refugees Need Safe Havens, Greater International Aid

Governor – note that Sen. Coats mentions you in his column below...

From: Lahr, Matt (Coats) [mailto:Matt_Lahr@coats.senate.gov]
Sent: Monday, November 23, 2015 4:24 PM
To: Lahr, Matt (Coats)
Cc: Michalson, Kristine (Coats)
Subject: Coats Column: Refugees Need Safe Havens, Greater International Aid



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 23, 2015

Contact: Matt Lahr or Kristine Michalson (202) 224-5623

COATS COLUMN

Refugees Need Safe Havens, Greater International Aid

The following op-ed by Senator Dan Coats is available for publication:

Coats Column: Refugees Need Safe Havens, Greater International Aid Senator Dan Coats

The tragic situation in Syria has created a refugee and migration crisis that is overwhelming the international community's ability to help those in need. Here in the United States, we are having difficult but important conversations about how to balance legitimate security concerns with our country's legacy of compassion.

I support Indiana Governor Mike Pence's recent decision to suspend the resettlement of Syrian refugees in Indiana. While the United States is a welcoming country, our government has an obligation to protect American citizens. We should not accept any Syrian refugees in Indiana or across the country unless the U.S. government can guarantee, with 100 percent assurance, that they are not members, supporters or sympathizers of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria

(ISIS).

Ultimately, the debate about bringing Syrian refugees into the United States – whether it be the current 2,000, the planned 10,000 or potentially even more – fails to address the main issue. Even if the United States were to admit 100,000 refugees, it still would be only a tiny fraction of the people displaced by the crisis in Syria.

Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey are already doing their utmost to care for millions of refugees, largely relying on their own resources. Germany and other countries have opened their doors to refugees, but the economic and political costs are clearly unsustainable. Something else must be done.

The only reasonable solution to dealing with this humanitarian crisis is to create conditions in and near Syria that will permit people to safely remain near their home country. This will require the United States, our allies and other cooperating international powers to create areas in Syria where Syrians can find safety from attack. Safe havens should be set up along the borders of Turkey, Iraq and Jordan, with international security guarantees, funding and management under United Nations (UN) auspices.

This will require both no-fly zones and strategic military activity by the United States and our allied partners. Western countries should accept these steps as an inescapable price to help bring two twin catastrophes to an end – the migrant crisis and the war that has generated it.

We also need a massive commitment from the world community to set up, fund and manage safe areas with sanitation, health care, food, housing and schools in neighboring countries. We need a much greater contribution from other regional states, European countries and traditional donor countries who have long been committed to humanitarian causes.

As difficult as these steps will be to implement, they have been done successfully in the past. When Yugoslavia collapsed in 1993, well-equipped armies clashed in open and prolonged warfare, generating hundreds of thousands of deaths and millions of refugees. Like the current situation in Syria, violence was pervasive and inescapable in Bosnia.

Into that horror stepped the international community's relief organizations, led by the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR). That organization, backed by a UN mandate and protected first by the UN Protection Force and then NATO, created safe areas for refugees and sheltered and fed millions of Bosnians. This massive international effort to address Bosnia's humanitarian crisis contributed to ending that war.

As in Bosnia, ensuring Syrian refugees have safe, humane conditions will be expensive, but no more expensive than the costs being borne by countries currently burdened with uncontrolled migration. More importantly, it is the morally correct course of action to help millions of innocent people who are suffering.

Sen. Dan Coats is a Republican from Indiana and a member of the Senate Select Intelligence Committee.

###

Matt Lahr
Communications Director

U.S. Senator Dan Coats

202.224.5623

matt_lahr@coats.senate.gov



From: Mike
Sent: Mon 11/30/2015 10:20 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Matt Lloyd" <MLloyd@gov.IN.gov>, "Mike Pence(personal)" <mpence1314@aol.com>, "Jim Atterholt" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "Shelley Triol" <STriol@gov.IN.gov>
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: Christie statement

Matt

Syrian refugees placed in NJ today. Heres a strong statement from Christies spokesman

"In a statement on Monday, Brian Murray, the governor's spokesman, said that "in this case and all prior, the federal government has failed to consult with New Jersey, has shared no security or background information and can give no assurances about the integrity of the resettlement process.

"Rather than address concerns expressed by governors of both parties and the director of the F.B.I., the federal government has chosen instead to persist with its plan to increase the number of new refugees at a previously unattainable rate. Governor Christie will remain opposed to the continuation of this program until the fundamental concerns for our national and state security are addressed."

Sent from my iPhone

From: Mike
Sent: Mon 11/30/2015 10:20 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Matt Lloyd" <MLloyd@gov.IN.gov>, "Mike Pence(personal)" <mpence1314@aol.com>, "Jim Atterholt" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "Shelley Triol" <STriol@gov.IN.gov>
Cc:
Bcc: "Nick Ayres" <na@[REDACTED]>
Subject: Christie statement

Matt

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"In a statement on Monday, Brian Murray, the governor's spokesman, said that "in this case and all prior, the federal government has failed to consult with New Jersey, has shared no security or background information and can give no assurances about the integrity of the resettlement process.

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Sent from my iPhone

From: Pitcock, Josh
Sent: Tue 12/01/2015 8:45 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "MRP (mpence1314@aol.com)" <mpence1314@aol.com>
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: FW: Letter from Denis McDonough
Attachments: Enclosure00001.pdf; DMCOS_Letter_IN_11.3000002.pdf

From: White House Intergovernmental Affairs [mailto:IGA@who.eop.gov]
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2015 1:11 PM
To: 'jatterholt@gov.in.gov'; Pitcock, Josh
Subject: Letter from Denis McDonough

Hello,

Please find attached a letter from Denis McDonough, Chief of Staff to the President, following up on the November 17th Governors call regarding the refugee resettlement program. In addition, you can access an infographic that details the rigorous screening process for refugee entry into the United States [here](#).

Sincerely,

Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
The White House

Overview of Domestic Resettlement Through the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program

Since 1975, Americans have welcomed over 3 million refugees from all over the world. Refugees have built new lives, homes and communities in towns and cities in all 50 states.

For refugees in the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program approved to be admitted to the United States, the International Organization for Migration, a State Department partner organization, arranges air travel to the United States. The Department of State works with nine domestic non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to facilitate the initial placement of refugees into U.S. communities and provide transitional assistance to each refugee or refugee family. Every week, representatives from these NGOs use information on refugees approved for admission to the United States, which is sent by U.S.-funded Resettlement Support Centers abroad, to determine where within the United States to resettle each refugee or refugee family.

In making this determination, the NGOs work to match the particular needs of each incoming refugee with the specific resources available in a local community. For instance, if a refugee has relatives in the United States, he/she is likely to be resettled near or with them. The nine NGOs, which maintain a nationwide network of 304 affiliated offices in 173 locations, also take into account factors such as language abilities in the community, and housing and labor market conditions in their areas of operation. In addition, the NGOs take into account views expressed in regular consultations with officials such as State Refugee Coordinators, State Refugee Health Coordinators, public health, school, social welfare and other service representatives. These officials are able to receive information on the resettlement program through these consultations, and basic data on refugee arrivals is also provided through the public website, www.wrapsnet.org.

As concerns support for resettled refugees, federal government funds, from the Department of State and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), supplemented by funds and in-kind contributions from private sources help to cover transitional assistance for the initial months after arrival in the United States. Additionally, representatives of the non-governmental organizations welcome refugees at the airport, find safe and affordable housing, and provide a variety of other services to promote early self-sufficiency and cultural adjustment. This includes providing basic furnishings, clothing, food, assistance in applying for social security cards, registering children in school, helping refugees learn how to access public transportation and grocery stores, arranging medical appointments, and connecting refugees with employment, English language classes, and other services. HHS also works through the states and with NGOs to provide longer-term cash and medical assistance, as well as English language, employment, and social services.

Through the collaborative effort of several components of the federal government, a range of NGOs, including faith-based NGOs, countless everyday Americans, and state and local leaders all over the country, the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program has sustained decades of success in ensuring that refugees achieve their potential in the United States and become integrated members of our communities. Inquiries from state and local officials about the program and related procedures can be directed to Lawrence Bartlett, Director of Admissions in the State Department's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (BartlettLE@state.gov) or to Robert Carey, Director for the Office of Refugee Resettlement in the Department of Health and Human Service's Administration for Children and Families (Robert.Carey@acf.hhs.gov).

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 30, 2015

The Honorable Mike Pence
Governor
State of Indiana
State House, Room 206
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Governor Pence:

As part of our ongoing conversation with Governors across the country regarding the refugee resettlement program, I am writing today to follow up on a Governors call I hosted on November 17.

On the call and in follow up conversations and correspondence, we have provided Governors a detailed description of the process for vetting refugees and we continue to believe the security vetting for this population is extraordinarily thorough and comprehensive. It is the most robust screening process for any category of individuals seeking admission into the United States. The process is multi-layered and intensive, involving multiple law enforcement, national security, and intelligence agencies across the Federal Government. Additional precautions have been added with regard to Syrian refugees and we continually evaluate whether more precautions are necessary.

Notwithstanding this thorough vetting process, I wanted to follow up on requests from Governors for more consistent and official communication from the Administration about the placement process.

To that end and given NGA's role as the collective voice of the nation's Governors on matters related to national policy, I am proposing establishing a new process through the NGA for the U.S. Department of State to accept individualized requests from Governors for more regular access to refugee resettlement information.

Upon receipt of a Governor's request, the State Department would compile a tailored report for the individual state submitting the request. The report would include information on refugees resettled during the prior month and fiscal year-to-date.

In addition, at the request of the Governor, the State Department would provide this information on a monthly recurring basis via a password protected website. The monthly report would include the total number of refugees resettled in the state broken down by nationality, age range and gender.

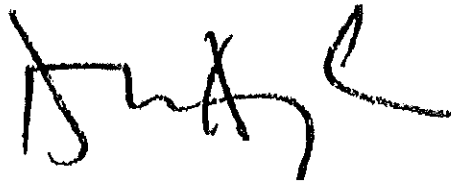
This proposal responds to Governors' input while protecting the privacy of refugee families.

Furthermore, the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services are prepared to brief Governors on the refugee resettlement process and to discuss working together to improve the program at NGA's next convening. Additionally, the Secretary of Homeland Security is prepared to work with NGA to provide further information to Governors on the refugee vetting process and to discuss options for enhanced collaboration.

Finally, enclosed with this letter is a brief overview of the resettlement process here in the United States, as well as contact information for points of contact within the key Federal agencies responsible for administering and supporting the refugee resettlement program.

We look forward to continuing to work with you to maintain this successful program that over the last four decades has made the United States a leader in welcoming refugees.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "DMcDonough", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Denis R. McDonough
Assistant to the President
and White House Chief of Staff

From: Brooks, Kara D
Sent: Tue 12/01/2015 3:11 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "'Mike'" <mpence1314@aol.com>, "Lloyd, Matthew" <MLloyd@gov.IN.gov>
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: RE: Why does this AP STORY my spokesman did not respond ?

Here is the most recent version of the AP story.

If governor's order stands, religious charity says it will settle Indiana-bound Syrian family
Columbus Republic

INDIANAPOLIS - A religious charity will finance a Syrian refugee family's arrival in Indiana - even if Republican Gov. Mike Pence does not drop his order blocking state agencies from distributing federal funds intended to help settle refugees.

But the family, which has spent the past three years in a Jordanian refugee camp, may ultimately be placed in another state if Indiana is perceived as "hostile" or "unwelcoming," Archdiocese of Indianapolis spokesman Greg Otolski said Tuesday.

"These families are already under an incredible amount of stress," Otolski said of the family's anticipated arrival later this month. "What we don't want to do is traumatize these people any more than they have already been traumatized."

The debate over settling Syrian refugees in Indiana puts Pence, who frequently touts his Christian faith and has cultivated a reputation as a defender of religious values, in the awkward spot of being at odds with a major faith-based organization.

Pence spokesman Matt Lloyd said the governor has not shifted his stance and blamed the administration of President Barack Obama for failing to "provide adequate security and background information to governors across the country."

"The Obama Administration ... continues to ignore the concerns raised about the program," Lloyd said in a statement.

More than half of U.S. states, most with Republican governors and Indiana included, have objected to the arrival of the Syrian immigrants without assurances of property security measures in place following the deadly attacks in Paris. The Obama administration has said the vetting process for refugee resettlements is thorough and that states lack legal authority to block the funding.

But the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration sent letters last month to Exodus Refugee Immigration in Indianapolis and Catholic Charities in Indianapolis, saying plans to accept two Syrian families should be halted.

One Syrian family was rerouted to Connecticut as a result.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Indiana sued Pence last month, asking a federal judge to block the governor's order.

Indianapolis Archbishop Joseph Tobin has publicly called for the family of four to be settled in the Indianapolis area, though Otolski says the archdiocese wants to focus on the plight of the refugees and avoid an overtly political debate.

Otolski said the family underwent an intense two-year vetting process, and noted that they are "fleeing the same kind of violence from terrorists that all of us are trying to avoid." Thus far, state welfare officials have been "friendly" in conversations about moving forward with plans to settle the family, Otolski said, but a decision has not yet been reached. "Nobody here should have any concerns that this family of a husband and wife and two small children pose any kind of danger," he said

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

From: Mike [mailto:mpence1314@aol.com]

Sent: Tuesday, December 01, 2015 3:10 PM

To: Brooks, Kara D; Lloyd, Matthew

Subject: Why does this AP STORY my spokesman did not respond ?

**** This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email. ****

Did they really contact us?

<http://neurope.eu/wires/if-governors-order-stands-religious-charity-says-it-will-settle-indiana-bound-syrian-family/>

Sent from my iPhone

From: Lloyd, Matthew
Sent: Tue 12/01/2015 3:58 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Mike" <mpence1314@aol.com>, "Brooks, Kara D" <kbrooks@gov.in.gov>
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: RE: Why does this AP STORY my spokesman did not respond ?

Here is full statement I sent AP:

"Governor Pence took action to pause the Syrian refugee resettlement program in order to ensure the safety and security of the people of Indiana. The Obama Administration has failed to provide adequate security and background information to governors across the country, including Indiana, about the resettlement process. The Obama Administration also continues to ignore the concerns raised about the program by its own FBI director and a bipartisan majority of governors. Therefore, Governor Pence's stance on the refugee resettlement program has not changed."

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

From: Mike [mailto:mpence1314@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 01, 2015 3:10 PM
To: Brooks, Kara D; Lloyd, Matthew
Subject: Why does this AP STORY my spokesman did not respond ?

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Did they really contact us?

<http://neurope.eu/wires/if-governors-order-stands-religious-charity-says-it-will-settle-indiana-bound-syrian-family/>

Sent from my iPhone

From: Brooks, Kara D
Sent: Tue 12/01/2015 4:34 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Mike" <mpence1314@aol.com>
Cc: "Lloyd, Matthew" <MLloyd@gov.IN.gov>
Bcc:
Subject: RE: Why does this AP STORY my spokesman did not respond ?

Sir,
FYI--media will be at tonight's tree trimming event and Fox 59, specifically, has stated that they plan to ask you about this topic tonight. WTHR is also sending a crew to the event and there's a good chance that they will ask you questions as well. I will be there to staff you.

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

From: Mike [mailto:mpence1314@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 01, 2015 4:32 PM
To: Brooks, Kara D
Cc: Lloyd, Matthew
Subject: Re: Why does this AP STORY my spokesman did not respond ?

**** This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email. ****

Excellent

Sent from my iPhone

> On Dec 1, 2015, at 3:11 PM, "Brooks, Kara D" <kbrooks@gov.in.gov> wrote:
>
> Here is the most recent version of the AP story.
>
> If governor's order stands, religious charity says it will settle
> Indiana-bound Syrian family Columbus Republic INDIANAPOLIS - A
> religious charity will finance a Syrian refugee family's arrival in Indiana - even if Republican Gov. Mike Pence does not drop his order blocking state agencies from distributing federal funds intended to help settle refugees.
> But the family, which has spent the past three years in a Jordanian refugee camp, may ultimately be placed in another state if Indiana is perceived as "hostile" or "unwelcoming," Archdiocese of Indianapolis spokesman Greg Otolski said Tuesday.
> "These families are already under an incredible amount of stress," Otolski said of the family's anticipated arrival later this month. "What we don't want to do is traumatize these people any more than they have already been traumatized."
> The debate over settling Syrian refugees in Indiana puts Pence, who frequently touts his Christian faith and has cultivated a reputation as a defender of religious values, in the awkward spot of being at odds with a major f=

faith-based organization.

> Pence spokesman Matt Lloyd said the governor has not shifted his stance and blamed the administration of President Barack Obama for failing to "provide adequate security and background information to governors across the country."

> "The Obama Administration ... continues to ignore the concerns raised about the program," Lloyd said in a statement.

> More than half of U.S. states, most with Republican governors and Indiana included, have objected to the arrival of the Syrian immigrants without assurances of property security measures in place following the deadly attacks in Paris. The Obama administration has said the vetting process for refugee resettlements is thorough and that states lack legal authority to block the funding.

> But the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration sent letters last month to Exodus Refugee Immigration in Indianapolis and Catholic Charities Indianapolis, saying plans to accept two Syrian families should be halted. One Syrian family was rerouted to Connecticut as a result.

> The American Civil Liberties Union of Indiana sued Pence last month, asking a federal judge to block the governor's order.

> Indianapolis Archbishop Joseph Tobin has publicly called for the family of four to be settled in the Indianapolis area, though Otolski says the archdiocese wants to focus on the plight of the refugees and avoid an overtly political debate.

> Otolski said the family underwent an intense two-year vetting process, and noted that they are "fleeing the same kind of violence from terrorists that all of us are trying to avoid." Thus far, state welfare officials have been "friendly" in conversations about moving forward with plans to settle the family, Otolski said, but a decision has not yet been reached.

> "Nobody here should have any concerns that this family of a husband

> and wife and two small children pose any kind of danger," he said

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> -----Original Message-----

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> Sent: Tuesday, December 01, 2015 3:10 PM

> To: Brooks, Kara D; Lloyd, Matthew

> Subject: Why does this AP STORY my spokesman did not respond ?

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> ****

> _____

>

> Did they really contact us?

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> <http://neurope.eu/wires/if-governors-order-stands-religious-charity-says-it-will-settle-indiana-bound-syrian-family/>

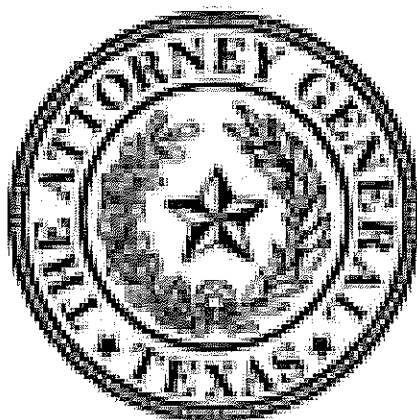
>

> Sent from my iPhone

From: Pitcock, Josh
Sent: Wed 12/02/2015 7:11 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Mike Pence" <mpence1314@aol.com>
Cc: "Jim Atterholt" <jatterholt@gov.in.gov>, "Matt Lloyd" <MLloyd@gov.IN.gov>, "Mark Ahearn" <MAhearn@gov.IN.gov>
Bcc:
Subject: Texas

Here is the press release.

Having trouble viewing this email? [View it as a Web page.](#)



KEN PAXTON

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS OFFICE: (512) 463-2050

Dec. 2, 2015

Cynthia

www.texasattorneygeneral.gov

Meyer: Cynthia.Meyer@texasattorneygeneral.gov

Katherine

Wise: Katherine.Wise@texasattorneygeneral.gov

Texas Files Suit Against Federal Government over Syrian Refugee Placement

AUSTIN – Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton today announced that he has filed suit on behalf of the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) against the federal government to halt the relocation of refugees from Syria in the state, citing the Refugee Act of 1980, which

requires that the federal government consult with state authorities in advance of such relocations. The federal government is directing the nonprofit entity tasked with placing the refugees in Texas from disclosing even basic information that would help resolve Texas's security concerns.

"While Texans are compassionate to our core, and take in more refugees than any other state, significant security concerns have been raised about President Obama's plans to admit 10,000 Syrian refugees this fiscal year, nationwide," said Attorney General Ken Paxton. "The federal government's stated inability to run effective background checks on these refugees, entering the United States from one of the world's most potent hotbeds of terrorism, puts all Texans at risk. Under the law, the federal government has a responsibility to consult with states in advance when relocating refugees, and has not fulfilled that burden here.

"The point of this lawsuit is not about specific refugees, it is about protecting Texans by ensuring that the federal government fulfills its obligation to properly vet the refugees and cooperate and consult with the state."

Texas takes in roughly 10 percent of the refugees resettled in the United States, partnering with local volunteer agencies to help refugees transition to the State and pay associated costs. In this case, authorities have left Texas uninformed about refugees that could well pose a security risk to Texans and gives them no say in the process.

Members of the federal government have expressed concern regarding this massive expansion of refugees from an area engulfed in fighting with ISIS. For example, FBI Director James Comey recently told Congress that the federal government cannot conduct effective security checks on Syrian nationals, testifying that "we can query our database until the cows come home, but nothing will show up because we have no record of them." National Intelligence Director James Clapper summed up the worries of these federal counterterrorism experts: "I don't, obviously, put it past the likes of ISIL to infiltrate operatives among these refugees."

HHSC is seeking a stay of federal plans to settle any Syrian refugees in Texas.

#

Stay Connected with Office of Texas
Attorney General:

Sent from my iPhone

From: Pitcock, Josh
Sent: Mon 12/07/2015 2:34 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "MRP (mpence1314@aol.com)" <mpence1314@aol.com>
Cc: "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "Lloyd, Matthew" <MLloyd@gov.IN.gov>, "Hill, John (jhill@gov.in.gov)" <jhill@gov.in.gov>, "Triol, Shelley" <STriol@gov.IN.gov>, "McGuffee, Tyler Ann" <TaMcGuffee@gov.IN.gov>
Bcc:
Subject: Chairman McCaul - Refugees

Homeland Security Chairman McCaul gave a speech on the state of homeland security today at the National Defense University. A link to his full prepared remarks is below. This is the key language he used on Syrian and Iraqi refugees:

"Our government must also move swiftly to improve the screening of Syrian and Iraqi refugees. ISIS has said in their own words that they want to exploit the refugee process to infiltrate the West, and they did exactly that to attack Paris. I can also reveal today that the U. S. government has information to indicate that individuals tied to terrorist groups in Syria have already attempted to gain access to our country through the U. S. refugee program.

Accordingly, I drafted legislation to create the most robust national security vetting process in U. S. history to screen Syrian and Iraqi refugees, and it passed the House with a bipartisan, veto-proof majority. In light of the threats we face, I urge the Senate to act on our legislation and the President to sign it."

<https://homeland.house.gov/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/12-07-15-State-of-Homeland-Security-Address.pdf>

From: Mike
Sent: Mon 12/07/2015 3:25 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Pitcock, Josh" <jpitcock@sso.org>
Cc: "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "Lloyd, Matthew" <MLloyd@gov.IN.gov>, "Hill, John (jhill@gov.in.gov)" <jhill@gov.in.gov>
Bcc:
Subject: Re: Chairman McCaul - Refugees

Wow

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 7, 2015, at 2:34 PM, "Pitcock, Josh" <jpitcock@sso.org> wrote:

Homeland Security Chairman McCaul gave a speech on the state of homeland security today at the National Defense University. A link to his full prepared remarks is below. This is the key language he used on Syrian and Iraqi refugees:

"Our government must also move swiftly to improve the screening of Syrian and Iraqi refugees. ISIS has said in their own words that they want to exploit the refugee process to infiltrate the West, and they did exactly that to attack Paris. I can also reveal today that the U. S. government has information to indicate that individuals tied to terrorist groups in Syria have already attempted to gain access to our country through the U. S. refugee program.

Accordingly, I drafted legislation to create the most robust national security vetting process in U. S. history to screen Syrian and Iraqi refugees, and it passed the House with a bipartisan, veto-proof majority. In light of the threats we face, I urge the Senate to act on our legislation and the President to sign it."

<https://homeland.house.gov/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/12-07-15-State-of-Homeland-Security-Address.pdf>

From: Lloyd, Matthew
Sent: Tue 12/08/2015 9:04 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "Pavlik, Jennifer L" <JPavlik@gov.IN.gov>, "Pitcock, Josh" <jpitcock@sso.org>, "McGuffee, Tyler Ann" <TaMcGuffee@gov.IN.gov>, "Brooks, Kara D" <kbrooks@gov.in.gov>, "Triol, Shelley" <STriol@gov.IN.gov>, "Ahearn, Mark" <MAhearn@gov.IN.gov>, "Hill, John (GOV)" <jhill@gov.in.gov>, "MRP_home" <mpence1314@aol.com>
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: Fwd: Indianapolis Syrian refugees
Attachments: Syrian refugee news release00001.docx; ATT0000100002.htm

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Matt Lloyd <matthewhlloyd@gmail.com>
Date: December 8, 2015 at 8:54:07 AM EST
To: "Lloyd, Matthew" <mlloyd@gov.in.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Indianapolis Syrian refugees

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From: "Gibson, Brady" <Brady.Gibson@wrtv.com>
Date: Dec 8, 2015 8:51 AM
Subject: Fwd: Indianapolis Syrian refugees
To: "matthewhlloyd@gmail.com" <matthewhlloyd@gmail.com>
Cc:

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Otoliski, Greg" <GOtoliski@archindy.org>
Date: December 8, 2015 at 8:42:58 AM HST
To: "'indy@ap.org' (indy@ap.org)" <indy@ap.org>, "mgroppe@gannett.com" <mgroppe@gannett.com>, "news@wibc.com" <news@wibc.com>, "newsdesk@wthr.com" <newsdesk@wthr.com>, "newsdesk@wishtv.com" <newsdesk@wishtv.com>, "6news@6news.com" <6news@6news.com>, "newsindy@wrtv.com" <newsindy@wrtv.com>, "news4@cbs4indy.com" <news4@cbs4indy.com>, "fox59news@fox59.com" <fox59news@fox59.com>, "newsroom@indyrecorder.com" <newsroom@indyrecorder.com>, "Maureen Hayden (mhayden@cnhi.com)"

<nghayden@cni.com>, "O'Loughlin, Michael (michael.o'loughlin@globe.com)"
<michael.o'loughlin@globe.com>, "jliberto@npr.org" <jliberto@npr.org>, "news@wfyi.org"
<news@wfyi.org>

Subject: Indianapolis Syrian refugees

For more information call:

Greg Otolski

Director of Communications

Archdiocese of Indianapolis

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December 8, 2015

**Statement from the Most Reverend Joseph W. Tobin,
Archbishop of Indianapolis, regarding the resettlement of a
family of refugees from Syria**

I would like to bring you up to date regarding the question of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis resettling a family of refugees from Syria. The family arrived safely in Indianapolis last night.

I thank Governor Pence for meeting with me last Wednesday, when I was able to explain in some detail the plight of this family as well as the role of the Archdiocese's Refugee and Immigrant Services program in welcoming them to Indianapolis, where the family already has some relatives. I listened to the governor's concerns regarding security and prayerfully considered his request that we defer from welcoming them until Congress had approved new

legislation regarding immigrants and refugees. I informed the Governor prior to the family's arrival that I had asked the staff of Catholic Charities to receive this husband, wife and their two small children as planned.

Three years ago, this family fled the violence of terrorists in their homeland of Syria. After two years of extensive security checks and personal interviews, the United States government approved them to enter our country. The Archdiocese of Indianapolis was asked to help resettle this family through its regular participation in a program that is a public-private partnership between the federal government and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and its Migration and Refugee Services.

For 40 years the Archdiocese's Refugee and Immigrant Services has welcomed people fleeing violence in various regions of the world. This is an essential part of our identity as Catholic Christians and we will continue this life-saving tradition.

We welcome this family during Advent, a time when the Christian community asks God to renew our hope and recognize God's saving power among us. As we wait with hope during this season of Advent, I ask all people of good will to pray for peace in our homes, local communities and throughout the world.

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From: Gilson, Katie
Sent: Thu 12/10/2015 10:38 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Ahearn, Mark" <MAhearn@gov.IN.gov>, "Anderson, Christopher M" <CAnderson@gov.in.gov>, "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "Bailey, Brian (OMB)" <bbailey@gov.in.gov>, "Bauer, Zachary C" <ZBauer@gov.IN.gov>, "Betley, James R (ICSB)" <JBetley@icsb.in.gov>, "Bradford, Cale A" <CBradford2@gov.IN.gov>, "Brookes, Brady" <BBrookes@gov.IN.gov>, "Brooks, Kara D" <kbrooks@gov.in.gov>, "Bullock, Meredith" <MBullock@gov.IN.gov>, "Crabtree, Chris" <CCrabtree@gov.IN.gov>, "Craig, Lindsey M" <LCraig@gov.IN.gov>, "Czarniecki, Cary (Lani)" <LaniCz@gov.IN.gov>, "Davis, Bridget M (GOV)" <BDavis@gov.IN.gov>, "Espich, Jeff" <JEspich@gov.IN.gov>, "Evans, Benjamin P (GOV)" <BEvans@gov.IN.gov>, "Fernandez, Marilyn" <MFernandez@gov.IN.gov>, "Ferrell, Curtis L (GOV)" <cferrell@gov.in.gov>, "Fritz, Pam (GOV)" <pfritz@gov.IN.gov>, "Froedge, Michael" <MFroedge@gov.IN.gov>, "GOV Communications" <govcommunications@gov.IN.gov>, "Hill, John (GOV)" <jhill@gov.in.gov>, "Hines, Adam" <AHines@gov.IN.gov>, "Hodgin, Stephanie" <SHodgin@gov.in.gov>, "Jarmula, Ryan L" <RJarmula@gov.in.gov>, "Johnson, David" <DJohnson@gov.IN.gov>, "Johnson, Matt (GOV)" <MatJohnson@gov.IN.gov>, "Kane, Kristen" <kkane@gov.in.gov>, "Karns, Allison" <AKarns@gov.IN.gov>, "King, Michael C" <MiKing1@gov.IN.gov>, "Lloyd, Matthew" <MLloyd@gov.IN.gov>, "Mantravadi, Adarsh V" <AMantravadi@gov.IN.gov>, "McGrath, Danielle" <DMcGrath@gov.IN.gov>, "Morales, Cesar (Diego)" <DMorales@gov.IN.gov>, "Neal, Michael" <MNeal1@gov.IN.gov>, "Pavlik, Jennifer L" <JPavlik@gov.IN.gov>, "Pitcock, Josh" <jpitcock@sso.org>, "Price, Kendra" <kprice@gov.IN.gov>, "Quyle, Lindsay" <LQuyle@gov.IN.gov>, "Reed, Katie" <KReed@gov.IN.gov>, "Rusthoven, Mark" <MRusthoven@gov.IN.gov>, "Schilb, Veronica J" <VSchilb@gov.IN.gov>, "Schlake, Josh" <JSchlake@gov.IN.gov>, "Schmidt, Daniel W" <DSchmidt@gov.IN.gov>, "Timmerman, Chad E (GOV)" <ctimmerman@gov.in.gov>, "Triol, Shelley" <STriol@gov.IN.gov>, "Vincent, Micah" <mvincent@gov.in.gov>, "Wainwright, Jonah" <JWainwright@gov.IN.gov>, "Wall, Kathryn E" <KWall@gov.IN.gov>, "Whitaker, Steve" <SWhitaker@isp.IN.gov>, "Hauer, Ian" <IHauer@lg.IN.gov>, "Dowd, Jaclyn (DWD)" <jdowd@dwd.IN.gov>, "Rosebrough, Dennis (LG)" <DRosebrough@lg.IN.gov>, "Heater, Ryan" <RHeater@lg.IN.gov>, "Goodwin, Nicholas R" <NiGoodwin@gov.IN.gov>, "Mcadam, Justin L" <JMcadam@gov.IN.gov>, "McGuffee, Tyler Ann" <TaMcGuffee@gov.IN.gov>, "Tuggle, Jennifer" <JTuggle@gov.IN.gov>, "McCleery, William" <WMccleery@iot.IN.gov>, "Parr, Riley" <RParr@gov.IN.gov>

Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: [Gov Clips] Howey
Attachments: 12-10-15 HPI Weekly00005.pdf

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Republican flirt with a strongman

The allure of Trump may be the anti-Putin

By BRIAN A. HOWEY

INDIANAPOLIS — Hoosier Republicans are watching the Donald Trump presidential candidacy with all the fascination of witnessing a traffic accident. Many see a candidate who is articulating their deepest frustrations. But in the end,



they know that Trump lodged at the top of the 2016 ticket could be a far bigger or widespread collateral damage.

Part of this enthusiasm could be something as simple as this: They want a strongman at the helm. A capitalist Vladimir Putin.

Polling shows that Republicans are distrustful of



government. They are deeply critical of congressional leadership. They view President Obama as one of the worst presidents ever, under scored by his mealy national address Sunday night. They see the decline of the middle class and an evil and distant world sprawling beyond anyone's control, and they view Trump as a man who is not beholden to campaign contributors, who tells it like it is.

Between now and Super Tuesday on March 8, we will learn whether Trump can

Continued on page 4

Exploding cigar Governor

By BRIAN A. HOWEY

INDIANAPOLIS — Years after the last cigarette was snuffed in the legislative iongins, there is still smoke in the air, now emanating from the second floor of the exploding cigar Mike Pence governorship. It comes a year after



Justin obscured his H&P2.0 victory, and months after the RFRS fiasco broadsided him.

The first term governor is presiding over an economy with a 4.4% jobless rate, asphalt is pouring into road banks at a furious pace, and his 2016 rematch with John Gregg finds the opposition floating above the issues like a phantom. He should be on an upswing.

Yet, what happened



"I just received a death threat yesterday in my own office, and it's largely in part to this toxic environment. You have demagoguery taking place from people who are seeking to become president of the United States."

- U.S. Rep. Andre Carson



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earlier this week was entirely predictable. Tuesday morning, we learned that Catholic Charities had resettled a Syrian refugee family of four in Indianapolis despite Gov. Pence's Nov. 16 "ban" on such happenings. It came less than a week after Bishop Joseph Tobin spoke on their behalf in the governor's office where Pence made his plea based on "security concerns" following the Nov. 13 Paris terror attacks.

"I listened to the governor's concerns regarding security and prayerfully considered his request that we defer from welcoming them until Congress had approved new legislation regarding immigrants and refugees," Tobin said in a statement. "I informed the governor prior to the family's arrival that I had asked the staff of Catholic Charities to receive his husband, wife and their two small children as planned."

This was followed by a perplexing press conference Tuesday afternoon at the Indianapolis International Airport, where Pence defended his "ban" that in reality never had any teeth, no statutory origin or judicial precedent. This Syrian family, and the one that defected to Connecticut just after he announced his "ban," had left Syria well before ISIS formed and metastasized, and had gone through a two-year vetting process. It came as the New York Times reported that of the 780,000 refugees legally entering the U.S. since Sept. 11, 2001, none of them had been caught or even linked to a domestic terror attack.

If you hear the late Congressman Earl Lamgren's echoes of "don't confuse me with the facts," you are not alone.

"I do strongly disagree with the call that would ban Muslims from this country," Pence told reporters at the airport. "My concern with the Syrian refugee program has to do with the country of origin. It has to do with the fact that Syria is a war-torn country whose over regime has been exporting terrorism for years. For me it's about identifying a country of origin where we have security concerns. This is about public safety. It's not about identifying individuals on the

basis of nationality."

And when reporters pressed him, Pence said his administration wouldn't deny state benefits with resettled refugees. So the ban amounted to political theater, and a huge opening for Indiana Democrats, where spokesman Drew Anderson charged, "When will Mike Pence admit that his knee-jerk, Donald Trump-like reaction to 'ban' Syrian refugees from the State of Indiana was not only the wrong thing to do, but also puts our 'Hoosier Hospitality' reputation in jeopardy? Hoosiers deserve to have a governor who won't embarrass our state over a lousy attempt at political gain. We can do better."

This all came a day after Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump declared his position of a "total and complete" shutdown of Muslims — even U.S. citizen Muslims traveling abroad — entering the United States. It invited a furious rebuke from most of his fellow Republican contenders (sans Sen. Ted Cruz), Hillary Clinton and the Democrats, and even former Vice President Dick Cheney. Pence found him lumped into that narrative, with the Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette's mild Kelly describing the governor as navigating "a political minefield."

A minefield of his own making.

Pence went on to say "I do strongly disagree with the call that would ban Muslims from this country," before he was asked if he would support Trump should he win the Republican nomination. Pence responded, "I will be voting for the Republican nominee for president of the United States." On the same day, Republican National Committeeman John Hamersall III told the *IndyStar*, "I think most Indiana Republicans consider him unfit to hold the office of the presidency. Those comments are completely outrageous and irresponsible. And I think they've seen that way by most Republicans."

Ka-boom.

That Pence made his Syrian refugee "ban" decision a mere 72 hours after the Paris attacks, along

with a 41-voter Republican govern-
ment (and one Democratic govern-
ment) made it seem like a two-pow-
er deal over political move. But his
administration couldn't give specific
authority to bring the process to
the fore, as opposed to the security
issue, was a problem unique to all
of the recent Indiana gubernatorial
and legislative elections.



Resolution in 2002 that paved the way for the U.S. invasion of Iraq in 2003, the civil war that followed, the Surge, the catastrophic withdrawal by the Obama administration, which resulted in a vacuum that ISIS now fills.

As a congressional staffer and U.S. Sen. John McCain toured the Baghdad airport bazaar on April 1, 2007, when France, dressed in a Kenyan jacket and helmet went, U.S. helicopters flying overhead, observed.

Waters Morte & Fils, Inc.

Tillemans and Fleury's work were

with the press on Dec. 2, he urged "national security and intelligence" agencies to "weigh in on the multiple threat." This came on the entire day that a bipartisan letter from former secretaries of state Michael Albright and Henry Kissinger and former officials such as David Permut said, "We believe that

moving about in regular everyday life like a normal outdoor market in Istanbul in the semi-private "a day later 21. Şubatın verileri were masked by statistics.

Koşum.

When people talk about this "day" on Nov. 16, his administration appeared to be unaware that a Syrian refugee camp was in the pipeline with the Family Social Services

Americans can and should continue to provide refuge to those fleeing war-torn and persecution-ridden countries, insuring the security and safety of our nation. To do otherwise would be contrary to our nation's traditions of openness and inclusivity, and would undermine our core objective of maintaining "democracy." The other signers were the wife of one of the U.S. security, defense and intelligence states, including Senator J. Bayar, former National Security adviser, Zigmund K. Brzezinski, former National Security adviser, General George W. Casey Jr., U.S. Army (Ret.), former Chief of Staff, U.S. Army, Mitchel Chertoff, former secretary of Homeland Security, William S. Cohen, former secretary of Defense, Stuart J. Malachuk, former National Security adviser, and Chuck Hagel, former secretary of Defense.

Leont Sabatashvili, of the University of Tbilisi, Georgia, former senator Richard Lugar, arguably the states' most influential foreign policy expert, said, "We believe we ought to admit refugees; I believe it's a sounder the proper welfare and respect" on who they are, where they are coming from, who ought to be very cautious. But, if the world says there's a lot of people who would like to be helped."

Asked by HHS if the head conference by the rela-

gave nothing process by faith-based organizations, Lugar explained. "I think there is a security concern, but I think it's a relative one," Lugar responded. "I think the winning idea I have received in my career is not only educating, but from the humanitarian standpoint, we have a responsibility in other words, I would not be in favor of an absolute prohibition of Synanon coming to Indiana or the United States. But I think it does behoove us all to think not only Synanon, but maybe of any religiously as in what factors are part of their lives, in this Sen. Bernardino situation, it was very difficult to determine the motivation of people who do situations."

When it comes to national security matters, Iraq's record is impeccable. He voted for the Iraq War

Approved by:

कुल-चौकाम,

Western people thought his "bar"

Box. Please mail with Michael Tobias at
Box 2 at 1355 Highland Ave.

The briefing, with the Family Social Services Administration spokeswoman at first saying no such family was on route, then backtracking over the next couple of days, FSSA spokeswoman Mari Lennors issued a painful response following student Stratton's 50-page report (pg. 3): "I will stay again tomorrow as I did on each of those occasions, that the answer I gave was a representative of the facts on my part ... and I openly acknowledged and for which I have responsibly apologized. I didn't - and still don't - treat the question being asked of answers, and I had absolutely no intention of misleading [St] or anyone else."

That was not only a painful read, but it seemed to expose poor staff work. Before a governor makes any trip to the island and, by burning religious freedom in the nation, the legal authority, the activity within the administration, an awareness of external events and context, all need to be understood and properly managed into a coherent set of talking points and actions.

နည်းပညာဝန်ကြီးရုံး၊

Along with the defiance of Catholic Charities, the Pence administration faces a lawsuit over the matter from the American Civil Liberties Union, seeking a federal injunction stopping Pence from barring the resettlement of Syrian refugees in Indiana. "The actions taken by Gov. Pence to block Syrian refugees from entering the state of Indiana are not in line with values of American values," said Karen Miller, Executive Refugee executive director.

Maybe the most treasured asset of the Pentecostal portfolio has been his moral authority. He has, repeatedly, identified himself as "a Christian, a conservative, and a Republican." In that order. This episode now pits him against faith-based organizations that have long been part of the publicist's upbringing. It goes on, thanks to Congressman Gohmert (R-Texas), who criticized Pence's refusal to accept refugees solely "if you believe in God." It's the remarkably correct thing to do.⁴

NOGI,

This all comes eight months after John Hefner

signed the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, then in clumsy fashion could not defend it on national TV, an episode that not only ended a potential presidential candidacy, but plunged the Indiana brand into national and international scorn. The Indiana brand continues to take a beating over the Syrian story today.

And the third stuff is just over the horizon. It comes as Pence inconspicuously beats down the debate over civil rights extension, something everyone is debating, except the governor. Multiple Highway Politics editorial sources are saying that legislative Republican leaders are warning members that a rejection of a civil rights extension could result in the NCAA headquarters leaving the state, which would be an economic and political disaster.

If that happens, I'd encourage to fill a place for ask away. The next big confrontation will be the A to F LGBT scores, which promises to place hundreds of schools in the Pence political base into the flank zone, while leaders

Strongman, from page 1

sew up the Republican nomination, or whether a multi-candidate primary will take place in Indiana on May 3.

Prof. Larry Sabato of the University of Virginia, writes today, "The Donald Trump Show continues to dominate the airwaves and the polls, and the other candidates seem more appointments by comparison. The billionaire appeal is very disproportionately tilted in the three-color half of the Republican electorate -- many are the old Reagan Democrats who have long since detached from the core of their traditions, much of the college-educated half of the party, by contrast, views Trump with disdain, but they are fractured and split among the rest of the contesters. Will the anti-Trump majority in the GOP ever coalesce around one or two of his opponents? Surely that will happen eventually, but will it be in time to stop Trump's nomination?"

Among two-thirds of likely 2016 Republican primary voters, favor Donald Trump's call to temporarily ban Muslims from entering the U.S., while more than a third say it makes them more likely to vote for him according to a Bloomberg Politics/Pewable Strategies poll in Bloomington, an opinion survey conducted Tuesday. It shows support at 37% among all likely general-election voters for the controversial proposal put forward by the Republican front-runner. Some 64% of likely Republican primary voters say they favor the idea. That includes 52% who say they strongly support the proposal. Among all likely general-election voters, including Democrats and Independents,

and educators are ready to reactivate politically the way they did in 2012 against Supt. Tony Bennett. This worries Republicans throughout Indiana.

Trump's Syrian refugee ban is potentially a real policy which will play well to the existing Pence base, even if it intensifies him into the Trump narrative.

There are huge policy and cultural challenges ahead, including what is setting up to be one of the most controversial and nationally conspicuous Governor Assemblies in history, following the AFRO, excluding major last spring. Going into this session, legislators in both parties question Pence's leadership. They don't see an accessible start, they see poor staff work and communication, there is no Pence enforcer.

The Syrian refugee "ban" is now a polar issue. Republican leadership and the rank and file are prepared to move over, around and by the governor, who occupies a big, governor office. ♦

denies, 18% say it makes them more likely to back Trump, while 37% say less likely and 44% say it has no impact.

In a New York Times/CBS Poll this morning, 37% of Republican primary voters support Trump, up 13 points since October, and his highest level of support in CBS News polling. Ted Cruz (16%) was moved into second place, while Ben Carson, who led the December poll, has dropped to third.

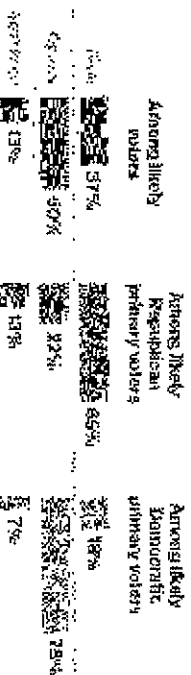
Trump is backed by 37% of Republican presidential primary voters in South Carolina, followed by Ben Carson with 15% and Sen. Ted Cruz, Marco Rubio with 11% each, according to a Fox News poll released today.

With its major House Republican, thereby 2016's Indiana has talked with pay their party brothers and sisters to be having "Acropolis" through Trump's radical positions, such as banning all Muslims from entering the country, they believe he will likely fade.

Former senator Richard Lugar withdrew at the University of Indianapolis last Saturday of the Trump

Trump's Strongman on Muslims

The week, Donald Trump called for a temporary ban on Muslims who are citizens of foreign countries who entered the United States. Do you favor or oppose this idea?



Source: Fox News/CBS News poll, March 1-4, 2016. Margin of error: +/- 3.5 percentage points.

preparation, "Millions of Americans are very angry. They are very disturbed about the lives they are leading at the present. They have little confidence in governments at all levels, and this may be a way of manifesting their unhappiness, which in some cases is very extreme."

Clark County Republican Chairman Jeremy Ruhl observed, "The discussion that is there is the Trump will, I don't think he could win an Indiana primary but if he did, he would be supported in the general election by Republicans. I haven't seen anyone actively working supporting Trump so far. All the local discussion is 'Elucidate' I hear about Rubio, the more I like him."

Moel, who is also Clark County sheriff, said Florida U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio "seems to be gaining a lot of momentum and is the only candidate that I have seen with boots on the ground thus far."

A Positive Magazine story by Arlene Weill on Vigo County, the national presidential bellwether, centered on the growing popularity of Trump. "All I ever heard about was Trump," said Vigo Republican Chairman Randy Gentry of maintaining the GOP booth at the county fair last summer. "The people who came into

the fairgrounds said, 'Can I have a Trump button? Can I have a Trump sign? At 11 o'clock, he was just kind of starting this whole thing out. If you put people on the street here, Trump would be a very strong candidate here right now. Carson's doing really well, too. I don't know. Rubio's name very much here."

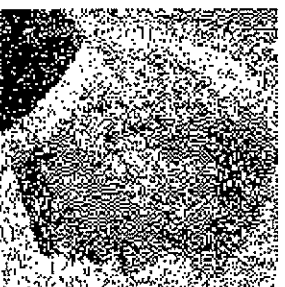
... The top two names there are Trump and Carson ... but it's so early in the process."

Allen County Republican Chairman Steve Shire said, "There is a lot of excitement about a lot of individuals. Trump, Sen. Ted Cruz and Dr. Carson, probably because Carson is coming to Fort Wayne, with the talk and what the stands for prevailing now."

About Trump's rhetoric and bullying tactics, Shire said, "I can't speak for members of my party, but I have seen some very poignant things he says that are resonating with individuals, maybe not in the delivery but certainly genuine with the concept."

Former Indiana Republican chairman Rex Farly was asked about whether Trump has political strength in Indiana. "Yes he does," he said, as Trump campaign volunteers met at a nearby Adelphi Club table, preparing the Indiana tea for caucus strategy.

But there are some critics beginning to show. We're the Indiana GOP congressional delegation (and U.S. Senate field) is mostly muted, and Gov. Mike Pence says he will support the party nominee even if it is Trump. National Committee member John Hammond III told the IndyStar "I think most Indiana Republicans consider him not to be held the office of the presidency. Those comments are completely outrageous and irresponsible. And I think they're



seen that way by most Republicans." And U.S. House Speaker Paul Ryan reacted to the Trump Medalist luncheon with an emphatic four words: "This is not conservatism."

Reducing political attacks Bill Schneider says:

Trump as the art-Obama. "Obama's terror speech ... highlights reasons for Trump's rise," Schneider exclaimed, "what we're seeing right now in American politics is class warfare. It's not the working class versus the 1%. It's the working class versus the educated elite. In fact, one of the richest men in the world is leading the revolt. Trump. Trump's support for the Republican nomination is not defined by ideology or age or gender. It's defined by education. Among GOP voters with a college degree in the latest CNN poll, Trump comes in fourth with just 18 percent. But he has a huge lead among non-college voters, 46 percent. No other candidate comes close. Today, in the United States, the richer you are, the more likely you are to vote Republican. The better educated you are, the more likely you are to vote Democratic."

Press Research observed, "A year ahead of the crucible of election, the American public is caught in a cynical about government, politics and the nation's elected leaders in a way that has become quite familiar. Currently, just 19% say they can trust the government always or most of the time, among the lowest levels in the past half-century. Only 20% would describe government operations as 'going well-run.' And elected officials are held in such low regard that 55% of the public says 'ordinary Americans' would do a better job of solving national problems."

In Indiana, evidence is that 20% was turnout in the 2015 municipal election, and one of the worst turnouts in the nation during the 2014 mid-term elections. It is a state where Gov. Mike Pence won with just 49% of the vote, the first governor not to crack 50% in 50 years, with a Republican Senate. Legar out of office in the 2012 Republican primary despite his status as not only an international statesman who had successfully kept away from media disastations out of the hands of journalists, but he was the all-time leading GOP vote gather in the state's history.

Last weekend, the New York Times (described by Trump as "that failing newspaper") February 25, 2017 words that Trump had uttered in the campaign context. It reported: "Something bad is happening," Donald J. Trump warned New Hampshire voters Tuesday night, casting aspersions on Muslims and mosques. "Something really dangerous is going on." On Thursday evening, his message was equally ominous, as he suggested a link between the shootings in San Bernardino, Calif., and President Obama's failure to say "radical Islamic terrorism." "There is something going on with him that we can't know about," he. Trump said of the president, drawing applause from the crowd in Washington.

five times reported: "the dark power of words

has become the defining feature of Mr. Trump's bid for the White House to a degree rarely seen in recent politics, as his forays, the usual campaign "trapdoor" policy, exchange rates, congressmen, donations – even his own beliefs on political language to connect with, and even stoke, the fears and grievances of Americans. The most striking influence was Mr. Trump's constant repetition of divisive phrases, harsh words and violent imagery that American politicians rarely use, based on a quantitative comparison of his remarks and the more conventional of recent presidents, Clinton, and Republican.

The emerging fatal for Trump: Derangement. It's gifted by Donald Trump himself. A political leader who lacks support by appeal to popular desires and principles, rather than by using rational argument. Synonyms: rabid, rascal, agitation, volatile, defiant; see also Clinton, Joe.

Political analysts and mainstream Republican leaders have been thinking throughout much of 2015 that Trump will close a deal and will begin to plummet in the polls. Trump has offended big disabled with gestures aimed at New York Times reporter. He has sparred with reporters from Fox News' Megyn Kelly at the first debate in August in Mississippi. Jorge Ramos, an lover in Mexican politics, says that he has suggested "ironic" moments in the room creates issues in the brain," and then in a new figurative and in fact. Disability asked, "How stupid are the people of Iowa how stupid are the

copies of the company to Brazil
the "Brazil" that was in existence

to Dr. Ben Carson's earlier youthful violence. He disagreed candidly with "Carry Forward," telling *BlackStar* reporter, "Look at that f-----! He's called Mexicans - part of the 'n-----' business growing under 'Black' landlords and criminals."

He used broken English to impress the Asians and at a Florida rally, talked of Carlson's Seventh-Day Adventist faith by saying, "The Archbishop says, 'God, that's down the middle of the road folks, in all fairness. I mean, Seventh-day Adventists, I don't know about it just don't know about.' As for U.S. Sen. John McCain, a Vietnam War POW, Trump said, "He is not a war hero. He is a war criminal because he was captured. I like people that weren't captured. Only I fail to see how. He is a war hero because he was captured."

In this former workmate, Trump has not yet recognized a CIA/OLC plot of likely women's repression on Reagan showed Trump leading with 33%, followed by Cruz at 29%, then, facing Ben Carson at 16%, Jeb "celebrity" Clinton at 14%, and Marco Rubio at 11% and Chris Christie at 4%. A candidate who had Cruz leading Trump 4-1-1984.

And since the Paris terror attacks on Nov. 13, Trump has taken after Muslims, referring to non-existent news video showing "thousands" of Muslims in New Jersey celebrating the fall of the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001. It seemed to be a crescendo on Monday when Trump called for a "total and complete shutdown" of all Muslims coming into the United States. He said Muslims had a "great hatred" toward Americans and added, "without looking at the various polling data, it is obvious to anybody who has to be beyond comprehension, where this hatred comes from and why we will have to deal with it. Until we are able to determine and understand this problem and the dangerous threat it poses, our country cannot be the victim of future attacks by people that believe only in Jihad, and have no sense of reason or respect for human life."

NEWS

THE MEANINGS,
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1. The author brought a researcher from religious U.S. Sen. Dan Coats, who said, "Coats said, 'Donald Trump has chosen to banish Islamic over sound judgment. There are Muslims around the world, such as the kind of 'exactly, who are what partners of the U.S. We need to continue to work with moderate Muslims who are also in the presence of ISIS, simply because they reject violent jihad. Muslims who reject the barbaric tactics and religious conversion of ISIS are essential to defeating the evil organization.'"

But there was silence (with the exception of Rep. Lou Messer, from the right of the Indiana congressional delegation and many 2016 candidates). Attorney General Greg Zoeller, running for the Republican U.S. 11th nomination, was an exception, leaving Tuesday afternoon. "As a lawyer and as state attorney general, I swore to an oath to the U.S. Constitution. Monday's statement that calls for burning people based solely on their religion is protected under our Constitution as free speech, but I find it repulsive to the moral principles of our nation and I find it repulsive to the religious faith of many of our citizens. Calling for a religious test is an affront to our constitution and avoids the serious policy discussion our nation should have."

Zobler added, "Trust of us who wish to see the constitution preserved, protected and defended now should resemble such rhetoric."

With me more of Trump's fellow aesthetes (and critics) (Sons, Ted Cruz and Rand Paul) notable exceptions), did moderate Trump's Muslim ban, many conservative commentators did not, perhaps revealing why many liberal capitalists are male. Finally they will indicate likely primary voters. You couldn't tweet, "GO TRUMP, GLO!" Laura Ingraham weighed in as follows: "Anyone who thinks the administration's rationale will hurt, in any way, the reputation of the American ppl." Red Stiles's Erick Erickson wrote, "And while I agree with my friend

DAIRY NEWS

When I went down for the Mexicans, I did not speak and - as I was told a Mexican, When he came for the Mexicans I did not speak and - as I was told a Muslim, When he came for me - Me


$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}} \right) = \frac{\partial L}{\partial x}$$

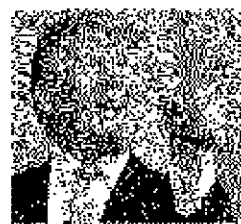
Russell Moore on the merits of Donald Trump's proposal to bar Muslims from entering the United States, including Muslim American citizens currently outside the country, I feel compelled to defend Donald Trump from the reaction to his proposal by many of my other friends."

This is, obviously, not your father's Republican Party.

Chairman Shine explained, "People may not necessarily vote for him. But given the alternative of Hillary Clinton as the Democratic nominee, many will vote for the Republican nominee regardless of whether it is Cruz or Trump. She is not acceptable. I think people while at this time may applaud Donald Trump, I'm not sure they would vote for him."

Indiana has a long history of intolerance. Legendary Civil War Gov. Oliver P. Morton ran on the 1856 "No Nothing" ticket for a nativist party wary of foreign Catholics and Jews. The Republican Party and the Statehouse was taken over by the Ku Klux Klan, culminating in the election of Klan Gov. Ed Jackson and legislative majorities in 1924. The state gave rise to the John Birch Society in the 1950s. In 2006, Indiana legislative Democrats sought to derail Gov. Mitch Daniels' Major Moves Indiana Toll Road lease to "foreigners." In this case a relatively benign Spanish-Australian business consortium. And now Gov. Mike Pence tries in ham-handed fashion to ban Syrian refugees without the authority to do so, putting him at odds with Catholic Charities and other faith-based groups.

In all of these cases, political gains were sought with fear and loathing for "foreigners." While popular in the first drafts of history, most of these moves were later repudiated with time, a broader perspective and revealing events and movements.



The murder of a Statehouse clerk by Klan strongman D.C. Stephenson and his conviction prompted the collapse of the GOP/Klan by 1928. Gov. Daniels won reelection with 58% of the vote in 2008, two years after he "sold" the toll road to foreigners while his approval rating fell dangerously low at the time of the deal.

The allure of Trump to foreigners and Americans, many in the uneducated sectors of the electorate, is that of a strongman. They witness Putin impressing his will with the partition of the Crimea and Eastern Ukraine, and the dominance over the media and the legislature. Many Republicans view this as a needed step to improve the American status in the world. The news media is now an adversary; government is not to be trusted, and the wave of massacres ranging from white supremacists in America-born and -bred jihadists ignites cascading gun-buying binges. Americans and Hoosiers are arming.

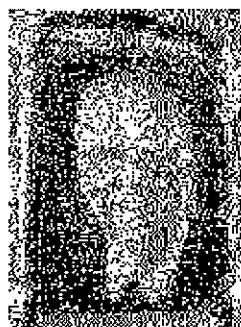
Trump is their strongman. Whether his stay at the top of the polls is a relative flash in the pan, or a more enduring trend, is an answer we'll discover in 2016. ♦

A Trump nomination would be GOP disaster

By JACK COLWELL

SOUTH BEND — I don't think Republicans are that dumb. They're not dumb enough to nominate Donald Trump for president. OK, maybe they are. If so, I'm wrong in thinking that political sense, common sense and concern about the nation as well as the party will prevail.

Historically, of course, the major parties have made some poor political decisions in picking presidential nominees. Barry Goldwater, the Republican nominee in 1964, led the GOP to political disaster, losing 44 states and caus-



ing such ruin to the party in state-level races that Indiana elected not only a Democratic governor but also 78 of the 100 members of the Indiana House. That's right, 78 percent of the House went Democratic in traditionally Republican Indiana.

George McGovern, the Democratic nominee in 1972, was disastrous for his party, losing 49 states and decimating Democrats in myriad state-level races. In Indiana, there was election of a Republican governor and 73 Republicans to the Indiana House.

Both Goldwater and McGovern had fervent supporters, as does Trump, sure that their choice, though offending many, would win and do wonders for the nation. They did wonders for the opposition party. The winners, Lyndon Johnson in '64 and Richard Nixon in '72, weren't exactly beloved figures. They won because the vast majority of voters found their opponents unthinkable for president.

Would Trump bring a GOP disaster? Republican leaders around the nation fear that he would. Trump retains his solid support of nearly a third of potential Republican primary voters, and that's enough to win in a field with so many candidates. Presumably the field will narrow.

But what happens if Trump actually wins the nomination and goes one-on-one with a Democratic nominee appealing to all the groups Trump now insults? His base cheers when he insults immigrants, women, African-Americans, Muslim-Americans and anybody else that he and they enjoy hearing him ridicule.

However, large percentages of all those groups could have the last laugh as they vote against Trump in November. So would independents and moderates in both parties who wouldn't want a business boss with a gigantic ego and refusal ever to back down or compromise actually trying to lead the nation.

Trump couldn't fire Putin. Couldn't fire China. Couldn't fire the Senate or the House. Couldn't tell Mexico, "Build my fence or you're fired." Couldn't tell millions of immigrants vital in the workforce, "You're fired. Leave now or I'll put you in a concentration camp surrounded by a beautiful fence."

Indiana Republican leaders fear that Trump as sickle leader would doom the already shaky reelection chances of Gov. Mike Pence, enable Democrats to win the U.S. Senate seat at stake in 2016 and give Democrats an enhanced chance to win more congressional seats, even in the 2nd District, where Republican U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski has appeared safe. And how many seats in the Indiana House would Democrats, now a pathetic minority, win in a Trump disaster?

How about the Democratic presidential nominee? I don't think Democrats are dumb enough to nominate Bernie Sanders for president. Maybe they are. But this nation isn't ready to elect a socialist, even one who defines his philosophy in more moderate terms.

Hillary Clinton, presumably to be the Democratic nominee, is strong with the groups Trump alienates, especially women. The fear that nominating Trump would elect

Clinton motivates Republican leaders seeking an alternative.

Are there potential Republican nominees with a better chance for the wider appeal needed to defeat Clinton? Sure. But you can think of at least a couple. One of them needs to emerge from the pack to battle Trump more evenly, consolidating support as other candidates run out of funding and drop out. This contest could last a long time, through the Indiana presidential primary in May and even until the Republican National Convention in July.

The Donald true nominee? I don't think Republicans are that dumb. ✎

Colwell has covered Indiana politics over five decades for the South Bend Tribune.

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The trickle-down Trump effect

By MARK SONDER

FROM WASHINGTON — In the panic over Donald Trump's early polling lead, it is seldom recognized that the anti-Trump "as in, "I will never vote for Donald Trump," lever is generally well over 50% and has hardened. It isn't a protest against the general election of the country, it is opposition to him. Trump, like Hillary Clinton, has the advantage of being name identification. Both also have the disadvantage, with him, from negatives, Trump is Hillary's by a mile and can't.

When the voting begins we don't know many things including: 1.) Will Trump supporters actually vote for him, or do they just want to strike up the system by telling pollsters that because they are angry? 2.) Are Trump supporters going to actually vote? 3.) How many opponents, especially serious ones, will vote? 4.) How many Democrats and "Remnants" are actually voting as Independents? These are but a few of the unknown variables.

The only known variable is this: If Trump is the Republican Presidential nominee, Barack Obama will be led by Gov. John Gregg, represented by two Democrats in the U.S. Senate. Likely have at least two more House Democrats in the U.S. House, the Indiana Democrat state representatives will fill more than one way, and — thanks to staggered elections — Senate President Pro Tem David Long will sit nearly alone among Republicans in the annual House. Politics Indiana House, so, in other words, to act like this wouldn't be a bigger disaster than even the 1964 Goldwater race for Republicans is just silly. In retrospect, Goldwater seems calm, intellectual, logical, and cautious.

But Trump will not be the nominee. I don't even believe there is a small chance of it happening. I do believe that if Trump has the disorganised and going into the convention, or the second or third most, he will then justify in his own mind the very, very, very, very, very, very, when it comes to judging himself, that he was "wronged" up on. Then he will run, as was always the likely scenario, as his ultimate Democratic George Wallace did in 1968, as an independent candidate. Just to be clear, because Trump would doubt the party, is simplistic and peddles hate, and has never been a conservative or a Republican. Trump is going to be pursued up on. So justifying it to himself will be more than self-delusion; it will be fool.

The more practical problem for don't, is that is the

Trump voters, the trickle-down Trump effect. This group includes conservatives absolutely intimidated by the hypocrisy of the liberal gun control advocates, who demand gun laws be changed in spite of endless futile efforts to do so, but claim ObamaCare is the law so is thus unconstitutional, who aren't Trump but bullying of it with moral disagreements over homosexuality or those with scientific arguments different than theirs on global warming, and who refuse to acknowledge obvious radical Islamic terrorism as moving a common core, etc. (pick your subject). Trump voters also include an expanded category of the "Moralist Washington" populist movement that always exists. Many, if not most, of those will likely vote for Mike Pence for governor and the Republican candidates for other offices. Or not vote. They are unlikely to vote for Democrats like Gregg and Hall.

More problematic are the smaller but significant fraction of Trump supporters who are more "radical" and to pick a somewhat unfair word that candidates bullseye and male chauvinists, "white breeder" vote. Statistics show such people exist in high numbers in this nation and there is little doubt: why they support for presidential.

Intensely anti-Trump voters will also not vote for Republicans who have "catapulted to" the biggest faction of the Trump vote. Not criticizing Trump and separating from him, but then entering the conservative for Trump's, logically associated such associations with his style and bigoted candidate as well. Assuming Trump runs as a third party candidate, which is the most likely scenario, he is likely to attract 10 to 20% of the voters depending upon many variables, including those yet unknown, but since neither party currently tops 50% statewide in a two-way scenario (but in election the Libertarian Party is viable), so these voters are an election wild card.

In spite of all this, I believe Gov. Mike Pence will survive. Richard Mourdock's debate error landed all the Republicans in 2012, and Tony Bennett was also dragging down the ticket. Pence's large lead fell because of other variables, but the election lasted another week, even an out-of-state candidate like Gregg might have won.

I believe Pence has diverted a conservative path that has aggravated many Republicans at one time or another but has a proven conservative record which provides a path to victory through likely by a narrow margin. He will win unless other variables again drag him down.

Pence's biggest threat, in my opinion, is the trickle-down Trump effect combined with Martin Stutzman as the Senate nominee. Stutzman labeled incumbent Dan Claitor as unacceptable in 2010, backed Eric Pierce over Mitch Daniels, and launched his campaign attacking most of his active supporters call "Republicans in Maine City (RINO's)." I know: blasting Pence as a fake conservative are not Todd Young and Eric Hovind supporters. This type of rhetoric blessing other Republican appears to all Trump voters. If Claitor, Daniels, Pierce, and Richard Lugar — Indiana's longest serving senator in history — are Republicans in Maine City, then there is no path to victory.

A Senate nominee tied to the extremist rhetoric will doom Pence as well as elect another Democrat senator from Indiana.

At the end of the day, the Indiana Republican Party could hold almost all the currently Republican held offices, including that of the governor, in spite of a Trump

third party candidacy. But I would argue that the Senate primary nominee, as well as the trickle-down Trump effect, will be a critical variable. ☛

Souder is a former Republican congressman from Indiana.

Trump wreaks havoc in GOP, Clinton coasts

By CHRIS SAUTTER

WASHINGTON — In his breakthrough book "Before the Storm: Barry Goldwater and the Unmaking of the American Consensus," historian Rick Perlstein reveals how the Republican establishment in 1964 continued to be in denial about Sen. Goldwater's rise to the nomination all the way to the California primary in June when he defeated New York Gov. Nelson Rockefeller. By then it was too late to stop Goldwater and he went on to an historic loss to President Lyndon Johnson.

Obviously, there are many differences between 1964 and 2016, but the similarities are striking. The GOP establishment this cycle has been similarly in denial about Donald Trump. Month after month Republicans and the media have predicted his demise as Trump has continued to ride high in the polls. Last week's CNN/ORC poll puts Trump at 36%, 20 points ahead of bad boy Ted Cruz who is now in 2nd place nationally. Conservative outsiders have topped the field since July. Even if the establishment were able to take down Trump, he might not be replaced by anyone remotely acceptable to them.

Like 1964 when Goldwater occupied an empty field for months, there is a vacuum of message in the 2016 race that Trump has filled. At the outset of the cycle Republicans bragged about the quality of candidates in 2016. Grover Norquist, conservative president of Americans for Tax Reform, called them the "strongest field the Republicans have had since Reagan ran" in 1980. Instead, the politicians on Norquist's list have since dropped out or are

languishing in single digits due to their inability to connect with the Republican base. The abject failure of any of the establishment candidates to articulate a message that resonates is to blame for Trump's success.

The national Republican Party is in total disarray as Donald Trump has dominated the early nominating process. Unless the dynamics change dramatically soon, the GOP is poised to nominate an unelectable presidential candidate who, because of his outrageous and sometimes racist positions, would provide Democrats with their most one-sided victory since 1964. The possibility of a dead-lock in the process or that a third breakaway party could emerge from the turmoil is also increasing.

Just as in 1964, Republican Party leaders have no intention of allowing the outsider candidate to win the nomination. And, just as in 1964, establishment leaders have no idea whatsoever how to stop him. The more they attack Trump, the more his supporters dig in and his poll numbers rise.

Worse, new party rules designed to help an establishment candidate such as Jeb Bush lock up the nomination early may, in fact, now favor Trump because they bias delegates to the outcome of primaries and caucuses. If Trump wins early primaries, delegates are bound to him even if he begins to fade later. And, the process is more front-loaded than ever increasing the odds that Trump gets on a roll. The new rules mean Trump could very well arrive at the Republican Convention in Cleveland with enough

delegates to, in effect, dictate the outcome even if he cannot win the nomination himself.

Political pundits have traditionally said that there are but "three tickets out of Iowa"—meaning that only three presidential candidates can emerge viable in the wake of Iowa's first-in-the-nation event. If true this cycle, the Republican nominee would likely be one of Trump, Ben Carson, or Ted Cruz or possibly Marco Rubio.

Some observers, including Iowa Governor Terry Branstad, have predicted there will be more than three candidates rising out of Iowa this year. Even if that were the case, there



Donald Trump and U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz are the hottest Republican presidential candidates.

is little room at the top for establishment candidates like Jeb Bush, Chris Christie, or John Kasich, none of whom are even seriously competing in Iowa.

Iowa puts more pressure on these establishment candidates to perform well-meaning finish in the top three—in New Hampshire or drop out. The only way to snop Trump is to get him in a one-on-one race since his sailing seems to be no higher than 40%. Would Bush drop out or does his financial advantage assure he remains in the race until he runs out of money? Many are betting on the latecomer Rubio, who looks like he is still in college, to be the last one standing with Trump. But Rubio has to contend with both Bush and Cruz. You have to win or at least sit out to move on in presidential politics.

Just like 1964, the Republican establishment is perplexed as to what rank and file Republicans see in the frontrunner. In fact, there is nothing mysterious about Trump's appeal. Like Goldwater, Trump's appeal lies in his take-charge style, his willingness to speak his mind even when (especially when) it is impolitic to do so, and his success in the business world. Trump's message of making America great again is pure Ronald Reagan. And, Reagan's message descended directly from Goldwater, for whom he campaigned hard in 1964. For all of Trump's controversial statements, no other candidate in the 2016 race has a message anywhere nearly as powerful as Trump's.

Meanwhile the mess in the Republican race has eclipsed the Democratic contest, helping Hillary Clinton consolidate her support and avoid the brutal scrutiny of earlier this year. Clinton seems to have found her footing over the past several months. The e-mail controversy has faded and her solid appearance before the House special committee investigating Benghazi has reassured a majority of Democrats that she is the strongest candidate with the best chance of winning the general election. Currently, Clinton leads Bernie Sanders by 27% in the USA Today poll released late last week.

However, Sanders continues to poll well in Iowa and New Hampshire. One recent poll has him still ahead in New Hampshire but most Iowa polls give a slight edge to Clinton. Sanders will need to win both early contests to have any possible shot at the nomination. Short of a seriously unfavorable FBI report regarding national security breaches from her private e-mail server or a collapse due to unforeseen circumstances, Clinton will almost certainly be the Democratic nominee.

Of course, things happen in political campaigns and dynamics shift. We have witnessed such a shift in the past couple of weeks with Paris and San Bernardino. However, contrary to some predictions, those events appear to have strengthened both Trump and Clinton with their respective parties while Sanders and Rubio seem to have been hurt. If past is prologue, Republicans could be headed for a disaster of 1964 proportions. ☛

Sautter is a Democratic media consultant based in Washington.

Presidential race poised for Indiana

By CRAIG DUNN

KOKOMO — It's the time of year when dreams of sugar plums dance in the heads of all good little boys and girls. But what about Republican Party chairmen and political junkies? On those nights when I climb into my trap-door jammies and start to drift off into ethereal sleep, my dreams turn to a contested election in the Indiana Republican presidential primary.



I bought my 2016 calendar recently and the first date I double-circled was May 3, the date of the Indiana primary. Next year, I may forget my anniversary, the birth dates of my wife and children and the dates to pay my property tax, but I can double-dog guarantee you that I won't forget May 3.

May 3 has historically been a relatively insignificant date. According to the "On This Day" website, we can mine historical gems about May 3 such as: 1382: Battle of Beverhoutswaarde; the Ghent town army beat a drunken Bruges militia. 1654: Bridge at Rowley Mass begins charging tolls for animals. 1936: Joe DiMaggio made his major league debut getting three hits. But this May 3, in the great Hoosier State, has the potential to be different. This may be the year when Indiana Republicans get a say about who their presidential candidate will be in November.

As much as I enjoy watching Republican presidential candidates make the trek to Iowa in a seemingly endless procession of months-long genuflecting leading up to the all-important Iowa caucuses, I long for a time when Senator Blumrose of Seagram's Point, N.H., must drop by and eat Coney dogs and discuss Hoosier basketball with the locals at the Come Palace in Kokomo. I want to see Elmer Hinderscheck take 10 minutes to enlighten Governor Ganderwurst of Georgia on the finer points of milk bottle collecting. Every four years we must witness these events in Sugtussel, Iowa. I ask, "Why not Indiana?"

The most interesting element of a potential contested Presidential primary in Indiana is that, as Hoosiers, our long-awaited political slugfest may not feature just two candidates, but could bring a short-bus load of aspirants to every nook and cranny to Abraham Lincoln's boyhood backyard.

A surreal campaign and new Republican National Committee rules may shake up Indiana more than when the 1938 circus sideshow star Gypsy Betty fell off of her stool during the Stanley matinee. It's gonna be big, I tell you!

Republican National Committee rules promulgated

after the said 2012 election are intended to provide greater competition and diminish the power of a campaign with big early money. States holding primaries on unapproved dates would be punished by the loss of National Convention delegates. Any state which holds a primary prior to March 15 is forced to allocate delegates on a proportional basis to the candidate's votes received, and not based on winner-take-all. States holding their primaries later in the election cycle were presented with a Hobson's choice requiring significant changes.

Before this latest round of RNC-induced rule changes, Indiana held its primary where people voted in both presidential candidates and delegates to the Indiana Republican Convention. Prior to the Indiana Republican Convention, district Republican committees would meet and select three delegates and three alternate delegates (candidates from each congressional district). The candidates would be nominated at district caucuses conducted at the state convention. While the nomination candidates generally prevailed, the opportunity existed for nominees to come from the floor in the caucuses. Now, because of the RNC rule changes, Indiana's nominative primary date and a Republican National Convention that has been brought forward several weeks, Indiana Republicans will be doing things differently and this will impact how Indiana delegates to the national convention are apportioned and selected.

The new rules stipulated by the Indiana Republican Party call for anyone expressing an interest in serving as a delegate to the national convention to file a form indicating that interest in March. In early April, the nine Republican sets of congressional district officers will meet to prepare a slate of candidates for delegates. Those slates will be either voted up or down during May district meetings. If approved, delegates are deemed selected. If the slate is voted down, nominations will be taken from the floor of the district meetings.

Because Indiana Republicans were required to change our procedures due to the compressed time between the state convention and the national convention, there was no practical way to allow for selection of delegates at the state convention. Because delegates to the Republican National Convention will not be selected at the state convention, RNC rules require that Indiana choose from a winner-take-all format to one that allocates the delegates votes on the first convention be lot to the candidates who won each congressional district. Therefore, 27 of Indiana's national delegates will go to whoever wins the congressional districts. The remaining Indiana delegates will go to the overall state winner.

In short, those rule changes forced by the RNC will mean that Indiana is in play and with numerous potential card deals, it could get really interesting. Let's say Carly Fiorina doesn't have the financial resources to run a statewide campaign. She could focus on three or four congressional districts and grab a few delegates. It's a whole new ballgame.

Who do I see coming to Indiana as candidates in May? Donald Trump will hit the stump in Remlaplus. He will come as a much-deflated candidate at the 70 percent of Republicans who don't like him make their voices heard at the polls. Ben Carson will make the rounds because he has money and an army of true believers. Ted will cruise into Covington because I believe that he is really running for the 2020 nomination. Lt. Governor Sue Ellsperman will bring Carly Fiorina and her low-budget campaign to the bigger cities where urban voters will want to be heard.

Joe Buzell has got cash, supporters and a long-term game plan for victory. He'll come to the Hoosier State and pop up north, south and central. Marco Rubio, who is starting to emerge as a consistent alternative to Trump, will still be alive and kicking as May 3 rolls around.

Finally, either Juan Kasich or Chris Christie will compete in Indiana. I don't really see how both will have the money and support to compete this late in the cycle.

I can't believe that I just predicted that seven presidential candidates will be competing for Indiana's delegates on May 3. Perhaps it is the circus-like atmosphere, that has so focused attention on Donald Trump's incredibly successful campaign to sew up away from the Republican party, that has kept other candidates from breaking out of the herd. It will take the massive negative disputation in the March primaries to bring a cold dose of reality to the race for the Republican nomination. My crystal ball just doesn't shrink the field enough at this time. So seven it is, until it isn't. No, when I drop off to sleep at night, I don't dream of super plum faeries, I dream of my secretary buzzing my office to tell me that it's Donald Trump on line two and I tell her, 'He'll have to call back because I'm talking to Jeb and Marco's or Heidi.' Now that's the Greatest Spectacle in political history!

Dunn is chairman of the Howard County Republican Party.

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Hill kicks off attorney general campaign

By BRIAN A. HOWEY

INDIANAPOLIS — Four-term Republican Elkhart County Prosecutor Curtis Hill kicked off his attorney general campaign Monday morning in a state that has led in domestic methamphetamine production for the past three years. It is a topic that Hill knows all too well. "In 2000 we had a serious meth problem," Hill told Howe Politics Indiana. "It was different at that time. We had a great deal of it coming in from Mexico and out west. A lot of meth in the rest of Indiana was more rural. We put an aggressive program in place and sent a lot of people to prison."



By 2008, the meth labs had dropped in Elkhart County, though Hill says that taking the key ingredient of pseudoephedrine and making it a prescription drug won't end the problem, though he supports that move. "It's a positive impact if we're able to stop more cooks," he said of the meth labs that spring up in rental properties, motels, and even Wal-Mart parking lots. Hill has testified before Congress on "Methamphetamine in the Heartland" and served as a presenter for the Northern Indiana Methamphetamine Summit sponsored by the Office of National Drug Control Policy, Executive Office of the President of the United States.

"Here's the interesting thing," Hill said, "the key to the entire meth discussion is that the demand is still there even if you stop the cooks. Even though we cut off a major supply, you still have people in this area that are meth abusers. The typical user is a 34-year-old white male laborer. Making PSE a prescription will certainly impact the meth labs springing up, but it doesn't necessarily stop it. Meth will find a way."

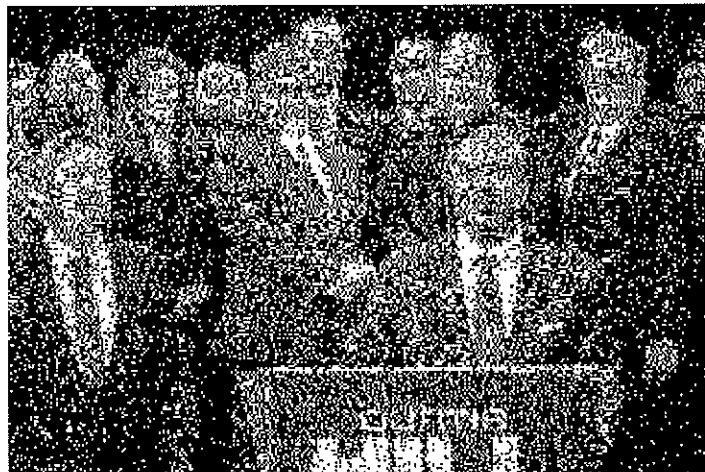
Supporters of making PSE a prescription say it will curtail much of the collateral damage that includes 360 children found on meth lab sites (only about 10% of those exposed), the more than 100 police, fire and municipal code officials injured in dealing with meth labs, and the tens of thousands of dollars to remediate meth houses and sites. Many times, owners of these properties abandon them, leaving cities, towns and counties with damaged homes that go off the tax rolls.

Hill is facing a Republican convention nomination fight that includes former attorney general Steve Carter and State Sen. Randy Head. Former Democratic Lake County Circuit Court Judge Lorenzo Arredondo is also preparing to run. If elected, Hill would be the first county prosecutor to become attorney general since Democratic Marion County Prosecutor Jeff Modest was elected in 1990.

Indiana Republicans have never nominated an African-American for a statewide office, though Butler University Prof. Marvin Scott was nominated and lost a U.S. Senate race to Democrat Evan Bayh. Democratic African-Americans Pamela Carter (attorney general), Gary Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson and Dwayne Brown (clerk of courts) and Cleo Washington (treasurer) were all nominated, with Carter and Brown winning office.

Hill, who served 14 years under former Elkhart County Prosecutor Michael Cosentino, believes having a prosecutor serving as attorney general is an important factor. "As a prosecutor, you have decision making on a daily basis. We make the call on very serious matters, on life and death matters," he said. "It's the strongest background. I've been a prosecutor for four terms. The things that we see, interaction with legislation, it all feeds very well with attorney general."

Hill notes, "We live in a very dangerous world."



Elkhart County Prosecutor Curtis Hill kicked off his attorney general campaign with the support of some 60 fellow prosecutors while he has raised \$520,000 in the last few weeks. (HP Photo by Mark Curry)

There is lots of focus on international issues. We are a divided nation many ways, political, socially, economic, spiritually. We have to focus on what's going on in our backyard and the safety of all our residents, working with the courts, and influencing legislation. We want to make sure we enforce personal property rights." And, he said, it is "very important to focus on our state's constitutional sovereignty. There are always federal and state issues that come into the crosshairs. We have to protect the interests

in the state. I believe in strong federal government, but sometimes they brace in our lane."

"Justice and liberty are the cornerstones of our American heritage," Hill said Monday morning. "The role of the prosecutor within our American justice system is central and essential to the integrity of our society's structure."

Hill is past president of the Association of Indiana Prosecuting Attorneys.

Governor: Smoking out John Gregg

Indiana Republicans are beginning to fire and smoke Democratic gubernatorial candidate John Gregg out on the issues. Gregg has taken a strong on the civil rights expansion, backing the "four wars and a criminal" approach, but when it comes to other issues, Gregg isn't taking stances, other than that he thinks Gov. Mike Pence is an ideologue and dividing governor.

Republicans have attempted to get Gregg stumped on the Keystone pipeline and highway funding. Indiana Republican spokesman Robert Vance noted, "in his losing campaign to Mike Pence in 2012, Democrat candidate John Gregg proposed eliminating the sales tax on gasoline. Just last month, the House Democratic Caucus announced its fiscally irresponsible infrastructure plan, one that would recklessly spend down our state's reserves and limit our ability to fund schools and hospitals' healthcare needs. And how do the Democrats propose to fund their plan? By increasing the sales tax on gasoline from the state's general fund and not replacing those monies, which fund education, health care and our National Guard, with any other revenue source. Obviously, these two schemes contradict each other. So, does John Gregg still want to repeal the sales tax on gasoline or does he stand with his fellow Democrats who want to use the tax to fund their unrealistic plan?"

On Nov. 6, Republican Governors Association spokesman Jon Thompson said, "While Gov. Mike Pence has strategically led and stood up for the Keystone XL pipeline, energy jobs and American infrastructure, Democrat John Gregg has been silent, instead choosing to stand with President Obama and extreme environmentalists. Now, John Gregg can't even muster an opinion, giving no hint of how he is with Indiana voters by offering a 'no comment' response when asked if he agrees with Obama's decision to block the pipeline. Even Indiana's top Democrat, Sen. Joe Donnelly, supports Keystone and puts Indiana over party on this issue. Governors cannot afford an out-of-touch extremist who refuses to lead, like John Gregg as governor."

"What we've heard from John Gregg is pretty much nothing except he dislikes everything the governor is doing," State Sen. Carlin Yoder, R-Middlebury, told the Associated Press. According to Gregg's campaign logo, which incorporates the candidate's facial hair, Yoder added: "You can only say, 'Hey, look at my mustache' so many times before you have to put out an original thought."

Gregg gets IPACE endorsement

Citing his commitment to strong public schools, the Indiana Political Action Committee for Education has endorsed Gregg and contributed \$108,000 to his campaign (WAMW). IPACE chairwoman Mary Paturey says "John believes that every child deserves a quality public education, whether they live in Gary, Zionsville or Muncie."

Senate

Another Stutzman campaign shakeup

Indiana Republican Rep. Nanilo Stutzman's Senate campaign replaced its media and digital strategists this week, replacing all of its on-board staff shakeout since he launched his bid in May. The moves come on the heels of another major staff departure in October, raising concerns about the state of his campaign (National Journal). Stutzman, who has been endorsed by the conservative Club for Growth and Senate Conservative Fund, initially rolled out a team of veteran campaign operatives with close ties to the National Republican Senatorial Committee. His initial approach assured Republicans that if he won the nomination, he would have an experienced team in place and avoid repeating mistakes that past conservative grassroots candidates have made. Since then, however, Stutzman overhauled his staff, replacing Washington veterans with outside-the-beltway originals. The late news executive running insurgent campaigns. The late stage shakeup is worrying even some of his allies about the state of his campaign. "I can tell you there have been email exchanges about what the best is going on with Martin Stutzman and his campaign," said one conservative strategist supporting Stutzman, who requested anonymity in a peak candidly. "There is a cause for concern."

Stutzman's electability has always been a concern for party leaders, given his reputation as an unwavering conservative in the House. He sits well to the right of the field in a three-way primary contest that includes his fellow House colleague, Rep. Todd Young. The early campaign apparatus, however, assured campaign officials they wouldn't be seeing a repeat of another Indiana Senate nominee, Richard Mourdock, whose misstatement cost the party a winnable Senate seat in 2012. Stutzman's first hires included former NRSC executive director Rob Jenson and former NRSC deputy political director Terry Nelson, both partners at PPT Strategies, which has close ties to the campaign committee. Brooks Radtke, who worked on New Hampshire Sen. Kelly Ayotte's 2010 race, was Stutzman's general consultant, and Brendon DeZonia, previously the chief of staff to fellow Indiana GOP Rep. Mike Walker, was named campaign manager. But over the past two months, that entire team has been replaced. On Thursday night, Stutzman announced in a Facebook post: "Exciting news for our campaign! We hired The Strategy Group Company to join Friday that I was no longer working on the race, and

that they were bringing on Strategy Group Company as well as Texas-based Harris Media for digital strategy.

Hill fundraiser in DC

Senator Heckleup hosted an event for Democratic U.S. Senate candidate Aaron Hill at her Washington House last night. Other senators who attended and were listed on the invitation were Sens. Warner, Donnelly, Keane, Carper, Heinrich, Wyden and Gillibrand.

Congress

Orrinlicher to challenge Rep. Buchanan

Dr. David Orrinlicher announced that he has filed documents with the Federal Election Commission to become a candidate in Idaho's 8th Congressional District. A former award-winning Democratic state legislator, Orrinlicher is running against Republican incumbent Larry Buchanan to make Congress work for the 8th district. Orrinlicher will make a formal announcement in early 2016. "Bill Clinton was right. If you work hard and play by the rules," said Orrinlicher, "you should be able to provide a good life for your family and a better future for your children. That's not true anymore, and we need to make sure it is true again. We need to make the American Dream a reality for all Americans. That's what this campaign is about."

"It's not right when so many of our children never have a chance to succeed," declared Orrinlicher. "Too many children suffer because their parents can't find good-paying jobs, their schools are in decline, and their neighborhoods are plagued with drug use and crime. At one time, government made sure we had a strong middle class," continued Orrinlicher. "Now, government works for the special interests. They dominate Congress with their big campaign contributions, and they dominate every election. Most residents of the 8th District no longer have a voice in Washington. The 8th District needs a representative who speaks for the district and a Congress that serves the interests of all Americans. We need to unstack the deck in Washington, D.C., so everyone gets a fair shake from their government and the United States once again is a land of opportunity for all of its citizens." David Orrinlicher is an educator, physician, attorney, and former three-term member of the Idaho House of Representatives. He has practiced both medicine and law, and he teaches at the Idaho University School of Medicine in Boise, Idaho, IU School of Medicine in Indianapolis, and IU Robert H. McKinney School of Law. This is not Orrinlicher's first Congressional race. He ran in the Democratic caucus for the 7th CD seat following the death of U.S. Rep. Julia



Carson, finishing second to current U.S. Rep. André Carson in February 2016.

Legislature

Three seeking HD62 caucus role

David Subeagly, former Bloomington City Council member and current MCCIC board member, believes now is the time to send "a real, classic" Republican to the Indiana House of Representatives. Subeagly is one of four people now vying for the District 62 Indiana House of Representatives seat, vacated last month by Linton Republican state Rep. Matt Uebelhor. District 62 Republican Party precinct committee leaders will vote on Uebelhor's replacement at a caucus Dec. 21 in Bloomfield. A news release announcing Subeagly's interest in the state-house seat read, "The believes core government responsibilities include fostering an environment that allows businesses and people to create jobs. He believes government must build necessary infrastructure. He believes education and safe public schools are important to the development of our state and the best way to help people out of poverty and to develop an educated workforce. ... He also believes that early childhood education is a key to preparing children in achieve success in school." Nathan Avery, a Greene County commissioner, left Ellington, a Bloomington firefighter and bus-pass owner, and Andy Lane, the Greene County Veterans Hospital public relations/marketing and business development manager, are also candidates for the vacant seat.

Kentley faces primary challenge

Indiana Senate Appropriations Chairman Luke Kentley announced Wednesday he will seek reelection, a day after a Wendell businessman said he planned to challenge the powerful Republican in next May's primary (Howey Politics Network). "I have always been open to making sure our state budget supports our priorities such as road building, K-12 and higher education, and economic development and job creation, and that commitment will never waver," Kentley said. "Many elected officials tend to forget that every tax dollar our state spends was first received by a hard-working Hoosier, and government should not take one penny more than is necessary to provide essential services. It is our responsibility as public servants to ensure those dollars are spent as efficiently as possible so we deliver the very best services at the lowest cost. Hoosiers deserve nothing less." On Tuesday, Sen. Willis announced that he is running for SD60. "Hamilton County has seen tremendous growth in the last two decades in large part due to our great schools," Willis said. "Our schools have consistently been asked to do more with less as our tax dollars are redistributed throughout the state. The current school funding formula has made it extremely difficult for our schools and puts education in Hamilton County at risk." Kentley pointed out that he was

the "architect of the new school funding formula which ensures growing schools receive the funding they need by having the dollars follow the student." He also pointed out that he authored legislation providing record increases in education funding including \$470 million for K-12 and \$70 million in performance funding. "My campaign slogan is 'A Citizen's Legislator in Touch with the People' and I'm looking forward to going door to door and hearing from the voters in Senate District 20," said the Harvard Law School graduate. "We have a strong grass-roots plan in place and I'm ready to hit the ground running. I work hard to represent the good people of Hamilton County and I hope they will hire me for another term."

Pressel announces for HD20

Jim Pressel, a lifelong resident of LaPorte County, announced today he is running for HD 20, the seat being vacated by State Rep. Tom Kennedy (Howey Politics Indiana). Pressel (pictured) is the owner of Pressel Enterprises Inc., a company Pressel started in 1991. Today, Pressel Enterprises is a premiere homebuilding company in the area. Pressel believes that his experience and knowledge in running his own successful small business can be applied to state government. Pressel said, "As an owner of a small business, I know how important it is to have sound leaders who know how to lead in a rapidly changing economy. We need a smaller government, that works to keep money in the taxpayer's hands, not in the government's. I will focus on creating higher paying jobs and making sure we have great local schools." Pressel is the incoming 2016 president of the Indiana Builders Association, helped start the New Prairie building trades vocational program and currently serves on the LaPorte County Planning Commission. He and his wife are members at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in LaPorte. Democrat Karen Blumacki, CEO of Family Advocates in LaPorte has announced for the nomination.



Sen. Arnold to seek third term

State Sen. Jim Arnold, D-LaPorte, said he will run next year for a third term representing most of LaPorte County, northern Elkhart and western St. Joseph counties at the Statehouse (Garden, NWI Times). "I am asking for Hoosiers' support because I believe there is still more work to be done," Arnold said Wednesday. The former LaPorte County sheriff, known for never having missed a session day since taking office in 2005, said he prides himself on seeking bipartisan solutions at the Republican-controlled Legislature. Looking ahead, Arnold said he wants to bring that same approach to ensuring adequate support for state and local road construction through his role as the

sen Democrat on the Senate's transportation committee. "Crumbling roads and bridges are not a Democrat or Republican issue, they are an Indiana issue," Arnold said. "I am ready to work with colleagues in both parties to find a long-term solution that boosts the Hoosier economy and puts Hoosiers to work." Arnold was re-elected in 2012 with 58 percent of the vote. So far he is unopposed in his 2016 campaign for another four-year term.

Oesterle forms business PAC

Republican politicians in Indiana who'd rather compare themselves to Mitch Daniels than Mike Pence, and who fear primary challenges from social conservative groups, may be in for a little extra campaign cash in future election cycles (Columbo, IRT). Former Angie's List CEO Bill Oesterle filed paperwork Friday to create a political action committee called, "Free Enterprise Indiana," which aims to recruit and support economy-focused candidates, get them through primary challenges and, ultimately, into elected office. Oesterle says he's "tired of distractions" like the Religious Freedom Restoration Act championed by Pence earlier this year, which opponents said could legalize discrimination of gay Hoosiers. "I'm concerned that economic development focused candidates don't have adequate support in the state," Oesterle said. "We have big issues in front of us. We have to raise incomes. We have to build, retain and attract talented people, and we need entrepreneurial growth. People in office today have to be concerned about challenges from extreme elements in the party."

The announcement comes on the heels of a political renaissance from Oesterle, an outspoken Daniels ally and recent critic of Pence for his positions on gay rights, and in advance of what's sure to be an intense legislative battle between advocates of LGBT rights and religious freedom. Oesterle said the group, which he says will be backed by Daniels supporters and up-and-coming Republicans, will primarily target candidates in legislative races first. There's also the possibility it could step into mayor's races. At this point, the group is not poised to try to find a primary challenger for Pence. "That is not a focus of this group," Oesterle said. "His actions over the course of the next two months are going to be highly critical to answering that question. This is an important session for him. Last session, obviously, didn't go well."

Indiana political analyst Brian Howey said the timing of Oesterle's announcement makes sense since a legislative debate looms over whether sexual orientation and gender identity will make it into the state civil rights code. Some social conservatives have already promised political retribution to Republicans who vote for a measure that would strengthen LGBT rights. This may be a way to combat that, said Howey, who runs the Howey Politics Indiana site. "That can really make a difference," Howey said. "He probably knows some [legislators] who might be inclined to vote for that expansion but they may have a primary challenge." ➔

Tax cap frustrations echo in city halls

By MAUREEN HAYDEN
CNHI Staffhouse Bureau

INDIANAPOLIS - Reports that say Indiana's aging industrial cities are hit hard by a state-imposed limit on local property taxes don't surprise Hammond Mayor Tom McDermott. He sees the impact every time a snowstorm hits his city in the Chicago snow-belt.



Working with \$70 million less in annual revenue since the limits went into effect in 2009, the four-term McDermott has cut the city's public works department in half. That means a smaller snow removal crew and a lot more complaints from citizens.

"It makes you want to scream," said McDermott, who's seen his city and its tax revenue shrink with closing steel mills. "Residents are happy paying lower property taxes, but they still expect local government to provide the same level of services as though the caps weren't in effect."

These frustrations echo in city halls across the state. Local governments and schools have lost \$1.2 billion in property tax revenues, it says some communities are more affected than others. Two new reports released Tuesday by the non-partisan Indiana Fiscal Policy Institute show a double-whammy sap-ped the financial health of the state's aging, manufacturing-dependent cities. Hammond, Gary and Terre Haute among them. Cuts on property taxes drained millions from local budgets each year, and a recession sent property values, and population, into a nose-dive.

Meanwhile, suburban cities in the "coughout" around Indianapolis, affluent and fast-growing, are deemed among the healthiest. For example, in Fishers, just north of Indianapolis, property values are up 20 percent. The population is 86,000, which is 10,180 more than five years ago. Median income is \$90,000, almost twice the state level.

But Fishers Mayor Scott Fadness said tax caps affect his city, too. About 10 percent less revenue is coming than it would have without the caps. To boost the city budget to pay for more demand in services, Fishers leaders have aggressively sought more commercial development and more employers. The result

is more money from commercial property owners that pay higher tax rates, and more from a local income tax levied on residents.

"It marks a fundamental change for what used to be bedroom communities, those places where you could just build homes and grow the revenue 'well' off the property taxes," Fadness said.

The tax caps came after more than a decade of rollercoaster rises and falls in local property tax rates. Pushed by then Gov. Mitch Daniels in 2008, the caps were locked into the state Constitution by voters two years later. They limit tax bills to 1 percent of assessed value on homes, 2 percent for rental property and agriculture, and 3 percent for commercial business. The caps now reduce tax revenues by more than \$700 million a year for local governments and schools.

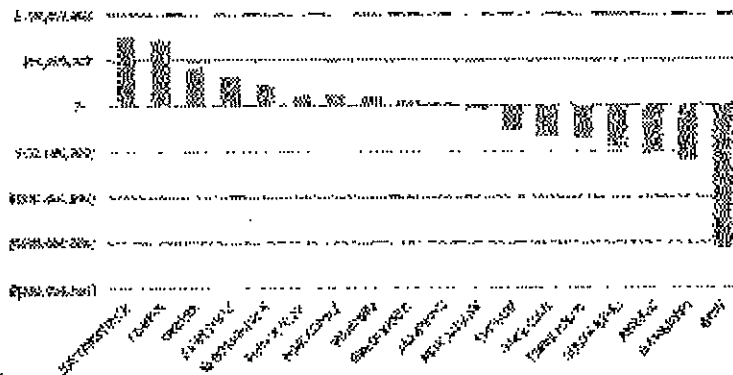
The cap system also includes a "circuit breaker," which gives further relief to property owners by restricting the money from property taxes that flows to local governments. Those circuit breakers alone cut about \$150 million a year from local budgets around the state, said Larry DeBorja, a Purdue economist and author of one of the reports.

Those circuit breakers hit some of the state's aging, industrial communities hardest. John Stafford, retired director of the Community Research Institute at Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne, author of the companion report, said it won't be easy for those cities that have lost their industrial base to recover to tax revenues they once enjoyed. "You can't turn the tax base around on a dime," he said.

The reports released Tuesday take a deep dive into the wide-ranging effects of the limits on communities. A report that graded the fiscal health of local governments focused exclusively on the state's 18 biggest cities, sans Indianapolis, which is seen as an outlier given its merged city and county government.

Both reports are available on the Indiana Fiscal Policy Institute website, www.indianafiscal.org.

COMPARISON OF 2009 LOSS OF "CORE REVENUE" IN 2009 AND 2015 COMPARED WITH 2008 CORE REVENUE FOR SELECTED INDIANIAN MUNICIPALITIES



An epic HPI Power 50 for our Bicentennial

By BRIAN A. POWEY

INDIANAPOLIS -- Looking back on the 2015 Howey Politics Indiana Power 50 list, we didn't have too many misses.

U.S. Sen. Dan Coats had the biggest impact when he announced he wouldn't seek reelection, setting off a political chain reaction that cut across the state's and two congressional districts.



U.S. Rep. Luke Messer ascended to the No. 5 spot in the House hierarchy. U.S. Rep. Susan Brooks' role on the Benghazi panel had her questioning Hillary Clinton. Joe Hogsett became mayor of Indianapolis.

John Gregg, Baron Hill, Eric Holcomb and U.S. Reps. Marlin Stutzman and Todd

Young, and Attorney General Greg Zoeller all worked 2015 to set up statewide races in 2016.

Prominent mayors on the list — Lloyd Winncke, Duke Bennett, Tom Henry, Peter Buttigieg, Tom McDermott and Greg Gondnight — all won reelection in November.

And there are a number of names on the 2015 list — Pat Kiely, Greg Ballard and Tim Berry — who have moved on.

As we do every December, we ask Howey Politics Indiana subscribers to craft the 2016 list of Hoosiers likely to have the greatest impact on the coming year. Not only is 2016 our Bicentennial year, but it promises to be an epic election sequence with the gubernatorial, U.S. Senate and at least two congressional districts in play.

Look for a SurveyMonkey survey coming your way later this month. Don't hesitate to shoot me an email or create your own list and send it to bipowey2@gmail.com.

We'll publish the 2016 list on Jan. 7, 2016.

2015 HPI Power 50

1. Gov. Mike Pence
2. House Speaker Brian Bosma

3. U.S. Sen. Dan Coats
4. Jon Hayslett
5. Senate President David Long
6. U.S. Rep. Luke Messer
7. State Sen. Luke Kenley
8. Ways & Means Chairman Tim Brown
9. U.S. Sen. Joe Donnelly
10. Lt. Gov. Sue Ellspermann
11. John Gregg and Baron Hill
12. Evansville Mayor Lloyd Winncke
13. State Rep. Gail Klecken
14. U.S. Rep. Todd Young
15. U.S. Rep. Susan Brooks
16. Supt. Genda Ritz
17. Fort Wayne Mayor Tom Henry
18. U.S. Rep. Todd Rokita
19. Hammond Mayor Thomas McDermott Jr.
20. Purdue President Mitch Daniels
21. State Sen. Brandt Harshman
22. FSA Commissioner John Wernert and Deputy Commissioner Michael Gargano
23. Pierre Chief of Staff Jim Atternok
24. State Sen. Dennis Kruse and State Rep. Robert Bethling
25. State Rep. Tom Dermody and Sen. Ron Altig
26. U.S. Rep. Larry Bucshon
27. U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski
28. Terre Haute Mayor Duke Bennett
29. South Bend Mayor Peter Buttigieg
30. Indianapolis Mayor Greg Ballard
31. U.S. Rep. Marlin Stutzman
32. Kokomo Mayor Greg Gondnight
33. State Sen. Jim Merritt
34. Democratic Chairman John Zody
35. Pat Kiely

36. State Rep. Jud McMillen
37. DWD Commissioner Steve Braun
38. Attorney General Greg Zoeller
39. Eric Holcomb
40. Bill Smith
41. Republican Chairman Tim Berry
42. Evan White
43. John Hammond RT
44. U.S. Rep. André Carson
45. Bob Grand and Brian Burdick
46. Lacy Johnson
47. U.S. Rep. Pete Visclosky
48. Betsy Wiley
49. State Rep. Greg Steverwald and Sen. Brent Steele
50. House Minority Leader Scott Pelatti

Power 50: Budgets, mayors, presidents

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Tim Swadens, IndyStar: It's time to make a decision: governor, time to take a stand on an issue that has divided Hoosiers for most of this year. Time to lead. For nearly nine months, Mike Pence has been busy, according to those close to him, studying what position to take on the proposal to add sexual orientation and gender identity to Indiana's civil rights law. Nine months is a long time. Since last March, when the RFRA storm raged, until today, thousands of Indiana's high school seniors have graduated, left home for college campuses, and are now wrapping up their first semester of university studies. An entire 162-game Major League Baseball season has come and gone. Expectant parents have safely shed the news of a pregnancy and are now bracing for the baby, or are close to bringing home their newborns. But Mike Pence has not made a decision. In recent months, other elected leaders — in Columbus, Carmel, Terre Haute, Whitestown and Zionsville — have adopted local laws that expand civil rights in their communities. Hundreds of Indiana's top business leaders have banded together to push for stronger statewide protection against discrimination. Scores of religious leaders who have stepped forward to voice their support for the same. Still, Mike Pence has not made a decision. Almost a month ago, Republicans in the Indiana Senate introduced legislation that would bar discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in employment, housing and public accommodation. The bill certainly has its flaws, but Senate leaders have put forward a good faith effort to address an issue of statewide significance. Even now, after the General Assembly has taken the lead, Mike Pence has not made a decision. Often in life, especially in today's fast-changing world, we have to move outside our comfort zones to confront our fears. That's especially true for leaders, and in particular leaders who have the awesome responsibility of serving 6.6 million people from diverse backgrounds none with divergent beliefs. ♦



Dave Bangert, Lafayette Journal & Courier: Donald Trump evoked a round of under-the-table deals from his two Republican presidential candidates and the Washington, D.C., establishment — not to mention Rep. spit-taking Americans everywhere — when he called for “a total and complete shutdown of Muslims entering the United States” with our country’s representatives can figure out what is going on. “But as if that’s done much by Trump in the past, the billionaire’s stock continued to rise proportionately, with every attempt to say no, and his campaign had Trump stepped up a feud with John McCain, selling out the U.S. senator and former prisoner of war for his seat in the country? (He’s not a war hero,” Trump said then. “He was a war hero because he was captured. I like people who were captured.”) Since then, Trump’s lists of the outlandish have stacked up along campaign stops, the

billionaire’s red-meat ball for the disenfranchised to follow. Since then, his poll numbers have refused to fade, adding fuel to an outrageous, reality TV parade. Just Trump being Trump. As he said Wednesday: “Probably not politically correct.” Followed by: “I Don’t Care.” “The choice is the crowd were shouting. Perhaps hearing the ones Trump imagines thousands of Muslims doing in New Jersey on 9/11.” So at what point does Trump hit a wall, a human corollary to Godwin’s Law of Nazi Analogies? You know the law — maybe not by name, but at least in practice. Coined by electronic Frontier Foundation attorney Mike Godwin in the early days of the Internet, it’s the idea that the longer an online discussion goes, the more likely it will wind up with a comparison involving Hitler or the Nazis. And when that happens, the conversation is over — and the one making the Nazi reference is the automatic loser for resorting to a comparison that simply is too outlandish in any context. At some point, when your ideas start resembling those of the Nazis, your campaign is done. Trump has to be getting close, as he stogies out an entire failed for exclusion. This has to end sometime. No really, it does, right? Trust again, it’s Trump being Trump. I’ve might just be getting started. Prey for us. How and where, that’s your call — for now. ♦

Doug Ross, New Times: If there’s one sure way to bring attention to domestic violence, it’s to arrest a county councilman on charges of child molestation. Month was in October this year, but the need for awareness isn’t limited to just one month. Nor is the need for awareness of ethics in government limited. There are six public officials who have tough choices to make — five of them all hopefully with more time. But let’s begin with the domestic violence case. We all have heard by now of the arrest of Lake County Councilman Brian Washington last week. We’ll skip the details, except this one: Washington’s wife told police these abuse incidents have occurred several times in front of the couple’s children, just at Washington is to be presumed innocent, unless found guilty. That’s our legal standard in this country. But this case should spread the word to men and women everywhere that domestic violence does not have to be — should not be — tolerated. Washington’s arrest came right on the heels of a judge’s ruling in an important conflict-of-interest case involving elected officials in Lake County. Hobart Christman Matthew Calcester, New Chicago Councilwoman Susan Anthony, Hammond Councilman Michael Opinko, Hammond Councilman-elect Scott Rakos and East Chicago Councilman Julia Parks had asked U.S. District Court Judge Philip Simon to declare unconstitutional a 2012 state law forbidding municipal employees from holding elective office in the same city or town. Judge Simon dismissed their case on Thursday. ♦

FW Councilmen blast intolerance

POKE WATKIN — Two Fort Wayne city councilmen took time Tuesday night to briefly discuss state and national discussions relating to discrimination (Gregg, Fort Wayne Journal Gazette). Council President John Crawford, R-at large, spoke out in favor of efforts to include sexual orientation in the state's anti-discrimination statute next year, noting that Fort Wayne included sexual



ACLU to press refugee suit

INDIANAPOLIS — Indiana Gov. Mike Pence increased further from his recent efforts to bar Syrian refugees from the state, saying that he would allow federal money such as food stamps, temporary monetary assistance and health care benefits to go to refugees seizing leave (Associated Press). In the clearest statement yet of exactly how much restrictions Indiana would place on refugees, Pence's administration also said Wednesday that the governor's order blocks only a limited amount of state funding for refugee organizations resettling Syrians — an amount that is just a fraction of the overall cost of resettling a refugee. The statements mark a softening of Pence's stance after he was one of more than 30 governors, all but one a Republican, who sought to block the resettlement of Syrian refugees over security concerns following the deadly Paris attacks last month. The American Civil Liberties Union of Indiana said Wednesday that it will continue to press a lawsuit against Pence despite his change of tone. Ken Falk, legal director of the ACLU's Indiana chapter, said it's difficult to reconcile Pence's current statements with the governor's initial order. Falk filed suit on behalf of six-plus refugee organizations, which sent a Syrian family bound for Indiana to Connecticut due to Pence's objection. "If there was going to be no interruption, suspension or revocation

Indiana ranks 41st in health

INDIANAPOLIS — Hoosier waitlines continue to expand, many of us still can't smoke the smoking habit, and we live in a state with some

of the lowest public health funding in the nation, that's some of the bad news from the latest United Health Foundation's state health rankings released today. The good news: Indiana has a reduced rate of diabetes, fewer of us drink excessively, and our efforts to be more physically active have improved. Overall, Indiana is doing among states in the health rankings, unchanged from last year. Hawaii is the healthiest state, and Louisiana is least healthy, according to the foundation's findings.

of aid, I suspect it would have been mentioned at this point as we litigate the case," Falk said. "They (Exodus) have never been told anything as far as 'contingency.' A federal judge on Tuesday set a January court date for an initial hearing on the lawsuit, and attorneys for the state must respond in writing to the ACLU legal filing later this month.

Prosecutors seek

PSE prescriptions

INDIANAPOLIS — Indiana prosecutors say that a ban on over-the-counter sales of a common cold medicine used to make methamphetamine will be one of their top priorities in the opening legislative session. The Association of Indiana Prosecuting Attorneys announced Wednesday how would like a change in state law requiring a doctor's prescription to purchase pseudophedrine. Meanwhile, County Prosecutor Durbin Hueshian says restricting pseudophedrine sales would help crack down on the number of meth labs in Indiana. Crabs say the measure is punitive and would force those who are sick to visit a doctor just to fight a common cold. The ban is one of two items on prosecutors' agendas. They also are asking lawmakers to stiffen penalties for drug deal-

ISP to probe brawl at Hymera Council

HYMERA — Indiana State Police say they'll turn over the results of their probe of the Hymera Town Board meeting brawl to the Sullivan County Prosecutor by late next week (WIBC). The brawl broke out when town board members voted to make Daryl McCullough their new town marshal. McCullough replaces Derrick Gullison who had sat against the board saying he was wrongly fired. After the vote, two men attacked McCullough and the entire room fell into chaos. McCullough is expected to recover. Hymera is about 90 miles southwest of Indianapolis.

From: Pitcock, Josh
Sent: Wed 1/20/2016 3:42 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "MRP (mpence1314@aol.com)" <mpence1314@aol.com>
Cc: "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "Lloyd, Matthew" <MLloyd@gov.IN.gov>, "Hill, John (jhill@gov.in.gov)" <jhill@gov.in.gov>, "Triol, Shelley" <STriol@gov.IN.gov>, "McGrath, Danielle" <DMcGrath@gov.IN.gov>, "McGuffee, Tyler Ann" <TaMcGuffee@gov.IN.gov>, "Ahearn, Mark" <MAhearn@gov.IN.gov>
Bcc:
Subject: Syrian Refugee Vote

Governor – the SAFE Act was filibustered in the Senate this afternoon, 55-43. The vote went along party lines. Sen. Coats voted to proceed and Sen. Donnelly voted to filibuster. Until we get to the appropriations bills this spring/summer, I don't imagine there is much of a chance of Congress doing anything else on this issue.

From: Mike
Sent: Wed 1/20/2016 5:59 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Pitcock, Josh" <jpitcock@sso.org>
Cc: "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "Lloyd, Matthew" <MLloyd@gov.IN.gov>, "Hill, John (jhill@gov.in.gov)" <jhill@gov.in.gov>, "Triol, Shelley" <STriol@gov.IN.gov>, "McGrath, Danielle" <DMcGrath@gov.IN.gov>, "McGuffee, Tyler Ann" <TaMcGuffee@gov.IN.gov>, "Ahearn, Mark" <MAhearn@gov.IN.gov>
Bcc:
Subject: Re: Syrian Refugee Vote

Unfortunate

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 20, 2016, at 3:42 PM, "Pitcock, Josh" <jpitcock@sso.org> wrote:

Governor – the SAFE Act was filibustered in the Senate this afternoon, 55-43. The vote went along party lines. Sen. Coats voted to proceed and Sen. Donnelly voted to filibuster. Until we get to the appropriations bills this spring/summer, I don't imagine there is much of a chance of Congress doing anything else on this issue.

From: Lloyd, Matthew
Sent: Tue 3/01/2016 10:57 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Mike" <mpence1314@aol.com>
Cc: "Brooks, Kara D" <kbrooks@gov.in.gov>, "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "Pitcock, Josh" <jpitcock@sso.org>, "Ahearn, Mark" <MAhearn@gov.IN.gov>, "McGrath, Danielle" <DMcGrath@gov.IN.gov>
Bcc:
Subject: refugees

Governor,
For when you talk about refugees to media today, below are stats on refugees we've settled from other countries:

5,038 - # of refugee we've settle from countries other than Syria since gov came into office

367 - # of refugee we've settle from countries other than Syria since gov gave directive that we wouldn't settle anyone from Syria.

From: Pitcock, Josh
Sent: Fri 1/08/2016 9:13 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Mike Pence" <mpence1314@aol.com>
Cc: "Jim Alterholt" <jalterholt@gov.in.gov>, "Matt Lloyd" <MLloyd@gov.IN.gov>, "Mark Ahearn" <MAhearn@gov.IN.gov>
Bcc:
Subject: Iraqi Refugee Terror Charges

This Wash Post story has a good summary:

Two refugees from Iraq living in U.S. arrested on terrorism-related charges

By Adam Goldman January 7 at 9:35 PM

Two Palestinian men who were born in Iraq and came to the United States as refugees have been arrested in connection with terrorism investigations, federal prosecutors said Thursday.

Aws Mohammed Younis Al-Jayab, 23, of Sacramento, Calif., was charged with making a false statement involving international terrorism; and Omar Faraj Saeed Al Hardan, 24, of Houston, was charged with attempting to provide material support to the Islamic State.

Authorities said Hardan moved to this country in 2009 and was granted legal permanent residence status two years later. Jayab came to the United States in October 2012. The two men had been communicating about weapons and training, according to prosecutors.

“Jayab allegedly traveled overseas to fight alongside terrorist organizations and lied to U.S. authorities about his activities,” said John Carlin, assistant

attorney general in charge of the Justice Department's National Security Division.

Prosecutors said Jayab, while living in Arizona and Wisconsin, claimed on social media that he had fought previously in Syria against the regime. He then returned to the war-torn country again in 2013 to fight for Ansar al-Islam, a designated foreign terrorist organization since 2004, authorities said. Jayab later claimed he had traveled to Turkey to visit his grandmother.

Investigators said he left Syria early 2014 and lived in Sacramento.

Prosecutors also charged Hardan with procurement of citizenship or naturalization unlawfully and making false statements.

According to the Justice Department, Hardan associated with members and sympathizers of the Islamic State in 2014 and falsely represented that he had never received any type of weapons training.

Both men are expected to appear Friday before federal judges. Harden faces 20 years and Jayab eight years in prison and each a \$250,000 fine.

From: Pitcock, Josh

Sent: Thursday, January 7, 2016 8:54 PM

To: Mike Pence

Cc: Jim Atterholt; Matt Lloyd; Mark Ahearn

Subject: Fwd: HOUSTON CHRONICLE: Alleged Terror Threat Busted In Houston

I will see what else I can find out about this. Iraqi refugee detained in TX in alleged terror threat.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Janel Broderick <jbroderick@rgppc.org>

Date: January 7, 2016 at 8:31:54 PM EST

To: Josh Pitcock <jpitcock@sso.org>, Doug Hoelscher <doug.hoelscher@iowa.gov>
Subject: Fwd: HOUSTON CHRONICLE: Alleged Terror Threat Busted In Houston

Janel Broderick
Policy Director
Republican Governors Association (RGA)
Republican Governors Public Policy Committee (RGPPC)
1747 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW | Suite 250 | Washington<x-apple-data-detectors://1/0>, D.C.
20006
(direct) 202.464.8566<tel:202.464.8566> (cell) 808.2 [REDACTED] <tel:808.2 [REDACTED]> |
jbroderick@rga.org<mailto:jbroderick@rga.org> |
jbroderick@rgppe.org<mailto:jbroderick@rgppe.org>

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jerry Strickland
<Jerry.Strickland@gov.texas.gov<mailto:Jerry.Strickland@gov.texas.gov>>
Date: January 7, 2016 at 19:34:10 EST
To: Janel Broderick <jbroderick@rgppe.org<mailto:jbroderick@rgppe.org>>, Alison Caliguire
<acaliguire@rgppe.org<mailto:acaliguire@rgppe.org>>
Subject: Fwd: HOUSTON CHRONICLE: Alleged Terror Threat Busted In Houston

Wanted you all to be aware of a recent development regarding a possible Iraqi refugee. The timing is interesting.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Sam Taylor <Sam.Taylor@gov.texas.gov<mailto:Sam.Taylor@gov.texas.gov>>
Date: January 7, 2016 at 5:58:37 PM CST
Subject: HOUSTON CHRONICLE: Alleged Terror Threat Busted In Houston

<http://www.chron.com/news/houston-texas/article/Alleged-terror-threat-busted-in-Houston-6743906.php>

Alleged Terror Threat Busted In Houston

By Mike Ward

Houston Chronicle

A man identified as an Iraqi refugee has been arrested in Houston as part of a federal investigation into an alleged terrorist plan with links to two other U.S. cities, state officials confirmed Thursday.

Federal officials would not immediately confirm details, but Gov. Greg Abbott and other officials said the suspect is believed to have provided support to terrorists -- including connections to ISIS.

The suspect was not immediately identified, but other officials who said they had been briefed on the case said the man had lived in Houston with his family for about four years and that the case had unspecified connections to Milwaukee and Sacramento.

In Sacramento, federal agents arrested a terror suspect along with two others in Houston and Milwaukee in a case involving allegations that U.S. residents were in contact with and trying to provide assistance to Islamic State supporters, the Sacramento Bee reported.

The newspaper reported that an unusual closed-door hearing was underway late Thursday afternoon, reportedly involving the case.

California Gov. Jerry Brown's office did not immediately disclose whether officials in California had been briefed, the Bee said. California is the site of the latest and deadliest terror attack -- the slayings of workers in San Bernardino last month by two ISIS supporters -- since the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

"This is precisely why I called for a halt to refugees entering the U.S. from countries substantially controlled by terrorists," Abbott said in a statement. "I once again urge the President to halt the resettlement of these refugees in the United States until there is an effective vetting process that will ensure refugees do not compromise the safety of Americans and Texans."

The Islamic State has emerged as a major threat in recent years. Last May, U.S. Rep. David Brat, R-Virginia, claimed that ISIS had established a base in Texas -- an assertion that was quickly denied by state officials and the Texas Department of Public Safety.

See a history of the organization in the gallery above.

Even so, in recent years, arrests of several suspects on terrorism-related charges have been made in Texas -- including an Austin man who was arrested at Houston's Bush Intercontinental Airport who authorities alleged was flying to the Mideast. He was charged with attempting to provide material support to terrorists.

State officials said Thursday's arrest was a result of a joint federal-state task force investigation.

From: Mike
Sent: Tue 3/01/2016 12:25 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Lloyd, Matthew" <MLloyd@gov.IN.gov>
Cc: "Brooks, Kara D" <kbrooks@gov.in.gov>, "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "Pitcock, Josh" <jpitcock@sso.org>, "Ahearn, Mark" <MAhearn@gov.IN.gov>, "McGrath, Danielle" <DMcGrath@gov.IN.gov>
Bcc:
Subject: Re: refugees

Excellent
Used it

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 1, 2016, at 10:57 AM, Lloyd, Matthew <MLloyd@gov.IN.gov> wrote:

Governor,
For when you talk about refugees to media today, below are stats on refugees we've settled from other countries:

5,038 - # of refugee we've settle from countries **other than Syria** since gov came into office

367 - # of refugee we've settle from countries **other than Syria** since gov gave directive that we wouldn't settle anyone from Syria.

From: Triol, Shelley
Sent: Fri 1/08/2016 12:43 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "MRP_home" <mpence1314@aol.com>
Cc: "Lloyd, Matthew" <MLloyd@gov.IN.gov>, "Hodgin, Stephanie" <SHodgin@gov.in.gov>
Bcc:
Subject: From Reuters Jan 8 2016 - See highlight below

US | Fri Jan 8, 2016 11:52am EST
Related: [U.S.](#)

Man facing U.S. terrorism charges appears in Houston court

HOUSTON | BY KRISTEN HAYS

A Palestinian born in Iraq who entered the United States as a refugee more than five years ago appeared in federal court in Houston on Friday to face charges he supplied support to Islamic State and lied to U.S. officials.

Omar Faraj Saeed Al-Hardan, 24, was one of two Middle Eastern men whose arrests on terrorism-related charges U.S. authorities announced Thursday. The most serious charge carries up to 25 years in prison.

A bond hearing was set for Wednesday.

Neither was charged with plotting an attack on the United States. More than 75 U.S. residents allegedly radicalized by Muslim militants have been arrested since 2014.

Al-Hardan, granted legal permanent residency status in the United States in August 2011, said through an interpreter that he needed the judge to explain to him what an indictment was, adding he did not speak English well.

He is charged with aiding Islamic State by offering himself up for its services as well as knowingly providing material support to the militant group, an indictment unsealed on Thursday said.

Wearing glasses and a gray plaid shirt, he told the judge that he made it through 11th grade at a school in Jordan. He said he is married and has one child.

He also faces two charges about providing false information to U.S. officials concerning his ties to a terrorist organization and being provided weapons training, it said.

In Sacramento, the U.S. Department of Justice said Aws Mohammed Younis Al-Jayab, 23, came to the United States in 2012 as a refugee from Syria.

Al-Jayab was arrested on Thursday on a federal charge of making a false statement involving international terrorism, the U.S. Department of Justice said. He is due to appear in court later in the day.

The U.S. attorney for Sacramento, Benjamin Wagner, said in a statement there were no indications Al-Jayab had planned any attacks in the United States.

The two men may have been in contact with each other, a source familiar with the case said.

From: Mike
Sent: Tue 11/17/2015 9:20 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Pavlik, Jennifer L" <JPavlik@gov.IN.gov>
Cc: "Pitcock, Josh" <jpitcock@sso.org>, "Lloyd, Matthew" <MLloyd@gov.IN.gov>, "Hill, John (GOV)" <jhill@gov.in.gov>, "Bauer, Zachary C" <ZBauer@gov.IN.gov>, "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>
Bcc:
Subject: Re: INVITATION: Governors Call on Syrian Refugees

Yeah

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 17, 2015, at 9:18 AM, "Pavlik, Jennifer L" <JPavlik@gov.IN.gov> wrote:

Sir, do you want to join this call today before you board plane:
The White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs would like to invite your Governor to a **Governors-only call to discuss the Syrian refugee situation on Tuesday, November 17, 2015 at 5:00-6:00pm ET**. Senior Administration officials will share important information about Syrian refugee admissions and security screening measures.

To receive a call-in number for your Governor, please RSVP by responding to this email by 1pm ET on Tuesday, November 17, 2015.

WHO: Governors, Senior Administration Officials
WHAT: White House Conference Call with Governors
WHEN: Tuesday, November 16, 2015 at 5:00-6:00pm ET

From: Pitcock, Josh [mailto:jpitcock@sso.org]
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2015 9:30 PM
To: Pavlik, Jennifer L; Tuggle, Jennifer; Atterholt, Jim; Hill, John (GOV); Lloyd, Matthew; Triol, Shelley; McGuffee, Tyler Ann
Subject: Fwd: INVITATION: Governors Call on Syrian Refugees

**** This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email. ****

Mrp may want to call in before his flight even if only for a few minutes.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Saenz, Adrian" <Adrian_Saenz@who.eop.gov>
Date: November 16, 2015 at 9:10:32 PM EST
To: "Saenz, Adrian" <Adrian_Saenz@who.eop.gov>
Cc: "Dessources, Kalisha" <Kalisha_Dessources@who.eop.gov>
Subject: INVITATION: Governors Call on Syrian Refugees

<image001.png>

The White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs would like to invite your Governor to a **Governors-only call to discuss the Syrian refugee situation on Tuesday, November 17, 2015 at 5:00-6:00pm ET**. Senior Administration officials will share important information about Syrian refugee admissions and security screening measures.

To receive a call-in number for your Governor, please RSVP by responding to this email by 1pm ET on Tuesday, November 17, 2015.

WHO: Governors, Senior Administration Officials
WHAT: White House Conference Call with Governors
WHEN: Tuesday, November 16, 2015 at 5:00-6:00pm ET

This invitation is intended for GOVERNORS ONLY. This call will be closed press.

Adrian Saenz
Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
(202)456-4770

From: Lloyd, Matthew
Sent: Thu 3/17/2016 4:50 PM (GMT-04:00)
To: "Mike" <mpence1314@aol.com>
Cc: "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "Triol, Shelley" <STriol@gov.IN.gov>
Bcc:
Subject: FW: High Priority - FW: Confidential-Refugees
Attachments: 2016030109582304800001.pdf

Governor,

Please see attached spreadsheet. Since Nov. 2015, we have settled 375 refugees in Indiana. Eight of those have been from Syria.

Matt

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

From: Lemons, Marni
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2016 4:18 PM
To: Lloyd, Matthew
Cc: McGuffee, Tyler Ann; Triol, Shelley; Gavin, James (Jim)
Subject: FW: High Priority - FW: Confidential-RefugeesG

Department of State
 Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration
 Office of Admissions - Refugee Processing Center
 Refugee Arrivals
 Calendar Year
 as of 1-March-2016

Nationality(s): All Nationalities

State(s): Indiana

From: 01 Jan 2013

To: 01 Mar 2016

Nationality Placement State Placement City	CY 2013	CY 2014	CY 2015	CY 2016	Cumulative Total
Afghanistan	0	12	0	0	12
Indiana	0	12	0	0	12
Indianapolis	0	4	0	0	4
Noblesville	0	8	0	0	8
Bhutan	19	17	1	0	37
Indiana	19	17	1	0	37
Indianapolis	19	17	1	0	37
Burma	1,136	1,414	1,463	187	4,200
Indiana	1,136	1,414	1,463	187	4,200
Carmel	0	1	0	0	1
Fort Wayne	170	190	279	45	684
Greenwood	0	0	4	0	4
Indianapolis	949	1,211	1,120	121	3,401
Logansport	7	11	9	5	32
Noblesville	7	0	0	0	7
Southport	3	0	14	4	21
Speedway	0	0	0	8	8
Vincennes	0	1	0	0	1
Whiteland	0	0	37	4	41
Burundi	0	4	0	0	4
Indiana	0	4	0	0	4
Indianapolis	0	4	0	0	4
Cambodia	0	1	0	0	1
Indiana	0	1	0	0	1
South Bend	0	1	0	0	1
Central African Republic	0	9	1	0	10
Indiana	0	9	1	0	10
Indianapolis	0	9	1	0	10
China	7	0	1	0	8
Indiana	7	0	1	0	8
Carmel	0	0	1	0	1
Indianapolis	7	0	0	0	7

Nationality	Placement State					Cumulative
	Placement City	CY 2013	CY 2014	CY 2015	CY 2016	Total
Cuba		3	11	2	0	16
	Indiana	3	11	2	0	16
	Fort Wayne	0	3	0	0	3
	Indianapolis	0	8	2	0	10
	Logansport	3	0	0	0	3
Dem. Rep. Congo		21	104	113	11	249
	Indiana	21	104	113	11	249
	Fort Wayne	4	3	0	0	7
	Indianapolis	14	93	113	11	231
	Mishawaka	0	8	0	0	8
	South Bend	3	0	0	0	3
Eritrea		15	16	16	0	47
	Indiana	15	16	16	0	47
	Indianapolis	15	16	16	0	47
Ethiopia		3	12	9	1	25
	Indiana	3	12	9	1	25
	Indianapolis	3	12	9	0	24
	Speedway	0	0	0	1	1
Guinea		0	1	0	0	1
	Indiana	0	1	0	0	1
	Indianapolis	0	1	0	0	1
Indonesla		0	0	2	0	2
	Indiana	0	0	2	0	2
	Indianapolis	0	0	2	0	2
Iran		6	4	1	1	12
	Indiana	6	4	1	1	12
	Carmel	6	0	0	0	6
	Indianapolis	0	4	1	0	5
	Zionsville	0	0	0	1	1
Iraq		46	138	34	6	224
	Indiana	46	138	34	6	224
	Avon	0	0	1	0	1
	Carmel	0	1	0	0	1
	Fishers	0	1	0	0	1
	Fort Wayne	1	0	4	0	5
	Greenwood	1	7	0	0	8
	Grovertown	0	1	0	0	1
	Indianapolis	24	93	18	6	141
	Mishawaka	7	21	11	0	39
	Noblesville	3	0	0	0	3
	South Bend	3	9	0	0	12
	Valparaiso	0	1	0	0	1
	West Lafayette	7	0	0	0	7
	Westfield	0	4	0	0	4
Liberia		2	0	0	0	2
	Indiana	2	0	0	0	2
	Indianapolis	1	0	0	0	1
	South Bend	1	0	0	0	1

Nationality					
Placement State					Cumulative
Placement City	CY 2013	CY 2014	CY 2015	CY 2016	Total
Pakistan	4	1	0	0	5
Indiana	4	1	0	0	5
Indianapolis	4	1	0	0	5
Russia	1	0	0	0	1
Indiana	1	0	0	0	1
Indianapolis	1	0	0	0	1
Rwanda	7	0	0	0	7
Indiana	7	0	0	0	7
Indianapolis	7	0	0	0	7
Somalia	44	70	16	4	134
Indiana	44	70	16	4	134
Indianapolis	44	70	16	4	134
Sudan	25	7	9	0	41
Indiana	25	7	9	0	41
Fort Wayne	6	1	4	0	11
Indianapolis	18	6	5	0	29
Marion	1	0	0	0	1
Syria	0	12	22	4	38
Indiana	0	12	22	4	38
Carmel	0	0	5	0	5
Indianapolis	0	12	17	4	33
Total	1,339	1,833	1,690	214	5,076

Data prior to 2002 was migrated into WRAPS from a legacy system therefore we are providing post-2002 data.

Department of State
Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration
Office of Admissions - Refugee Processing Center
Refugee Arrivals
Calendar Year
as of 1-March-2016

Nationality(s): All Nationalities

State(s): Indiana

From: 16 Nov 2015

To: 01 Mar 2016

Nationality			
Placement State			Cumulative
Placement City	CY 2015	CY 2016	Total
Burma	128	187	315
Indiana	128	187	315
Fort Wayne	44	45	89
Indianapolis	79	121	200
Logansport	0	5	5
Southport	0	4	4
Speedway	0	8	8
Whiteland	5	4	9
Dem. Rep. Congo	10	11	21
Indiana	10	11	21
Indianapolis	10	11	21
Ethiopia	4	1	5
Indiana	4	1	5
Indianapolis	4	0	4
Speedway	0	1	1
Indonesia	2	0	2
Indiana	2	0	2
Indianapolis	2	0	2
Iran	0	1	1
Indiana	0	1	1
Zionsville	0	1	1
Iraq	11	6	17
Indiana	11	6	17
Indianapolis	4	6	10
Mishawaka	7	0	7
Somalia	2	4	6
Indiana	2	4	6
Indianapolis	2	4	6
Syria	4	4	8
Indiana	4	4	8
Indianapolis	4	4	8
Total	161	214	375

Data prior to 2002 was migrated into WRAPS from a legacy system therefore we are providing post-2002 data.

Department of State
Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration
Office of Admissions - Refugee Processing Center
Refugee Arrivals
Calendar Year
as of 1-March-2016

Nationality(s): Syria

State(s): Indiana

From: 16 Nov 2015

To: 01 Mar 2016

Nationality Placement State Placement City	CY 2015	CY 2016	Cumulative Total
Syria	4	4	8
Indiana	4	4	8
Indianapolis	4	4	8
Total	4	4	8

Data prior to 2002 was migrated into WRAPS from a legacy system therefore we are providing post-2002 data.

From: Atterholt, Jim
Sent: Mon 11/16/2015 6:39 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Mike" <mpence1314@aol.com>
Cc: "Ahearn, Mark" <MAhearn@gov.IN.gov>
Bcc:
Subject: FW: UPDATED: Syrian Refugee Statements by Republican Governors
Attachments: image00100001.png

Very interesting!

From: Pitcock, Josh [mailto:jpitcock@sso.org]
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2015 6:01 PM
To: Hill, John (GOV); McGuffee, Tyler Ann; Karns, Allison; Lloyd, Matthew; Triol, Shelley; Atterholt, Jim
Subject: Fwd: UPDATED: Syrian Refugee Statements by Republican Governors

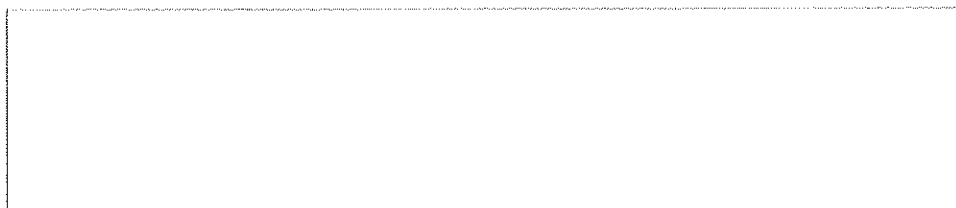
**** This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email. ****

Up to 25 governors.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Lauren Strickland <LStrickland@rgppc.org>
Date: November 16, 2015 at 6:01:56 PM EST
To: Lauren Strickland <LStrickland@rgppc.org>
Cc: Janel Broderick <jbroderick@rgppc.org>, Brian Sanderson <bsanderson@rgppc.org>, Alison Caliguire <acaliguire@rgppc.org>, "Danielle.Burr@mail.house.gov" <Danielle.Burr@mail.house.gov>, "Terry_VanDoren@mcconnell.senate.gov" <Terry_VanDoren@mcconnell.senate.gov>
Subject: UPDATED: Syrian Refugee Statements by Republican Governors



TO: Action Officers
RE: UPDATED: Syrian Refugee Statements by Republican Governors

UPDATED:

In light of the ISIL terrorist attack in Paris, November 13th, and the potential that the individuals performing those attacks posed as Syrian refugees to enter the country, a number of governors have made statements regarding Syrian refugees who are immigrating to the United States. Authorities in Paris confirmed at least one of the terrorists behind the Paris attacks entered Europe among the stream of refugees.

RGPPC has compiled statements, letters, and other communications from Republican governors as they have been released to the press, as of 5:45PM EST, 25 governors, and Governor-Elect Bevin, have made public statements.

Alabama, Governor Robert Bentley

Governor Bentley announced Sunday, November 15th, that he is refusing Syrian refugees relocating to Alabama. His statement read, "After full consideration of this weekend's attacks of terror on innocent citizens in Paris, I will oppose any attempt to relocate Syrian refugees to Alabama through the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program. As your Governor, I will not stand complicit to a policy that places the citizens of Alabama in harm's way.

"The acts of terror committed over the weekend are a tragic reminder to the world that evil exists and takes the form of terrorists who seek to destroy the basic freedoms we will always fight to preserve. I will not place Alabamians at even the slightest, possible risk of an attack on our people. Please continue to join me in praying for those who have suffered loss and for those who will never allow freedom to fade at the hands of terrorists," Governor Bentley added.

Please see Governor Bentley's full [press release](#) for more information.

Arizona, Governor Doug Ducey

Governor Ducey released the following statement regarding Syrian refugees:

"Given the horrifying events in Paris last week, I am calling for an immediate halt in the placement of any new refugees in Arizona. As governor, I am invoking our state's right under 8 USC, Section 1522 (a), to receive immediate consultation by federal authorities per the United States Refugee Act, and that the federal government take into account the concerns and recommendations of the state of Arizona as they are required to under federal law, in our efforts to keep our homeland safe. I also call on Congress and the President to immediately amend federal law to provide states greater oversight and authority in the administration of the placement of refugees. These acts serve as a reminder that the world remains at war with radical Islamic terrorists. Our national leaders must react with the urgency and leadership that every American expects to protect our citizens."

Please see Governor Ducey's full [press release](#) for more information.

Arkansas, Governor Asa Hutchinson

Governor Hutchinson tweeted a statement, "As Governor I will oppose Syrian refugees being relocated to Arkansas."

Florida, Governor Rick Scott

Governor Scott announced on Monday, November 16th, that he will oppose efforts for Syrian refugees to resettle in Florida. The governor wrote a letter to Congressional leadership, stating he is directing the Florida Department of Children and Families to no longer cooperate with a federal request to place Syrian refugees in Florida. Additionally, he called on Congress to pass legislation or withhold funds to thwart the President's resettlement plan.

An excerpt from the letter reads:

"Please be aware that several organizations have requested that our state Department of Children and Families support the relocation of 425 possible Syrian refugees to Florida, as they receive federal funding to house those refugees in our state," Governor Scott wrote. "Following the terrorist attacks by ISIS in Paris that killed over 120 people and wounded more than 350, and the news that at least one of the terror attack suspects gained access to France by posing a Syrian refugee, our state agency will not support the requests we have received."

Governor Scott's full letter can be viewed [here](#).

Georgia, Governor Nathan Deal

Governor Nathan Deal signed an executive order indicating he will not accept Syrian refugees in Georgia and called upon the President to suspend the resettlement program in America. Governor Deal released the following statement:

"In light of the terror attacks in Paris, I've issued an executive order directing state agency heads to

prevent the resettlement of Syrian refugees in Georgia,” said Deal. “Further, I call upon the Obama administration to work with the Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security to confirm the backgrounds of the 59 Syrian refugees recently resettled to ensure they do not pose a security threat to our citizens. Until the federal government and Congress conducts a thorough review of current screening procedures and background checks, we will take every measure available to us at the state level to ensure the safety of Georgians.”

The full [executive order](#) can be read in the governor’s [press release](#).

Idaho, Governor Butch Otter

Governor Otter expressed concern over the arrival of Syrian refugees to the United States during an interview with a local radio station on Monday, November 16th. Governor Otter emphasized that it is crucial refugees are vetted.

Please listen to the comments [here](#) for additional information.

Illinois, Governor Bruce Rauner

Governor Rauner released the following statement regarding Syrian refugees:

"Our nation and our state have a shared history of providing safe haven for those displaced by conflict, but the news surrounding the Paris terror attacks reminds us of the all-too-real security threats facing America. We must find a way to balance our tradition as a state welcoming of refugees while ensuring the safety and security of our citizens. Therefore, the state of Illinois will temporarily suspend accepting new Syrian refugees and consider all of our legal options pending a full review of our country’s acceptance and security processes by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security."

Please see Governor Rauner’s full [press release](#) for more information.

Indiana, Governor Mike Pence

Governor Pence released the following statement regarding Syrian refugees:

“In the wake of the horrific attacks in Paris, effective immediately, I am directing all state agencies to suspend the resettlement of additional Syrian refugees in the state of Indiana pending assurances from the federal government that proper security measures have been achieved. Indiana has a long tradition of opening our arms and homes to refugees from around the world but, as governor, my first responsibility is to ensure the safety and security of all Hoosiers. Unless and until the state of Indiana receives assurances that proper security measures are in place, this policy will remain in full force and effect.”

Please see Governor Pence’s [press release](#) for more information.

Iowa, Governor Terry Branstad

Governor Branstad has stated he hopes the Obama Administration will provide additional information regarding the vetting process for Syrian refugees hoping to resettle in America.

Comments from Governor Branstad can be read [here](#) in *The Washington Times*.

Kansas, Governor Sam Brownback

Governor Sam Brownback signed Executive Order No. 15-07, directing that no state agency, or organization receiving grant money from the state, will participate in or assist in any way in the relocation of Syrian refugees in Kansas. The Governor issued the following statement:

“My first priority as Governor is the safety of all Kansans. We must take immediate action to ensure terrorists do not enter the nation or our state under the guise of refugee resettlement. The recent attacks in Paris coupled with terrorist organizations indicating a desire to attack the United States are stark reminders of the dangers every nation faces. It is imperative that we take action where the White House has not.

I have therefore directed all state agencies, departments, boards or commissions not to participate or assist in the relocation of Syrian refugees to Kansas. It is unfortunate that we must take this step to

protect the safety of Kansans, but the federal government cannot guarantee that Syrian refugees coming to America would not be part of a terrorist organization seeking to harm our citizens.

America has always provided a refuge for the oppressed and those who seek freedom. However, we must be sure that we are not admitting terrorists as we try to help the innocents who desire the opportunity for a better life and the basic liberty of religious freedom. Most people seeking refugee status are peaceful individuals looking for a better life. But we cannot allow an influx of Syrian refugees, without any meaningful security checks, while ISIS is promising to infiltrate the refugee process.

Our resources can be better used to help persecuted Syrians. We must consider whether refugees fleeing the persecution of their home country may be better served by resettlement in a friendly nation closer to their homes. Though America will continue to be a country that defends the oppressed, our allies in the region must also step up to stem the tide of this humanitarian crisis.”

Please see Governor Brownback’s [press release](#) for additional information. The full text of the executive order can be viewed [here](#).

Kentucky, Governor-Elect Matt Bevin

Governor-Elect Bevin released the following statement regarding the resettlement of Syrians in Kentucky:

“The recent terrorist attacks in Paris serve as a warning to the entire civilized world that we must remain vigilant. It is imperative that we do everything in our power to prevent any similar attack by evildoers from taking place here in America.

My primary responsibility as Governor of Kentucky will be to protect the citizens of the Commonwealth. This is why I am joining with other governors across the country in opposing the resettlement of Syrian nationals until we can better determine the full extent of any risks to our citizens.”

Louisiana, Governor Bobby Jindal

Governor Jindal wrote a letter (seen [here](#) via a local news outlet) to President Obama demanding additional information about Syrian refugees who would be placed in Louisiana.

On Monday, November 16th, Governor Jindal issued an [executive order](#) to “prevent the resettlement of Syrian refugees in the State of Louisiana.”

Maine, Governor Paul LePage

Governor LePage released a statement opposing the placement of Syrian refugees in Maine:

“The thoughts and prayers of the First Lady and I are with the People of France as they mourn those killed in Friday’s despicable terrorist attack in Paris. As Franco-Americans, we say with a special conviction, ‘nous n'oublierons jamais—‘we will never forget.’”

We now know that not only has ISIS claimed credit for this attack, but at least one of the attackers was a Syrian refugee. We also know that President Barack Obama has vowed to bring 10,000 Syrian refugees to the United States, despite his own FBI director testifying to Congress last month that the federal government is unable to conduct background checks on them.

To bring Syrian refugees into our country without knowing who they are is to invite an attack on American soil just like the one we saw in Paris last week and in New York City on 9/11. That is why I adamantly oppose any attempt by the federal government to place Syrian refugees in Maine, and will take every lawful measure in my power to prevent it from happening.

The safety of Maine citizens comes first, and it is about time the United States and Europe wake up to the nature of the threat against us in the form of radical terrorism.”

Please visit the Governor LePage’s [press release](#) for additional information.

Maryland, Governor Larry Hogan

Governor Larry Hogan addressed the placement of Syrian refugees during a news conference on Monday, November 16th. The governor stated the placement of refugees will be monitored closely. Governor Hogan stated, "We have been in contact with the Obama administration. We are going to make a very reasoned and careful decision about what we do here in Maryland."^[1]

Massachusetts, Governor Charlie Baker

Governor Charlie Baker stated he is opposed allowing additional refugees into Massachusetts. "I would say no as of right now," Baker told reporters at a State House event Monday. "No, I'm not interested in accepting refugees from Syria. My view on this is the safety and security of the people of the Commonwealth of Mass. is my highest priority," he added. "So I would set the bar very high on this. My view on this is the safety and security of the people of the Commonwealth of Mass. is my highest priority," he added. "So I would set the bar very high on this."^[2]

Baker said he wanted more information from federal officials, specifically regarding the vetting process through which Syrian immigrants would be approved for refugee status.

"I think at this point in time we'd have to be very cautious about accepting folks without knowing a lot more about what the federal government's plan looks like and how it's going to be actually implemented and executed," he said.^[3]

See additional statements in the press:

Baker Wants Bar "Really High" for accepting Syrian Refugees ([State House News Service](#))

Baker won't allow Syrian refugees in Mass. For now ([Boston Globe](#))

Gov. Baker refusing to accept Syrian refugees, for now ([Boston Herald](#))

Michigan, Governor Rick Snyder

Governor Snyder released the following statement regarding Syrian refugees:

"Michigan is a welcoming state and we are proud of our rich history of immigration. But our first priority is protecting the safety of our residents. Given the terrible situation in Paris, I've directed that we put on hold our efforts to accept new refugees until the U.S. Department of Homeland Security completes a full review of security clearances and procedures.

There will be difficult days ahead for the people of France and they remain in our thoughts and prayers. It's also important to remember that these attacks are the efforts of extremists and do not reflect the peaceful ways of people of Middle Eastern descent here and around the world."

Mississippi, Governor Phil Bryant

Governor Bryant released the following statement regarding Syrian refugees:

"I'm currently working with the Mississippi Department of Public Safety and Mississippi Office of Homeland Security to determine the current status of any Syrian refugees that may be brought to our state in the near future. I will do everything humanly possible to stop any plans from the Obama administration to put Syrian refugees in Mississippi," Gov. Phil Bryant said. "The policy of bringing these individuals into the country is not only misguided, it is extremely dangerous. I'll be notifying President Obama of my decision today to resist this potential action."

You can read more about the statement [here](#).

Nebraska, Governor Pete Ricketts

Governor Ricketts sent a letter to refugee resettlement agencies in Nebraska, urging the agencies to not pursue the resettlement of Syrians in Nebraska.

"Nebraska is a welcoming place for families seeking a home to live, work, and raise a family.

While I understand the danger and persecution many are facing in the Middle East, it is important that our state and our nation consider the safety and security of Nebraskans and Americans first in any refugee resettlement efforts. The terrorist attacks that occurred over the weekend in Paris are a solemn reminder of the reach and strength of ISIS and their agents.

Today, I am requesting that all refugee resettlement agencies in our state decline to participate in potential Syrian refugee resettlement efforts.”

The full text of the letter can be seen [here](#).

North Carolina, Governor Pat McCrory

On Monday, November 16th, Governor McCrory held a press conference at 2PM EST to address the Syrian refugee crisis and security measures in light of the Paris attacks.

Governor McCrory made the following statements:

“North Carolina has a proud tradition of providing a hand-up for those in need, including international refugees,” said Governor McCrory. “However, because President Obama has increased the number of refugees from Syria coming into the United States from 2,000 to 10,000 and because of the terrorist attacks in Paris and the very real possibility that one of the terrorists entered France as a recent refugee, I am requesting that the federal government cease sending refugees from Syria to North Carolina.”

Ohio, Governor John Kasich

Governor Kasich is writing a letter to President Obama asking the President to stop resettling refugees in the state. A spokesperson from Governor Kasich’s office has stated that the Governor does not believe that refugees should continue to be admitted to the United States due to security and safety issues that cannot be address.

Please see a statement in the media [here](#).

Oklahoma, Governor Mary Fallin

Governor Fallin released the following press release regarding the placement of Syrian refugees:

Governor Mary Fallin today urged President Barack Obama to suspend accepting Syrian refugees into the United States in the wake of deadly terror attacks in Paris being linked to the Islamic State.

“The Obama administration needs to assure the public that the background checks they are doing are rigorous, and that American lives will not be endangered in the process,” said Fallin. “Until then, I call on the Obama administration to suspend any Syrian refugees into the United States. During these uncertain times, the Obama administration needs to make sure those entering the United States are not terrorists.”

During a U.S. Senate Homeland Security Committee hearing last week, FBI Director James Comey said there is a risk bringing anybody in from the outside, but especially from a conflict zone like Syria.

“The American people need to be assured that national security will not be compromised,” said Fallin. “We must maintain a strict verification process against possible terrorists.”

The governor said she has confidence in the two refugee processing affiliates in the state. Catholic Charities in Oklahoma City and Catholic Charities in Tulsa have the responsibility of placing refugees in the state.

Since 2012, three refugees from Syria have been placed in Jenks, according to information from Catholic Charities in Tulsa and the U.S. Department of State. The three, aged 50, 44 and 14, were brought to Jenks to live with family members.

Catholic Charities in Tulsa and in Oklahoma City predominantly only assist refugees seeking family reunification.

“Oklahomans have welcomed refugees escaping religious persecution for many years and will continue to do so,” Fallin said.

According to the U.S. Department of State’s latest report, no refugees from Syria were admitted to Oklahoma during October. The State Department’s Refugee Processing Center reported 54 refugees came to Oklahoma during October. All were from Burma.

South Carolina, Governor Nikki Haley

Governor Haley addressed the Syrian refugee crisis on Monday, November 16th, saying she is discussing with federal officials if Syrians will be relocated to South Carolina. The *Post and Courier* reports the governor stated, “If they’re going to change who comes in, we’ll put a stop to it. We want to do make sure that everything we know to be true is still true. In light of the president’s comments we want to make sure nothing is changing,” Haley said. “If we need to change our policy we will. If we think in any way whatsoever South Carolinians will be in danger we’re going to change our policy.”^[4]

Please read more in the article here.

Tennessee, Governor Bill Haslam

Governor Haslam released the following statement regarding the terrorist attacks in Paris and the placement of Syrian refugees:

“As we mourn the loss of innocent life from Friday’s horrific and cowardly attacks in Paris, these terrible events have once again shown us that the threat of Islamic terrorism knows no boundaries and recognizes no borders. We as a state must do everything we can to provide Tennesseans the safe environment to live, work and raise a family that so many across the world seek.

Since Friday the Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security has been in contact with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and this administration has actively shared information with our local public safety partners across Tennessee.

We are currently working to get specifics from the U.S. Department of State on the status of any Syrian refugees currently slated to come to Tennessee. While screening, acceptance and placement is legally under the authority of the federal government, they have said in the past they would be open to cooperating with receiving states. Today I’m asking the federal government to suspend placements in Tennessee until states can become more of a partner in the vetting process.”

Please see Governor Haslam’s press release for additional information.

Texas, Governor Greg Abbott

Governor Abbott wrote a letter to President Obama on Monday, November 16th, informing the President that, “the State of Texas will not accept any refugees from Syria in the wake of the deadly terrorist attack in Paris.”

The letter, seen here, also asked the President to halt his plans to accept more refugees, as well as other acknowledgements of the terrorist threats posed to the United States.

Utah, Governor Gary Herbert

Governor Herbert’s spokesman released the follow statement regarding Syrian refugees:

“Gov. Herbert joins with those who mourn the recent terrorist attacks in Paris, France. In the wake

of these attacks, the governor will aggressively pursue a course of action that provides for the safety and security of Utahns. The governor has directed the Utah Department of Public Safety to immediately reevaluate the security checks currently used by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of State, and the Department of Homeland Security as part of Utah's refugee program. The highest duty of a governor is to protect public safety. Working together with our congressional delegation, the governor will diligently assess these security protocols, and if warranted, implement a change in state policy.

Utahns are well known for our compassion for those who are fleeing the violence in their homeland, and we will work to do all we can to ease their suffering without compromising public safety."

Wisconsin, Governor Scott Walker

Governor Walker released the following statement regarding Syrian refugees:

"In light of these horrific and tragic attacks, our first priority must be to protect our citizens. Along with governors across the country, I have deep concerns about the Obama Administration's plan to accept 10,000 or more Syrian refugees, especially given that one of the Paris attackers was reportedly a Syrian refugee. In consultation with our Adjutant General, who also serves as my Homeland Security Advisor, it is clear that the influx of Syrian refugees poses a threat.

With this in mind, I am calling upon the President to immediately suspend the program pending a full review of its security and acceptance procedures. The State of Wisconsin will not accept new Syrian refugees.

There may be those who will try to take advantage of the generosity of our country and the ability to move freely within our borders through this federal resettlement program, and we must ensure we are doing all we can to safeguard the security of Americans.

Furthermore, I am opposed to recently introduced legislation encouraging the state to accept Syrian refugees in Wisconsin."

For additional information, visit Governor Walker's press [release](#).

Lauren Strickland
Policy Advisor
Republican Governors Public Policy Committee (RGPPC)
Republican Governors Association (RGA)
1747 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Suite 250
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 662 4927
LStrickland@rgppc.org

[1] Dresser, Michael. Hogan promises 'reasoned, careful' decision on Syrian refugees. *The Baltimore Sun*, <http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/politics/blog/bal-hogan-promises-reasoned-careful-decision-on-syrian-refugees-20151116-story.html>.

[2] Sacchetti, Maria and Rocheleau, Matt. Baker won't allow Syrian refugees in Mass. for now. *The Boston Globe*,

<http://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2015/11/16/baker-says-now-accepting-syrian-refugees/u2g7kmpDzdPwqgrQVmYial/story.html>.

[3] Sacchetti, Maria and Rocheleau, Matt. Baker won't allow Syrian refugees in Mass. for now. *The Boston Globe*,
<http://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2015/11/16/baker-says-now-accepting-syrian-refugees/u2g7kmpDzdPwqgrQVmYial/story.html>.

[4] Jackson, Gavin. Haley vows to halt any move to resettle Syrian refugees in South Carolina. *The Post and Courier*,
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20151116/PC1603/151119459>.

REPUBLICAN GOVERNORS

PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE

From: Hodgin, Stephanie
Sent: Mon 11/16/2015 7:12 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Mike" <mpence1314@aol.com>
Cc: "Pavlik, Jennifer L" <JPavlik@gov.IN.gov>, "Tuggle, Jennifer" <JTuggle@gov.IN.gov>, "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "Lloyd, Matthew" <MLloyd@gov.IN.gov>, "Bauer, Zachary C" <ZBauer@gov.IN.gov>, "Crabtree, Chris" <CCrabtree@gov.IN.gov>, "Clift, Mckenzie C" <MClift@gov.IN.gov>, "Triol, Shelley" <STriol@gov.IN.gov>, "Jarmula, Ryan L" <RJarmula@gov.in.gov>
Bcc:
Subject: Tuesday Radio Preview

Sir,

You have one live radio hit tomorrow.

11:10 – 11:20 a.m. EDT LIVE radio Louisville's WHAS 840 AM w/ Leland Conway
Re: decision to suspend resettlement of Syrian refugees

I will send details in the morning.

Stephanie Hodgin
Deputy Press Secretary
Office of Governor Michael R. Pence
shodgin@gov.in.gov
Office: 317-233-4721



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 16, 2015

Contact: Matt Lloyd
mlloyd@gov.in.gov

Governor Pence Suspends Resettlement of Syrian Refugees in Indiana

Indianapolis - Following reports that a Syrian refugee was among the perpetrators of the terrorists attacks that took place in Paris on Friday, Governor Mike Pence issued the following statement:

"In the wake of the horrific attacks in Paris, effective immediately, I am directing all state agencies to suspend the resettlement of additional Syrian refugees in the state of Indiana pending assurances from the federal government that proper security measures have been achieved. Indiana has a long tradition of opening our arms and homes to refugees from around the world but, as governor, my first responsibility is to ensure the safety and security of all Hoosiers. Unless and until the state of Indiana receives assurances that proper security measures are in place, this policy will remain in full force and effect."

The Refugee Resettlement Office in the Division of Family Resources in the Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) administers the Syrian resettlement program.

###

From: Pavlik, Jennifer L
Sent: Tue 11/17/2015 9:18 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Mike" <mpence1314@aol.com>
Cc: "Pitcock, Josh" <jpitcock@sso.org>, "Lloyd, Matthew" <MLloyd@gov.IN.gov>, "Hill, John (GOV)" <jhill@gov.in.gov>, "Bauer, Zachary C" <ZBauer@gov.IN.gov>, "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>
Bcc:
Subject: FW: INVITATION: Governors Call on Syrian Refugees
Attachments: image00100001.png

Sir, do you want to join this call today before you board plane:
The White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs would like to invite your Governor to a **Governors-only call to discuss the Syrian refugee situation on Tuesday, November 17, 2015 at 5:00-6:00pm ET**. Senior Administration officials will share important information about Syrian refugee admissions and security screening measures.

To receive a call-in number for your Governor, please RSVP by responding to this email by 1pm ET on Tuesday, November 17, 2015.

WHO: Governors, Senior Administration Officials
WHAT: White House Conference Call with Governors
WHEN: Tuesday, November 16, 2015 at 5:00-6:00pm ET

From: Pitcock, Josh [mailto:jpitcock@sso.org]
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2015 9:30 PM
To: Pavlik, Jennifer L; Tuggle, Jennifer; Atterholt, Jim; Hill, John (GOV); Lloyd, Matthew; Triol, Shelley; McGuffee, Tyler Ann
Subject: Fwd: INVITATION: Governors Call on Syrian Refugees

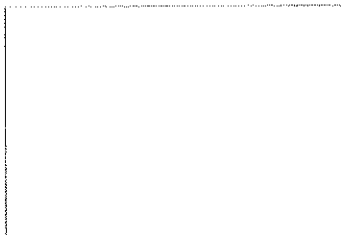
**** This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email. ****

Mrp may want to call in before his flight even if only for a few minutes.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Saenz, Adrian" <Adrian_Saenz@who.eop.gov>
Date: November 16, 2015 at 9:10:32 PM EST
To: "Saenz, Adrian" <Adrian_Saenz@who.eop.gov>
Cc: "Dessources, Kalisha" <Kalisha_Dessources@who.eop.gov>
Subject: INVITATION: Governors Call on Syrian Refugees



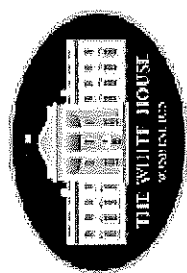
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To receive a call-in number for your Governor, please RSVP by responding to this email by 1pm ET on Tuesday, November 17, 2015.

WHO: Governors, Senior Administration Officials
WHAT: White House Conference Call with Governors
WHEN: Tuesday, November 16, 2015 at 5:00-6:00pm ET

This invitation is intended for GOVERNORS ONLY. This call will be closed press.

Adrian Saenz
Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
(202)456-4770



From: Lloyd, Matthew
Sent: Wed 11/18/2015 2:47 PM (GMT-05:00)
To:
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: Memo: Syrian Refugees

TO: The Fourth Estate
FROM: Matt
RE: Syrian Refugees

A little backgrounder for those of you covering the Syrian refugee issue and a few facts to keep in mind:

1. President Obama's FBI Director, James Comey, testified before Congress last month that "gaps" remain in the United States' process of screening Syrian refugees. Please refer to this story from *The Hill* on October 8.

Key excerpts:

"My concern there is there are certain gaps ... in the data available to us," Comey said.

"There is risk associated of bringing anybody in from the outside, but specifically from a conflict zone like that," he added.

"There is no such thing as a no-risk enterprise and there are deficits that we face."

In particular, the lack of solid on-the-ground intelligence assets in Syria has clouded the U.S.'s ability to crosscheck the backgrounds of every refugee hoping to come to the U.S., Comey and other national security officials told the Senate panel.

2. These news stories here and here provide further background on the attacks and links being uncovered by intelligence services.

As always, let me know if you have questions.

Matt

Matt Lloyd
Deputy Chief of Staff, Communications and Strategy
Governor Mike Pence
317-8 [REDACTED] (cell)
@matthewlloyd

From: Lloyd, Matthew
Sent: Wed 11/18/2015 8:03 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Mike" <mpence1314@aol.com>
Cc: "Brooks, Kara D" <kbrooks@gov.in.gov>, "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "Triol, Shelley" <STriol@gov.IN.gov>, "Pitcock, Josh" <jpitcock@ssn.org>
Bcc:
Subject: Fwd: [Govstate] Memo: Syrian Refugees

Good radio story:

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: White River Newsroom <News@1010wcsi.com>
Date: November 18, 2015 at 7:49:18 PM EST
To: "Lloyd, Matthew" <MLloyd@gov.IN.gov>
Subject: RE: [Govstate] Memo: Syrian Refugees

**** This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email. ****

Here you go. Please let me know if anything jumps out at you as being incorrect.

Again, I appreciate it.

CL

Indiana Governor Mike Pence is standing by his decision to try to block Syrian refugees from being settled in the state.

In making the Executive Decision, Gov. Pence said that his main duty, as Governor, is to keep the residents of Indiana safe. He went on to say that he was unwilling to risk the safety of Hoosiers at a time when Islamic terrorists appear to be using the refugee situation in Syria as a way to infiltrate their targets. Multiple media outlets have reported that at least one of the attackers in Paris was in possession of a fake passport, identifying him as a Syrian. These passports are reportedly very easy to get for people looking to enter Europe.

The Governor is using the Obama Administration's own statements in reaffirming his decision. Matt Lloyd, Deputy Chief of Staff, Communications and Strategy, cited statements made on October 8 by President Obama's FBI Director, James Comey. In testimony before Congress, Comey stated that "gaps" remain in the United States' process of screening Syrian refugees. Among the statements made by the FBI Director, The Pence Administration had particular concern with the following two:

Comey said, "There is risk associated of bringing anybody in from the outside, but specifically from a conflict zone like that." He added, "There is no such thing as a no-risk enterprise and there are deficits that we face."

Lloyd went on to say that that Comey, and other national security officials have stated that the lack of solid, on-the-ground intelligence assets in Syria has "clouded the U.S.'s ability to crosscheck the backgrounds of every refugee hoping to come to the U.S."

Gov. Pence says that while Indiana, and her residents, are welcoming, he will do everything in his power to keep a terrorist attack from occurring in the state. He also noted that he wasn't against resuming help to displaced Syrians in the future, but he added that more must be done to insure that the vetting process is clear, rigorous and thorough.

From: Lloyd, Matthew [mailto:MLloyd@gov.IN.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, November 18, 2015 7:36 PM
To: White River Newsroom
Subject: Re: [Govstate] Memo: Syrian Refugees

Yes absolutely

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 18, 2015, at 7:30 PM, White River Newsroom <News@1010wrcs.com> wrote:

**** This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email. ****

Mr. Lloyd. My stations are based in the Governor's hometown of Columbus. I am writing up a story about this as we speak. If I send you a copy, would you be able to take a moment and look it over to make sure I haven't mischaracterized what you, or Gov. Pence, have said? I just want to get it right.

I appreciate your help.

Christopher Lowe
White River Broadcasting
Columbus, IN
(812) 376-4770

From: Govstate [mailto:govstate-bounces@lists.in.gov] **On Behalf Of** Lloyd, Matthew
Sent: Wednesday, November 18, 2015 2:47 PM
To: undisclosed-recipients:
Subject: [Govstate] Memo: Syrian Refugees

TO: The Fourth Estate
FROM: Matt

RE: **Syrian Refugees**

A little backgrounder for those of you covering the Syrian refugee issue and a few facts to keep in mind:

1. **President Obama's FBI Director, James Comey, testified before Congress last month that "gaps" remain in the United States' process of screening Syrian refugees. Please refer to this story from *The Hill* on October 8.**

Key excerpts:

"My concern there is there are certain gaps ... in the data available to us," Comey said.

"There is risk associated of bringing anybody in from the outside, but specifically from a conflict zone like that," he added.

"There is no such thing as a no-risk enterprise and there are deficits that we face."

In particular, the lack of solid on-the-ground intelligence assets in Syria has clouded the U.S.'s ability to crosscheck the backgrounds of every refugee hoping to come to the U.S., Comey and other national security officials told the Senate panel.

2. **These news stories here and here provide further background on the attacks and links being uncovered by intelligence services.**

As always, let me know if you have questions.

Matt

Matt Lloyd
Deputy Chief of Staff, Communications and Strategy
Governor Mike Pence
317-8 [REDACTED] (cell)
@matthewlloyd

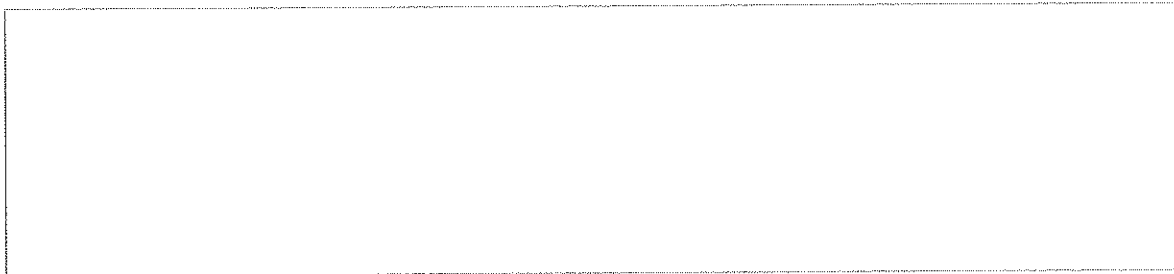
From: Pitcock, Josh
Sent: Thu 11/19/2015 10:13 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Mike Pence" <mpence1314@aol.com>
Cc: "Matt Lloyd" <MLloyd@gov.IN.gov>, "Jim Atterholt" <jatterholt@gov.in.gov>
Bcc:
Subject: Fwd: Coats: Syrian Refugees Need Safe Havens, Greater Humanitarian Aid from International Community

Good points by Sen. Coats.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Lahr, Matt (Coats)" <Matt_Lahr@coats.senate.gov>
Date: November 19, 2015 at 6:52:07 AM PST
To: "Lahr, Matt (Coats)" <Matt_Lahr@coats.senate.gov>
Cc: "Michalson, Kristine (Coats)" <Kristine_Michalson@coats.senate.gov>
Subject: **Coats: Syrian Refugees Need Safe Havens, Greater Humanitarian Aid from International Community**



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 19, 2015

Contact: Matt Lahr or Kristine Michalson (202) 224-5623

Coats: Syrian Refugees Need Safe Havens, Greater Humanitarian Aid from International Community

WASHINGTON, DC – Senator Dan Coats (R-Ind.), a member of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, today issued the following statement regarding the millions of people displaced by the Syrian crisis:

“The tragic situation in Syria has created a refugee and migration crisis that is overwhelming the mechanisms set up by the international community to deal with such movements. Here in the United States, we are having difficult but important conversations about how to balance legitimate security concerns with our country’s legacy of compassion.

“But the ongoing debate about bringing Syrian refugees into the United States – whether it be the current 2,000, the planned 10,000 or potentially even more – ultimately fails to address the main issue. Even if the United States were to admit 100,000 refugees, it still would be only a tiny fraction of the people displaced by the crisis in Syria.

“The only reasonable solution to dealing with this humanitarian crisis is to create conditions in and near Syria that will permit people to safely remain near their home country. This will require the United States, our allies and other cooperating international powers to create areas in Syria where Syrians can find safety from attack. Safe havens should be set up along the borders of Turkey, Iraq and Jordan, with international security guarantees, funding and management under U.N. auspices.

“This will require no-fly zones and strategic military activity by the United States and our allied partners. Western countries should accept these steps as an inescapable price to help bring two twin catastrophes to an end – the migrant crisis and the war that has generated it.

“We also need a massive commitment from the world community to set up, fund and manage safe areas with sanitation, health care, food, housing and schools in neighboring countries. Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey are already doing their utmost to care for millions of refugees, largely relying on their own resources. We need a much greater contribution from other regional states, European countries and traditional donor countries who have long been committed to humanitarian causes.

“Dealing with so many refugees in safe, humane conditions will be expensive, but it is no more expensive than the costs already being born by countries currently burdened with uncontrolled migration. More importantly, it is the morally correct course of action to help the millions of innocent people who are suffering.”

###

Matt Lahr

Communications Director

U.S. Senator Dan Coats

202.224.5623

matt_lahr@coats.senate.gov

<image002.jpg>



<image005.jpg>

From: Gilson, Katie
Sent: Tue 1/19/2016 8:49 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Ahearn, Mark" <MAhearn@gov.IN.gov>, "Anderson, Christopher M" <CAnderson@gov.in.gov>, "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "Bailey, Brian (OMB)" <bbailey@gov.in.gov>, "Bauer, Zachary C" <ZBauer@gov.IN.gov>, "Betley, James R (ICSB)" <JBetley@icsb.in.gov>, "Bradford, Cale A" <CBradford2@gov.IN.gov>, "Brookes, Brady" <BBrookes@gov.IN.gov>, "Brooks, Kara D" <kbrooks@gov.in.gov>, "Bullock, Meredith" <MBullock@gov.IN.gov>, "Craig, Lindsey M" <LCraig@gov.IN.gov>, "Czarniecki, Cary (Lani)" <LaniCz@gov.IN.gov>, "Davis, Bridget M (GOV)" <BDavis@gov.IN.gov>, "Espich, Jeff" <JEspich@gov.IN.gov>, "Evans, Benjamin P (GOV)" <BEvans@gov.IN.gov>, "Fernandez, Marilyn" <MFernandez@gov.IN.gov>, "Ferrell, Curtis L (GOV)" <cferrell@gov.in.gov>, "Fritz, Pam (GOV)" <pfritz@gov.IN.gov>, "Froedge, Michael" <MFroedge@gov.IN.gov>, "GOV Communications" <govcommunications@gov.IN.gov>, "Hill, John (GOV)" <jhill@gov.in.gov>, "Hines, Adam" <AHines@gov.IN.gov>, "Hodgin, Stephanie" <SHodgin@gov.in.gov>, "Jarmula, Ryan L" <RJarmula@gov.in.gov>, "Johnson, David" <DJohnson@gov.IN.gov>, "Johnson, Matt (GOV)" <MatJohnson@gov.IN.gov>, "Kane, Kristen" <kkane@gov.in.gov>, "Karns, Allison" <AKarns@gov.IN.gov>, "King, Michael C" <MiKing1@gov.IN.gov>, "Lloyd, Matthew" <MLloyd@gov.IN.gov>, "Mantravadi, Adarsh V" <AMantravadi@gov.IN.gov>, "McGrath, Danielle" <DMcGrath@gov.IN.gov>, "Morales, Cesar (Diego)" <DMorales@gov.IN.gov>, "Neal, Michael" <MNeal1@gov.IN.gov>, "Pavlik, Jennifer L" <JPavlik@gov.IN.gov>, "Pitcock, Josh" <jpitcock@sso.org>, "Price, Kendra" <kprice@gov.IN.gov>, "Reed, Katie" <KReed@gov.IN.gov>, "Rusthoven, Mark" <MRusthoven@gov.IN.gov>, "Schilb, Veronica J" <VSchilb@gov.IN.gov>, "Schlake, Josh" <JSchlake@gov.IN.gov>, "Schmidt, Daniel W" <DSchmidt@gov.IN.gov>, "Timmerman, Chad E (GOV)" <ctimmerman@gov.in.gov>, "Triol, Shelley" <STriol@gov.IN.gov>, "Vincent, Micah" <mvincent@gov.in.gov>, "Wainwright, Jonah" <JWainwright@gov.IN.gov>, "Wall, Kathryn E" <KWall@gov.IN.gov>, "Whitaker, Steve" <SWhitaker@isp.IN.gov>, "Hauer, Ian" <IHauer@lg.IN.gov>, "Dowd, Jaclyn (DWD)" <jdowd@dwd.IN.gov>, "Rosebrough, Dennis (LG)" <DRosebrough@lg.IN.gov>, "Heater, Ryan" <RHeater@lg.IN.gov>, "Goodwin, Nicholas R" <NiGoodwin@gov.IN.gov>, "Mcadam, Justin L" <JMcadam@gov.IN.gov>, "McGuffee, Tyler Ann" <TaMcGuffee@gov.IN.gov>, "Tuggle, Jennifer" <JTuggle@gov.IN.gov>, "McCleery, William" <WMccleery@iot.IN.gov>, "Parr, Riley" <RParr@gov.IN.gov>, "Kenney, Benjamin E" <BeKenney@idoa.IN.gov>, "Frain, Samuel J" <SaFrain@gov.IN.gov>, "Badger, Benjamin J" <BBadger@gov.IN.gov>
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: [Gov Clips] Howey
Attachments: 1-18-16 HPI Daily00005.pdf; 1-19-16 HPI Daily00006.pdf

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Jan. 18, 2015 HPI Daily Wire, sponsored by Associated Builders & Contractors

Monday, January 18, 2016 7:48 AM

PSE RESCHEDULING FAILS, HEALTH CHAIRS WON'T MOVE BILLS: Indiana won't require people to get a prescription to buy cold medicine that contains a key ingredient for methamphetamine production now that legislators threw out the proposals before even giving them a hearing (*Associated Press*). Rep. Cindy Kirchhofer, R-Beech Grove, and Sen. Michael Young, R-Indianapolis, both said the proposal to require a prescription to buy medicine with pseudoephedrine, a key ingredient in the production of meth, won't be heard when they make it to their respective committees. "I would not look for anything on Wednesday to come out of the Health committee that has a prescription requirement on it," Kirchhofer said. "There are wide opinions and I just don't have the votes to move it in committee or on the House floor." For the past three years, Indiana has led the nation in the number of meth lab seizures by police, according to the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency. The prescription requirement was resurrected several times in Indiana to combat the trend in the past and drew fierce debate between pharmaceutical giants and law enforcement organizations. Currently, Oregon and Mississippi are the only states that have the prescription-only requirement. While meth use was not significantly impacted, Medicaid spending on cold medicine saw a significant increase, according to the Center for Business and Economic Research at Ball State University. Recent radio advertisements by the Consumer Healthcare Products Association—which represents drug companies that would lose money from decreased medicine sale—touted those potential health care costs in Indiana and the inconvenience of obtaining prescriptions. But proponents of the prescription requirement say there is misinformation about how many people would actually be affected by the change since there is cold medicine that does not contain pseudoephedrine and wouldn't be. In Indiana, the cold medicine that does contain pseudoephedrine is already stored behind pharmacy counters. "If you have a cold, and you don't currently go to the pharmacy, this won't affect you," David Powell, executive director of the Indiana Prosecuting Attorneys Council. Recently, the fight for prescriptions also lost a powerful supporter. House Speaker Brian Bosma recently endorsed the prescription requirement, but this week said he was open to other options for fighting meth production. Legislators will have about a dozen bills to pick from that call for increasing punishment for meth offenders, compensating homeowners who decontaminate former meth houses and updating limits on how much of that medicine a person can buy. Indiana law currently caps the amount one person can buy at a time.

INDIANA INCOME FALLING FURTHER AND FURTHER BEHIND: Indiana's per capita income of \$39,578 ranks 39th nationally, and the Hoosier state has been falling further and further behind (Pete, *NWI Times*). Average per capita income has only risen by about \$1,100 a year since 2004, when Indiana ranked 37th nationally, according to newly released U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis data that was compiled by STATS

Indiana. The Hoosier state had the 28th highest income per capita in 1994 and the 33rd highest in 1984. Hoosiers are only making 2.9 percent more than they were a decade ago, which is the 42nd smallest rise in that time among the nation's 50 states. Income growth slowed considerably in Indiana over the last decade, considering it's risen by 18.1 percent over the last 20 years. Last year, the average Indiana resident only made 85.9 percent of what the average American earned. A big reason for the decline is that Indiana has historically relied heavily on manufacturing, a sector that has been shedding jobs because of automation and outsourcing up until only recently. It's estimated the United States has lost around 5 million manufacturing jobs since 2000, and they're often replaced with much lower-paying jobs in sectors like retail and hospitality.

SENATE CANDIDATES STRESS THEIR CRED IN FIRST DEBATE: With a terror attack in West Africa dominating the news, foreign policy dominated the opening of the first Republican U.S. Senate debate Saturday morning (*Howey Politics Indiana*). U.S. Rep. Todd Young and former Republican chairman Eric Holcomb highlighted their U.S. Naval and Marine Corps careers. U.S. Rep. Marlin Stutzman said he was "focused on our country being strong, safe and secure." Young repeatedly assailed Democrat Baron Hill, the probable Democratic nominee, saying at one point, "I beat him once and I can beat him again." Holcomb stressed his ties and planning while working with former Gov. Mitch Daniels. Stutzman highlighted his opposition to former Speaker John Boehner on omnibus bills, the sequester and the "system" of special interests. Young said, "I'm ready to kick down doors where they're not open in Washington," adding, "I'm running because of what I learned in Marine Corps. The world is a very dangerous place. We need a U.S. Senator who understands that principle." Holcomb noted he served in the U.S. Navy during Operation Desert Storm/Desert Shield. "I had the good fortune to work with former Gov. Mitch Daniels for most of a decade, day in and day out," Holcomb said. "We put a team together, put a plan together. We build roads we drive on, and we paid for those roads. We built bridges over the Ohio River." Asked what is required for an effective anti-terror strategy, Young said there should be "no artificial constraints on ourselves. We need to establish objectives." Young, who repeatedly compared his record to that of probably Democratic opponent Baron Hill, said that "we have to loosen up restrictions" on the use of air power. And he said that "safe havens" have to be established in Syria "so the refugee crisis can be staunched. Stutzman said, "You don't allow for a country like Iran to take our troops" and use video "propaganda around the world." Stutzman said, "Our own commander-in-chief is working against" the U.S. military, adding, "the sequester hit the military the hardest." On Iran policy, Stutzman said that it "begins with the White House, but said that while President Obama was negotiating the Trans Pacific Trade Pact, he was also pushing the Iran deal. "Why would we want to allow Iran to have nuclear weapons." He noted that his youngest son, Preston, will be 25 years old when the Iran deal ends. "My son Preston is going to have to deal with them." Young said that he has sponsored bills that, while opposing the Iran deal, would set up a select committee "so Congress oversees it." As for a potential Iranian nuclear weapons, Young added, "I have a specific plan to keep

that from happening." Holcomb said, "We need to declare war on ISIS." He added that Iran is reestablishing its empire. "They are not talking about it, they are acting on it," he said, "We are retreating and withdrawing and we do not enforce our imposed red lines." The candidates tried to separate themselves for each other. Young, who brought up Baron Hill repeatedly, took a shot at Stutzman, who in 2014 advocated a government shutdown. "I didn't go to Washington to shut government down," Young said, "I went to there to get things done." Holcomb said, "Any one of us can beat Baron Hill. They couldn't have picked a worse candidate," saying he was an early endorser of Barack Obama in 2008 and then voted for Obamacare.

AVIAN FLU HIS DUBOIS TURKEY FARMS AREA: The Indiana State Board of Animal Health has confirmed that 10 commercial turkey farms in the Dubois area have now tested positive for avian flu (*DuBois County Herald*). The confirmation came tonight that nine farms, in addition to Dan Kalb's farm, have tested positive for the highly pathogenic avian influenza. The state board reports that depopulation control is underway at all nine farms. The total number of birds affected is still being determined but officials said Sunday afternoon that they believe that number may exceed 200,000. Gov. Mike Pence was briefed by local officials and multiple state emergency response agencies on the possible spread of H7N8, which first hit Steve and Dan Kalb's farm in Dubois this week, which they operate for Huntingburg's Farbest Foods. Pence said that while there are no confirmed cases outside of Kalb's farm, there are "preliminary positive" tests at a number of sites in a 6.2-mile testing area established around Kalb's farm. Authorities say no additional turkey farms in a Southern Indiana county have tested positive for bird flu since an outbreak at 10 farms. Indiana State Board of Animal Health spokeswoman Denise Derrer said Sunday that 100 farms tested over 24 hours came back negative. She says that's a sign control measures are working.

LONG WADES INTO LGBT DEBATE: With all of the unknowns, and without a clear path forward, Senate President Pro Tem David Long is forging ahead (Wang, Schneider & Sikich, *IndyStar*). On lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights, Long has waded into the center of an unsettled issue that cleaves divides in his party, across the state and throughout the nation. As other Republican leaders try to distance themselves from the debate, Long appears determined to face it head-on. All he can promise right now is at least one public hearing on proposals to expand civil rights based on sexual orientation or gender identity. Beyond that, it's unclear whether he can advance the issue even past his own committee, let alone get a satisfactory proposal out to the full Senate, over to the House or on the governor's desk. But Long says he still sees an opportunity — and a responsibility — for meaningful legislation, even if it has political ramifications for him personally. "I don't think you can duck issues like this," Long told *IndyStar*. "It doesn't mean you have to pass something, but you must have that discussion, and you must make some tough calls." So far, no one has come up with a proposal that lawmakers can agree provides substantial civil rights protections while also striking an acceptable balance with religious liberties. "I do think it's important we deal with the issue openly and show that we are talking about it. We aren't afraid to

talk about it, and we want to have an honest conversation about it," Long said. "Whether we're ready for that or not, I don't know." "The real economic damage that people have talked about really didn't happen," Long said. "Indiana's economy continues to grow. The conventions continue to come here."

INDIANA COMPETES RADIO AD: Indiana Competes, the business advocacy group backing the civil rights expansion, has begun a radio media campaign (*Howey Politics Indiana*). The ad begins: "I'm Tina... 42 years-old... native Hoosier... and gay. Did you know that under current Indiana law it's okay for my employer to fire me at any time simply because I'm gay? Like you, I have children, go to church every weekend, and have a full time job. It's not fair to think I could lose my job just because of who I love! If I'm fired because I'm gay, I have no legal protection or ability to defend myself. Unbelievable... ANNOUNCER: Currently it is legal to discriminate in Indiana -- and that's wrong! Our state's civil rights act says you can't be fired from your job because of your race, sex, disability or national origin; but does NOT offer the same equal rights protection if you're gay or transgender. It's time to do something about it... Leaders, including those in the business community, are taking action to end discrimination against L-G-B-T Hoosiers. Learn more at Indiana-competes-dot-org. WOMAN: I don't ask for special protections, only to be treated equally. That's what's fair. ANNOUNCER: See how you can get involved... Indiana-competes-dot-org."

BILL WOULD RESTRICT PUBLIC ACCESS TO VIDEOES: A bill to seriously restrict access to police generated recordings in Indiana is out of committee and headed to the full house for a vote. The House Government and Regulatory Reform Committee voted 13-0 to pass HB 1019. The bill "restricts public records requests for law enforcement recordings and requires a court order to release recorded police body camera video. Hartford City Republican Rep. Kevin Mahan, a former sheriff is the sponsor of the bill (Grant, *Washington Times Herald*). Both the Hoosier State Press Association and the Indiana Broadcasters Association have come out against the bill. "This outrageous proposal takes government secrecy to a new level, keeping public records completely under wrap," said Washington broadcaster Dave Crooks who is chairman of the IBA. "As drafted the 22-page bill would allow law enforcement agencies to refuse to share public video records and require the public to file a lawsuit against an agency, prove a need for disclosure of the video and have those asking for the video to bear the legal costs of such a request--unless you're actually in the video." Steve Key, executive director and general counsel for HPSA, said that under existing law, police have to at least claim videos are "investigatory records." He said under HB 1019 law enforcement has no legal incentive to make the video available to the public unless it exonerates an officer. Police chiefs and sheriffs will have carte blanche to decline all requests from the public or press solely on the basis that they don't want to make the videos available. Said Crooks, "I don't think the taxpayers want police using public funds to make recordings and then hide them from the public."

INDIANA TOP SOURCE OF CHICAGO ILLEGAL GUNS: Guns bought in Indiana

don't always stay in Indiana. President Obama brought up the recurring point earlier this month during a town hall discussion on guns, citing Indiana as the source of some of the guns that end up in the hands of Chicago gang members. Indiana Gov. Mike Pence rebuffed the remark during his State of the State address on Jan. 12 (Vandenack, *Elkhart Truth*). "Mr. President, please stop blaming our gun laws for violence in Chicago. Hoosiers are not the cause of crime in your hometown — criminals are," Pence said. A 2014 study by the city of Chicago and the Chicago Police Department found that Indiana is the key source, outside of Illinois, for illegal guns in Chicago. Sixty percent of recovered guns that were used in crimes between 2009 and 2013 in Chicago came from outside Illinois, according to the report. Indiana was the largest out-state source, accounting for 19 percent of all of the guns, followed by Mississippi and Wisconsin. The three states "all permit gun owners to sell their guns to other people without any background checks," said the 2014 report. "This makes it incredibly easy for gun traffickers, violent offenders and other prohibited purchasers to buy guns undetected. In those states, guns can move from buyer to buyer and land in the hands of a shooter or murderer without any paper trail." Likewise, a 2010 study by Mayors Against Illegal Guns found that Indiana was one of the top 10 suppliers of "interstate crime guns" — guns used in crimes outside the states where they were first sold — in 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009.

HPI DAILY ANALYSIS: We all know the definition of insanity, doing the same thing over and over expecting different results. Thus, here we are in Indiana, the Methamphetamine State. Leading the nation in domestic meth production for three straight years, Republican leadership at the Statehouse simply isn't up to the task at hand, with House Public Health Chairman Cindy Kirchhofer and her Senate counterpart Mike Young putting aside all PSE rescheduling bills despite significant support from the Indiana State Police Meth Suppression Unit, prosecutors, the Association of Counties, IACT, and mayors who are fighting this war on the front lines. As has been amply documented, the meth crisis has impacted more than a thousand children, wounded police, firefighters and code enforcement officials, and created hundreds of toxic sites, rendering scores of properties off the tax rolls. The decision comes from a politically weak chairwoman, whose own reelection is so tenuous that she appears to be opting for a state Senate bid. Speaker Bosma had been a supporter of rescheduling PSE, but didn't use his considerable clout in advancing the rescheduling to the House floor. Gov. Mike Pence is Missing In Action. When the topic comes up, he immediately switches into the throw-the-book at drug dealers mode, even while he acknowledges that we can't "arrest ourselves" out of this crisis. And John Gregg? The man who could have supplied the political leverage here is nowhere to be seen. Until political leverage comes into play on the Oregon/Mississippi solution that statistically has proven to be effective, Indiana is likely to lead the nation for a fourth consecutive year. Our "leaders" are simply not up to the task to find solutions that work, and we will almost certainly be back to this pathetic point a year from now. - *Brian A. Howey*

Campaigns

CANDIDATES DESCRIBE 'CONSERVATIVE': On the question of what is a conservative, Stutzman said, "Margaret Thatcher used to say that conservatism needs no adjective. Conservatives care about people. We should be willing to help those not only in our own neighborhood, we need to work around the world" Stutzman noted that he had worked on missions in Guatemala, Haiti and Russia (*Howey Politics Indiana*). "That is what has made America great for over 200 years." Holcomb said, "The question is what is conservative? I am. The free enterprise system is relevant so you can keep the money you earn. I am pro life. We live out all the principles that line by line are in the founding principles of the Constitution." Young cited the need to "defend lives, rights and property." "I have not always been the darling of the establishment in Washington, D.C., and the Republican Party." Young spoke often about legislation he has introduced that won House approval, in particular a bill requiring congressional approval for any federal regulation that has an annual economic impact of at least \$100 million. "I actually come up with conservative solutions, persuade my colleagues of their merits, and I'm able to move them forward," he said. "That's the job of the United States Senate."

REPUBLICANS TAKE AIM AT BARON HILL: In most of his responses, Young at some point mentioned former U.S. Rep. Baron Hill, widely considered the Democratic Party's likely Senate nominee in Indiana. Young unseated Hill from his southern Indiana U.S. House district in the 2010 election (*Fort Wayne Journal Gazette*). "I can beat Baron Hill; I've beaten him before to get to Congress. We have to defeat Baron Hill," Young said. Young dropped Hill's name so many times that each instance drew more and more laughter from the debate audience. "I don't want to give Baron Hill too much name ID and recognition here," Stutzman quipped. And Holcomb said: "Here's the good news: Any one of us three will beat Baron Hill if in fact he is the nominee. (Democrats) could not have picked a worse-profiled candidate. He's been running for office in four different decades." Young said he can win tough races, defeating both former congressman Mike Sodrel in the 2010 GOP primary and Hill in the 9th CD (*Howey Politics Indiana*). "I was able to hold that seat," Young said, noting that he won 50% of the vote in liberal Monroe County. "We are entering a very important election," Young concluded. "I would love to send in the Marines in Washington DC and clean housue, but you can send in one Marine."

SENATE CANDIDATES ON OBAMACARE, ROADS: The candidates occasionally offered specific proposals, such as when urging that the Affordable Care Act be repealed and replaced (Francisco, *Fort Wayne Journal Gazette*). Young pressed for health savings accounts, consumer insurance pools and letting insurers sell their policies across state lines. Stutzman promoted his Right to Try legislation, which would give Americans access to medicine not fully approved by the Food and Drug Administration. Holcomb said the state's Healthy Indiana Plan, which requires low-income Hoosiers to pay a little for their coverage, should be the model for the nation. Stutzman and Young called for the creation of public- ;private partnerships to rebuild roads and other

infrastructure. Holcomb wants a system for tracking non-citizens after they enter the country, and he said the corporate tax rate should be cut from 35 percent to 15 percent or 20 percent. Young said his legislation that would establish a congressional committee to oversee and enforce the Iran nuclear power agreement is "an actual solution to the problem. It's based on my experience in the Marine Corps, where I was an intelligence officer." Stutzman said federal highway funds should be administered directly by states and not the Department of Transportation. Insisting that "Washington needs to stay in its own lane," he said state governments should be in charge of responding to the surging use of heroin and methamphetamine.

CANDIDATES ON IMMIGRATION: All three agreed the U.S. needs to strengthen efforts along the border with Mexico (de la Bastide, *Anderson Herald-Bulletin*). "There should be no illegal entry, which is one of the greatest threats to our national security," Stutzman said. "We have the ability to stop it if we want to." He supports the construction of a fence or wall along that border and said the administration of President Barack Obama is not addressing the problem. "We have to stop the bleeding," Stutzman said, "then deal with what is taking place in the United States." Holcomb said people in Indiana are frustrated that it seems nothing has been done about immigration problems for several years. "Right now we can't even track who is in the country because the federal agencies aren't working together," he said. "It's a national security issue because ISIS is looking to come into this country through Mexico and heroin is flowing into the country." Holcomb said the U.S. should use modern tracking systems, including drones, additional people and a fence. Young said the problem requires action by the U.S. Senate, not through executive orders issued by Obama. "Drones can play an important role," he said. "We need to invest in an electric fence and more patrols. We have to set the objective and provide the resources."

ON NATIONAL ECONOMY: On the national economy and lowering the national debt, the three agreed growth is required (*Anderson Herald-Bulletin*). Holcomb said although the unemployment rate has declined, there has been a decrease in wages being paid and a number of people have quit looking for work. He would like to see the national corporate tax rate reduced from 35 percent to 15 or 20 percent. Holcomb said economic growth could provide the funding to pay off the national debt. Stutzman said he has supported the "conservative budget" and that military and government spending are affecting the economy. "I've worked hard in the House to rein in government regulation and to cut the budget," he said. "If we don't have growth, we won't have a strong economy." Young said he has been working on tax reform in the House, which he said hasn't been done in 30 years. "I want to improve skills for workers and to provide a debt-free college education and not impact our deficit," he said.

HOLCOMB SEES 'NEW PHASE OF CAMPAIGN': Eric Holcomb presented a clear contrast to his two opponents in the first U.S. Senate Republican Primary Debate held this morning in Kokomo, Indiana, at the Howard County Republican Party's Century Club Breakfast (*Howey Politics Indiana*). Comparing his record of accomplishment to the

lack of progress in Washington, D.C., Holcomb said, "I submit to you that we cannot afford the next 6 years to reflect the last 6 years...there is a better way." Telling the audience that the consistent message he hears across the state is, "enough is enough," he spoke about his work with the new crew under Mitch Daniels that balanced budgets, turned deficits into surpluses, lowered taxes, built roads and bridges, and made Indiana a model for others to envy and to follow. Holcomb also highlighted his background as a veteran of the United States Navy and former senior advisor to Governor Mitch Daniels and U.S. Senator Dan Coats. "I've had the good fortune of being able to serve the state and our nation most of my adult life." Following the debate, Holcomb said, "We have entered a new phase in this campaign. Hoosiers are now focused on proven experience and results, not more talk. I hear it every day as I travel this state talking with and listening to Hoosiers. And that's how I know we can – and will – win this nomination."

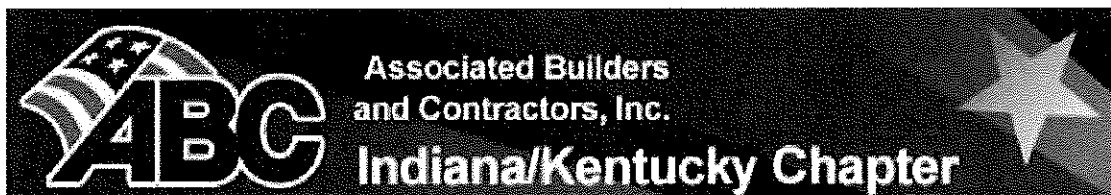
5TH CD DEM PRIMARY BATTLE: The field of candidates seeking the Democratic Party nomination for the 5th Congressional District stands at two and is expected to grow before the close of filing on Feb. 5 (de la Bastide, *Anderson Herald-Bulletin*). Indianapolis-based veteran and veterinarian Angela Demaree officially filed her declaration of candidacy on Thursday. On the same day, Allen R. Davidson, a Fishers resident who works for the Indiana Department of Transportation, declared he was making a second run for the nomination. The winner of the May primary is expected to face two-term incumbent Republican Susan Brooks. Davidson finished third in the 2014 Democratic Party primary getting 22 percent of the vote to nominee Shawn Denney, who received 48 percent of the vote. Denney is expected to again seek the nomination in the primary. Brooks won the GOP in a crowded seven-person primary in 2012 following the announcement that Dan Burton was retiring. She received 58 percent of the vote in defeating Democrat Scott Reske in the general election. In 2014, Brooks defeated two other candidates in the May primary and defeated Denney in the November general election with 65 percent of the vote. "Seven years ago today I raised my right hand to support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic as a military officer," Demaree said of her candidacy. "Today, I'm filing as a candidate for Congress in Indiana's 5th District continuing my service to our country and state."

REP. COOK SEEKING REELECTION: Indiana Rep. Tony Cook, R-District 32, has officially declared his candidacy for election in 2016 (*Kokomo Tribune*). Cook's district comprises portions of Grant, Delaware, Howard, Madison and Hamilton counties, and all of Tipton County. Cook will have served two full legislative sessions by the May primary. Cook was selected to replace Rep. Eric Turner in December 2014 after Turner resigned amidst an ethics scandal. Cook is a retired school superintendent, having recently served the Hamilton Heights school system. He was also a high school principal at both Hamilton Heights and Noblesville. In the 2015 legislative session, Cook carried the largest school deregulation bill in 30 years, according to a press release. "It is Cook's continued goal that the state of Indiana maintains a balanced budget and an attractive business environment, and that the state return more control to local decision

makers," said Cook's team in the release. "He hopes to lead the charge to replace ISTEP with a more reliable, valid, and shortened test that emphasizes student growth measures."

DNC CHAIRWOMAN FACES PRIMARY CHALLENGE: For Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D-Fla.), the problems with the left just keep coming (*The Hill*). The Democratic National Committee (DNC) chief has infuriated many Democrats with her handling of the party's presidential primary debates. She drew further howls from liberals for deeming a whole generation of young women "complacent" about their abortion freedoms. And now she's facing a primary challenge from a liberal Wall Street reformer who says she's a corporate shill detached from her district. Timothy Canova, a professor at the Shepard Broad College of Law in Florida's Nova Southeastern University, says Wasserman Schultz's positions on trade, criminal justice, consumer protection and drug policy reform — among others — are evidence that she's sold out to corporate interests at the expense of her constituents.

FRIDAY PRIMARY FILINGS: Democrats: Shelli Yoder CD9, John Forrest Roberson CD3, Curtis Godfrey CD7, Michelle Livinghouse HD17, Robert Pitman HD59, Larry Kleeman HD74. **Republican:** State Sen. Brent Waltz CD9, Mike Bohacek HD8, Greg Arthus HD10, State Rep. Eric Koch SD44, Josh Anderson SD44.



Presidential 2016

CLINTON, SANDERS SHARPEN TONES IN

DEBATE: Democratic front-runner Hillary Clinton aggressively prosecuted Sen. Bernie Sanders on issues from gun control to health care and fealty to President Obama at a presidential debate Sunday as she sought to puncture Sanders's insurgent appeal and regain her footing after a difficult stretch (*Washington Post*). Clinton put Sanders on the defensive through much of the two-hour debate, but a hoarse-voiced Sanders got in numerous digs. He accused Clinton of being too cozy with Wall Street and

beholden to the financial industry. He noted that Clinton has accepted millions in campaign donations and hundreds of thousands in speaking fees from the financial sector. With raised voices, interruptions and wonky examinations of one another's voting records and policies, Sanders and Clinton battled over who had the more progressive or more workable solutions. Their exchanges were the most combative and personal of the campaign so far, reflecting the newly potent threat Sanders poses to Clinton in her second White House run.

CLINTON REPEATEDLY CITES OBAMA: Hillary Clinton may have been flanked by Martin O'Malley and Senator Bernie Sanders at the presidential primary debate on Sunday night in South Carolina, but she wanted voters to see her as shoulder-to-shoulder with another Democrat: the one living in the White House (*New York Times*). Seeking to stabilize her 2016 campaign in the state where her 2008 contest with Barack Obama took its nastiest turn, Mrs. Clinton linked herself to the president again and again. And again. She praised Mr. Obama for having "led our country out of the Great Recession." She praised Mr. Obama's nuclear deal with Iran: "I was very pleased to be part of what the president put into action." She praised Mr. Obama's handling of the Assad government in Syria — even though she fought with him over whether to arm and train Syrian rebels when she was his secretary of state. Over and over Sunday night, Mrs. Clinton turned to Mr. Obama as both sword and shield — sometimes even in the same breath.

TRUMP TAKES CREDIT FOR RELEASE OF AMERICANS: Donald Trump says there may be something more to the recent release of American prisoners held by Iran than meets the eye. And that something is Donald Trump (*Politico*). "I've been hitting them hard, and I think I might've had

something to do with it," said Trump at a campaign stop on Saturday, hours after four American prisoners long held in Iran were freed. On the campaign trail, Trump has often criticized the Obama administration for failing to secure the release of those prisoners in its negotiations with the country. "It's part of my staple thing," said Trump. "You know, I go crazy when I hear about this. You go absolutely wild, because how is it possible? We have one who's in there who's a reporter for the Washington Post. He didn't do anything wrong by the way."

TRUMP BOOED IN SOUTH CAROLINA: Two days after Thursday's debate strained the peace between Ted Cruz and Donald Trump, events on Saturday, when they crossed paths here, shattered it, with each man unloading on the other (Politico). "You give a campaign contribution to Ted Cruz, you get whatever the hell you want!" Trump charged at a tea party gathering here on Saturday afternoon, two hours after Cruz worked the same room. At a morning event in Fort Mill, Cruz told reporters, "Given the fact that for much of his life Donald was financially supporting those politicians, writing checks to Hillary Clinton, writing checks to Andrew Cuomo, it's a fair inference he supports their policies." Trump, for his part, called Cruz a "great hypocrite" for failing to disclose loans from Goldman Sachs and Citibank in an FEC filing and repeatedly poked at the senator on social media, tweeting a picture of Ground Zero with the question, "Is this the New York that Ted Cruz is talking about & demeaning?" "Well, excuse me. Excuse me. He didn't report his bank loans? Excuse me," Trump said, as boos continued to fill the room. "He didn't report his bank loans. He's got bank loans from Goldman Sachs. He's got bank loans from Citibank and then he acts like Robin Hood. Say whatever you want, it doesn't work that way."

STEELE SAYS TRUMP WILL BE GOP NOMINEE: Former Republican National Committee Chairman Michael Steele said Friday he thinks Donald Trump will be the Republican nominee for president (*The Hill*). "I'm gonna say this and I know people are going to scratch their heads and go 'what?' but I don't think he can [be stopped]," Steele said on 1210 WPHT in an interview posted by BuzzFeed News. "That window has closed and I think Donald Trump effectively closed it over the last couple of months. "You tell me who stops him and when do they do it," he added, noting Trump's strong positions in the polls. "I don't see how that momentum gets stopped right now," he added. "I don't know who breaks it. Come on, you've had eight months. You've had eight months to take him down."

RUBIO SAYS LAW ABIDING ILLEGALS COULD STAY: Sen. Marco Rubio says people who immigrated to the U.S. illegally but haven't committed any major crimes could be allowed to stay (*Politico*). In an interview airing Sunday on NBC's "Meet the Press," the Florida Republican contender for the presidency said felons shouldn't be allowed to stay, but those who commit lesser crimes could still qualify. He didn't specify if the people allowed to stay would ever be able to become citizens. "If you're a criminal alien, no, you can't stay. If you're someone that hasn't been here for a very long time, you can't stay," he said. "I don't think you're gonna round up and deport 12 million people."

CLINTON 'PLEASED' WITH SANDERS GUN FLIP-

FLOP:Democratic primary front-runner Hillary Clinton on Sunday said she is grateful that her main primary rival Bernie Sanders "flip-flopped" on the issue of guns (*The Hill*). "One of my biggest differences has been on guns, and I'm very pleased that he flip-flopped on the immunity legislation," she said, referring to Sanders's position to repeal legislation granting gun manufactures

legal immunity. "Now I hope he will flip-flop on what we call the 'Charleston loophole' and join legislation to close that," she added. "Because it's been a key argument of my campaign that we Democrats – in fact, Americans – need to stand up to the gun lobby and pass comprehensive, commonsense gun measures that will make Americans safer. And that's what I intend to do."

SANDERS WILL RELEASE MEDICAL RECORDS: After dismissing calls from the Clinton campaign to release his medical records as "vile and desperate," Democratic primary candidate Bernie Sanders on Sunday promised to do just that (*The Hill*). "Of course we're going to release our medical records," Sanders said on CNN's "State of the Union." The same way that Secretary Clinton has gotten her medical records out," he added. "It is not a problem." Clinton surrogate David Brock, founder of the pro-Clinton Correct the Record super-PAC, reportedly planned to call for the 74-year-old Vermont senator to release his medical records.

CAMPAIGN PERCOLATES IN EVANSVILLE: Both major party presidential nominating contests — or neither — may be decided by the time Indiana holds primary elections on May 3. But the stirrings of a presidential campaign are already in Evansville (Langhorne, *Evansville Courier & Press*). The activity apparently is more intense and focused on the Democratic side, with local activists for leading contenders Hillary Clinton and Sen. Bernie Sanders in full swing. On the Republican side, which has several more viable contenders, party leaders report scant contacts with campaigns and random sightings of campaign activity. It is early yet in a presidential contest that will see numerous primaries and caucuses in other states in February and March, said Tony Gobin, a local Clinton organizer. "We haven't called on a lot of people yet, because there's simply just not much to do at this point," Gobin said. Gobin said the Clinton campaign has been busy meeting the requirement that candidates submit at least 500 valid signatures of registered voters in each of the state's nine congressional districts. "I can't speak for the other districts in the state, but I know we're sitting in good shape in the 8th District at least," he said. Local Clinton supporters held a meeting several months ago in Evansville Central Library's Browning Room. Gobin said the Clinton campaign could ramp up and go full-bore for a hotly contested, 2008-style presidential primary in Indiana if it had to — but he clearly hopes that won't be the case. "2016 may be a little different. By then, we obviously may have a nominee or a nominee in functionality, all but the shouting done at that point," he said.

Sunday Talk

TRUMP CALLS CRUZ A 'NASTY GUY': Republican presidential front-runner Donald Trump on Sunday ramped up his war of words with Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Texas), saying

Cruz is hypocritical in his attacks on the billionaire (The Hill). Trump said on ABC's *"This Week"* that he doesn't think Cruz "has a great chance, to be honest with you." "Look, the truth is, he's a nasty guy. He was so nice to me. I mean, I knew it. I was watching. I kept saying, 'Come on Ted. Let's go, ok.' But he's a nasty guy," Trump said. "Nobody likes him. Nobody in Congress likes him. Nobody likes him anywhere once they get to know him. He's a very - he's got an edge that's not good. You can't make deals with people like that and it's not a good thing. It's not a good thing for the country. Very nasty guy."

TRUMP SAYS HE'LL BE GREAT FOR BLACKS: Republican presidential front-runner Donald Trump criticized President Obama one day before Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, saying he will be "great for African Americans" if elected (*The Hill*). During an interview on ABC's *"This Week,"* Trump on Sunday said he agrees with African Americans who believe the slain civil rights leaders dream has not been reached. "I agree with them, especially under President Obama. We have an African American president and the black youth, the African American youth has essentially never done worse," Trump said. "You look at the unemployment in the 50s, you look at African American people that are 30, and 35 and 40 in the height of their strength and life. President Obama, an African American, has done a terrible job for African Americans," he added. "Donald Trump will do a great job for African Americans. I'll bring back jobs to this country from China and many other places, and I'll let people work and make a great living. I will be great for African Americans."

CRUZ BLASTS PRISONER SWAP: Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Texas) is hammering the Obama administration this weekend for a prisoner swap he says puts America at risk (*The Hill*). The GOP presidential hopeful said that, while the release of four American hostages is reason to cheer, the administration's reciprocal release of seven Iranians raises the specter of an Iranian nuclear attack on the west. "We celebrate all of them coming home. But at the same time, this deal is a really problematic deal and it reflects a pattern we've seen in the Obama administration over and over again of negotiating with terrorists and making deals and trades that endanger U.S. safety and security," Cruz said in an interview with "Fox News Sunday." "This deal, to bring back Americans who were wrongly imprisoned, we released seven terrorists who had helped Iran with their nuclear program, and we agreed not to prosecute another 14 terrorists for doing the same thing," he added.

RUBIO CITES IRAN 'HOSTAGES': GOP presidential candidate Marco Rubio said the Americans released by Iran should not be described as "prisoners," telling CBS News that they were "hostages" (*The Hill*). "Well first, let me say 'They're not prisoners,'" the Florida senator said during an interview airing Sunday morning on *"Face the Nation."* "These people that were being held were hostages. None of them had violated any real laws. And in fact some of them weren't even charged. One of them was a reporter. The other one was a pastor. They'd done nothing," he said. Four Americans, including Washington Post reporter Jason Rezaian, were freed on Saturday in a prisoner

swap. "The people America's releasing – they were convicted in a court law after due process of violate sanctions," Rubio added. "The president has pardoned them in exchange for a release of hostages which had done nothing wrong and it proves once again now that nations and enemies of America around the world know there's a price for Americans.

CLINTON DOESN'T HAVE TIME FOR '13 HOURS': Democratic primary front-runner Hillary Clinton on Sunday said she is too busy campaigning to see a movie depicting the 2012 terrorist attack on the U.S. diplomatic mission in Benghazi, Libya. "I'm just too busy campaigning," Clinton said on CNN's *"State of the Union,"* when asked if she had seen the film. "I am still very focused on making sure we do everything we can as I did when I was secretary of State, as I testified to over 11 hours, to make sure that nothing like that happens again, insofar as we are able to prevent it," she added. "And that's my focus when it comes to the continuing obligation that the United States government has whenever we send anyone into harm's way."

BUSH SAYS TRUMP OFFERS 'MOON AND STARS': Former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush said in an interview broadcast Sunday that fellow Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump's popularity can be attributed to Americans' anxiety, adding that the GOP front-runner does not "have the skills to bring people together" (*The Hill*). "Well, there's a lot of anxiety," Bush said on NBC's "Meet the Press." "People are so angry with Washington and so frustrated about their own lives. I saw-- a survey that 63% of people can't afford a car repair of 500 bucks. And more than half of Americans have less than \$1,000 in savings. And the big guy comes in and-- and offers the moon and the stars, and-- people are-- are latched onto that." Bush said, however, that Trump is not offering anything "to lift people up." "I think the cumulative effect of pointing that out-- respectfully, look-- the guy's entertaining, for sure. But his ideas aren't gonna help people. And he doesn't have the skills to bring people together."

General Assembly

LONG, PENCE PART ON RIGHTS: While Pence stressed religious protections, he gave no indications of what — if any — LGBT protections he could support. In an interview with *IndyStar* two days after his speech, Pence reiterated that the legislature would have to determine "whether it is necessary or even possible to reconcile our long-standing reputation and practice as a tolerant state with our religious freedoms and traditions." Pence is driven by his religious perspectives as a strong Christian believer, Long said. "He struggles, I think, with this issue, in trying to find common ground for both civil rights and religious freedom," Long said, "because on these two issues, they do clash in some people's minds. So he's trying to navigate through that. He's being cautious." For Long, it's less of a personal struggle, though he still has concerns about how to handle transgender issues. "I'm comfortable extending civil rights to the LGB community," Long said, leaving off the T. "I have no problem with that, personally. I also strongly believe in religious freedom, and I think our bills reflect

that." Long said he thinks a proposal like Senate Bill 344 is more feasible right now, because while public opinion has shifted to be more supportive of gay rights, people remain more unsure about transgender people. He also said he now favors letting existing city human rights ordinances stand. That could offer stronger local protections than the proposed state law, by including transgender people or enacting stricter fines.

PASTORS TAKE AIM AT LONG, HOLDMAN, HERSHMAN: The Indiana Pastors Alliance peppered Long's office with 5,500 petitions last week against LGBT rights legislation (*IndyStar*). "Our intention today," said Ron Johnson Jr., executive director of the Indiana Pastors Alliance, "is to hand-deliver these ballots to the person that we believe to be the source of the problem we're facing right now. And that's Senator Long." The group hopes Pence's firm stance to protect religious freedom is powerful enough to quash the issue. Its leaders said they also appreciate the House for "being reluctant to even want to deal with this," said field director Kevin Baird. But they see a threat in Long — and in his high-ranking Republican allies, Travis Holdman and Brandt Hershman, who authored the LGBT rights proposals. They attacked the lawmakers for pushing legislation that the religious right thinks will "codify anti-Christian bigotry." "I was listening to Senator David Long in his response to the State of the State address, and he said that the SOGI (sexual orientation and gender identity) bills protect religious liberty," Baird said as his supporters jeered. "In what universe can you even interpret that?" Members of the group bowed their heads to pray that lawmakers "are going to have a heart that will hear, and these things will just fade away." Then they singled out Long, Holdman and Hershman by name. "Lord, they're serving, and I'm sure there's great intention there," Baird said, "but Lord, we're praying right now that they would review this, and you would speak to them." Long acknowledges the political risk of wading into the issue. He is, after all, up for re-election this year and even launched his campaign on the same day as the State of the State address. "Sure, I may get a primary out of this," Long said. "And people are trying awful hard." Hershman, a co-author of Senate Bill 344, also said he wouldn't shy away from political risk. "I'm always willing to discuss issues and let people know where I stand and debate them. My repeated refrain in this whole debate is to try to calm down some of the overheated rhetoric on both sides," said Hershman, R-Buck Creek. After the governor's speech, Holdman — a Republican from Markle who brought both civil rights bills — said he was hopeful and optimistic that Republicans could strike the right balance. "We're here to do what's right, not to do what's politically advantageous for us," Holdman said. "If we could wipe politics aside, it would be an easier discussion for all of us."

ALTING SAYS STATE ISN'T READ FOR TRANSGENDER ISSUE: State Sen. Ron Alting told a group of local leaders Saturday the best way to gain traction on pending LGBT civil rights legislation is to table gender identity protections — for now (*Lafayette Journal & Courier*). "It is such an area that many people feel so uncomfortable about. ..." he said. "For most Hoosiers and most people in Lafayette, the first involvement they've ever had with even knowing what a transgender sex is was Bruce Jenner. ... It's a new thing." Alting, a Lafayette Republican, and Rep. Sheila Klinker, a Lafayette

Democrat, met with about 16 civil rights leaders and representatives from the LGBT community during a joint human relations commission meeting held at the Best Western hotel in Lafayette. Alting authored Senate Bill 170, which would add both sexual orientation and gender identity to the state's civil rights laws. "It's way overdue not to put that in the state (law)," he said. "I'm tired of saying that Indiana is a welcoming state and we open our arms to you. ... Let's prove it. Let's put something on the books that is tangible."

KENLEY WON'T REOPEN BUDGET: The state's key fiscal hawks agree: The budget is not open this session (Kelly, *Fort Journal Gazette*). But that doesn't mean lawmakers aren't going to spend money. Between \$240 million and \$460 million might be tapped for maintaining state roads and bridges. A \$6 million scholarship program has been proposed, as well as a multimillion-dollar rescore of the ISTEP+ test. And \$42 million more is likely to be given to the Regional Cities initiative. "I try to turn down everything at first blush," said Senate Appropriations Chairman Sen. Luke Kenley, R-Noblesville. "Then we try to decide whether there is a distinction that needs to be made. Obviously, if we had a true crisis or a true emergency, you wouldn't turn a blind eye to it." Indiana passed its current two-year budget in 2015. And Kenley and others generally try to guard against additional spending that could affect that plan. But there are also a lot of ways to move money around without technically appropriating it – the legal buzz word that could generally be seen as digging back into the budget. House Ways and Means Chairman Rep. Tim Brown, R-Crawfordsville, said he immediately looks for that word when reviewing legislation. "The minute you say 'appropriate,' then that opens it up for almost anything to be amended into it," he said. Gov. Mike Pence initially suggested that about \$240 million in additional money could be taken from the state surplus. Under the House Republican plan, about \$460 million would be available for the 2017 fiscal year starting in July. But there isn't an appropriation. Instead, the language sets up a trigger so that when state reserves at the end of a fiscal year are greater than 11.5 percent of general revenue appropriations, those excess reserves are transferred to the state highway fund for road and bridge repair.

KENLEY, VINCENT DISAGREE: Micah Vincent, director of the Indiana Office of Management and Budget, said positive state tax collections and talks with experts and rating agencies have since made the administration comfortable with 11.5 percent (*Fort Wayne Journal Gazette*). But Kenley certainly isn't. "I'm struggling with that," he said. "When we had the recession in 2008, we literally went through every dime we had plus all the stimulus money from the federal government, and it just happened in, like, 20 months." Kenley said he is fearful of pushing the reserve level down. In 2014 and 2015, it was at or near 14 percent. He said the road discussion is "going to be a tough decision for me to work through this session. It's not impossible, but it's tough."

TALLIAN CRITICAL OF REGIONAL CITIES EXPENDITURE: Pence also wants \$42 million for Regional Cities – a program that was supposed to reward two outstanding regions for a long-term plan aimed at population growth. Legislators last year gave the

program \$84 million from a tax amnesty program (*Fort Wayne Journal Gazette*). But the amnesty brought in more than expected, so Pence is pushing belatedly for more – after his administration already awarded \$126 million. “We appropriated the money in a certain way last year,” said Democratic fiscal leader Sen. Karen Tallian of Portage. “I can’t believe the audacity of the (Indiana Economic Development Corp.) to just spend \$40 million more than they were given.” She considers this money to be a reopening of the budget because the excess money was deposited in the general fund. Vincent said it is a special circumstance and isn’t an opening of the budget because it’s redirecting a one-time revenue source. “One-time money came in, and we’ve agreed to spend it on a need that is unique and timely,” he said. But the amnesty legislation – Senate Bill 302 – does use Brown’s hated word: “appropriate.”

SLAGER MOVES TO HELP GRIFFITH LEAVE CALUMET TWP: A tiny change to Indiana law, proposed by state Rep. Hal Slager, R-Schererville, could make Griffith's dream of leaving Calumet Township a reality (Carden, *NWI Times*). House Bill 1065, set for a committee vote Thursday, alters how Calumet Township's poor relief tax rate is compared with other townships, and all but ensures the rate will be above the level that allows Griffith to potentially join an adjacent township. Four years ago, the Republican-controlled General Assembly approved Slager's House Enrolled Act 1585, which authorizes the unusual township transfer if Calumet Township's poor relief property tax rate in 2015 or later is more than 12 times the statewide township average, as calculated by the Department of Local Government Finance. Calumet Township's poor relief tax rate at the time was 22.64 times the statewide average and nearly triple the rate of the next-highest township. An investigation by The Times also determined that Calumet Township spent about \$45 million on administrative costs to distribute \$64 million in poor relief over the previous decade.

GARY CHARTER BILL DEAD: Proposed legislation to give Gary Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson the ability to authorize charter schools is dead (McCollum, *NWI Times*). State Rep. Charlie Brown, D-Gary, was the co-sponsor of the measure sponsored by Tim Brown, R-Crawfordsville. Charlie Brown said the bill was designed to serve as a conversation piece to get communication flowing between the mayor, Gary school leaders and legislators. "There has been a big void for a while in communication between the school system to the legislators and from the school system to the mayor's office in regards to their status," he said. He said lawmakers don't know the "financial status" of the Gary Community Schools Corp. "The legislature holds the lifeblood of the school system in its hands, and yet there is limited communication. Most of the time, the only knowledge I have about the school system is what I read in the newspaper," Brown said.



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Congress

DONNELLY LAUDS NEW IRAN SANCTIONS: U.S. Senator Joe Donnelly released the following statement after the U.S. announced today it will apply sanctions in response to Iran conducting ballistic missile tests in violation of UN Security Council Resolution 1929. The sanctions will be imposed against 11 entities and individuals involved in supporting Iran's ballistic missile program. These sanctions come in the wake of Iran test launching ballistic missiles twice in recent months in violation of UN Security Council Resolution 1929 (*Howey Politics Indiana*). Donnelly said, "Iran's ballistic missile tests are in direct violation of a UN Security Council Resolution. I support the clear and decisive U.S. response through sanctions, and I hope our international partners will now follow our lead. Our willingness to apply these sanctions is not only allowed under the terms of the Iran nuclear agreement, but critical to that agreement's success. Iran's ballistic missiles pose a threat to U.S. national security interests, and I will continue to fight to fully fund missile defense initiatives that protect the U.S. and our allies in the Middle East."

WALORSKI CRITICAL OF IRAN DEAL: U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski (IN-02), a member of the House Armed Services Committee, today issued the following statement on implementation of the Iran nuclear agreement (*Howey Politics Indiana*): "Since the Obama administration finalized the nuclear agreement with Iran this summer, Iran has continued behaving in

a deeply disturbing and aggressive manner. Despite the administration's best efforts to portray this deal in positive light, the facts on the ground and in recent headlines continue telling a different story. That was further highlighted by this week's ridiculous detention of ten U.S. Sailors during which they were publicly humiliated and forced to apologize on Iranian television. This regime has never proven themselves trustworthy and I do not expect anything to change once they are \$100 billion richer."

FIRST REPUBLICAN BACKS GAY RIGHTS: Rep. Robert Dold has become the the first Republican lawmaker to cross party lines and back equal rights legislation for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people. Dold (R-Ill.), who is facing a tough reelection race in a swing district this year, announced he is backing the Equality Act in a statement shared first with *The Hill*. "Illinois has a long and proud history of fighting for equal rights, and I am proud to continue this tradition by supporting the Equality Act. Engraved on the front of the Supreme Court is the phrase 'equal justice under the law,' but as long as any Americans can be legally discriminated against, there is not equal justice in this country," Dold said. "Congress must act to ensure that all Americans, including the LGBT community, are protected equally from discrimination under federal law, just as they already are in my home state of Illinois."

State

GOVERNOR: BRINEGAR HOPED PENCE WILL 'CLOSE THE BOOK' - A prominent Indiana business leader is voicing concern that Gov. Mike Pence's newly revealed stance prioritizing religious freedoms over LGBT rights will not help "close the book" on a tumultuous period that thrust the state to the center of a culture war and threatened to harm its image. In an interview with

The *Associated Press*, Indiana Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Kevin Brinegar said business leaders hoped the first-term Republican would use his State of the State address to announce support for measures before the GOP-controlled Legislature that would provide statewide protections for anyone fired from a job, denied service, or evicted because of their sexual orientation or gender identity. Instead, Pence prioritized religious freedom over rights for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people and showed little retreat from his stance during an uproar last March over a religious objections law, which critics charged would sanction discrimination against gay people on religious grounds. Lawmakers approved a “fix” seven days later, but supporters of LGBT rights have pushed them to go further. “We don’t take lightly the idea of giving people more reason to sue businesses, but we think it’s the 21st Century and the time has come to provide these protections,” Brinegar said Friday. “We need to close the book on the ... issue, which some would say was a debacle.”

ECONOMY: MANY COUNTIES HAVEN’T RECOVERED FROM RECESSION - Employment in most Indiana counties remains below pre-recession levels, even though the statewide unemployment rate is lower than the national average, the National Association of Counties reports (Groppe, *IndyStar*). While median home prices have recovered in all but 10 of Indiana’s 92 counties, only about a quarter of counties have returned to their pre-recession number of jobs or to their pre-recession unemployment rate. Not quite half the state’s counties have fully recovered levels of economic output. “Economic growth is spreading, but most county economies have not recovered to levels seen before the recession,” said Emilia Istrate, the organization’s research director. Some counties — mostly in Florida, Georgia, Illinois and Mississippi — have not fully

recovered in any of the four areas. Among those counties are six in Indiana: Delaware, Franklin, Madison, Tipton, Vermillion and Vigo. By contrast, seven Hoosier counties are back to pre-recession levels for all four indicators: Clark, Elkhart, Gibson, LaGrange, Marshall, Steuben and Vanderburgh.

STATEHOUSE: ZOELLER RESPONDS TO EXODUS SUIT - As the lawyer for state government officials, the Indiana Attorney General's Office on Friday night filed in federal court both its formal answer to the complaint and its response to the plaintiff's motion for a preliminary injunction. The State argues in its brief that the plaintiff's motion should be denied and that the court should not enjoin, or halt, the Governor's actions (*Howey Politics Indiana*). The lawsuit is Exodus Refugee Immigration Inc. v. Pence and Wernert, filed in U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Indiana, case number 1:15-CV-01858. "This legal dispute ultimately is not about refugees or Exodus as a grant contractor but instead about the State insisting the federal government provide the necessary assurance that individuals resettled here are appropriately vetted and pose no threat to public safety. The two policymaking entities – state government and the federal government – have parallel responsibilities for security and public safety, and we contend there should be a calm discussion between the two government entities over their respective authorities; and a courtroom is not the best place for that discussion," Indiana Attorney General Greg Zoeller said in a statement.

STATEHOUSE: EXODUS SUIT REBUTTAL: The State's response brief offers rebuttal to the assertions of the plaintiff's lawyers regarding the Governor's temporary and partial suspension of the State's participation in a federal grant program that subsidizes some refugee resettlement costs (*Howey Politics*

Indiana). Among other things, the brief noted that participation by state governments in the federal grant program is voluntary and states are not required to accept, administer or pass along the federal funds. The brief states that Exodus, as the nonprofit grant contractor, lacks legal standing to invoke the rights of refugees; and that the statute does not create a private right of action for a nonprofit organization to try to enforce the federal law. Moreover, the Governor's action is not preempted by federal immigration laws because his temporary and partial suspension of the State's grant program participation does not regulate who may enter the United States or impose conditions on their remaining here. To force a state government to participate in the federal grant program over its objections would violate the Tenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, the brief argues. The State's brief, authored by Solicitor General Thomas M. Fisher, Deputy Attorney General Patricia Orloff Erdmann and others, asks the U.S. District Court to deny the plaintiff's motion for preliminary injunction.

JUDICIARY: SUPREME COURT APPLICATIONS DUE JAN.

25 - Applications for an upcoming vacancy on the state's highest court are due January 25, 2016 by noon. In November, the Judicial Nominating Commission announced applications for a vacancy being created by the retirement of Justice Brent E. Dickson. The commission is chaired by Chief Justice Loretta Rush. It includes three lawyers who are elected by their peers: Charlie Berger, Lee Christie, and John Feighner; and three citizens who are appointed by the Governor: David Tinkey, Lynette Long, and Rudy Yakym III. The application is available at courts.in.gov/jud-qual/3306.htm. A candidate must be an Indiana resident and a member of the Indiana bar for ten years or an Indiana judge for five years. Those interested in applying may contact commission counsel, Adrienne Meiring, at 317-232-

4706 or adrienne.meiring@courts.in.gov. The commission will review applications and interview qualified candidates February 17-19 with a likely second round of interviews March 3-4. Interviews will take place at the Indiana State House in room 319. The interviews will be open to the public. After interviews and deliberations in an executive session, the commission will publicly vote to send the three most qualified names to Governor Mike Pence. The Governor has 60 days to select Indiana's next justice.

GUNS: INDIANA GUN BUYING ABOVE NATIONAL

AVERAGE - While Indiana lawmakers are mulling a range of gun proposals — there's been no slowdown in gun sales across Indiana (Vandenack, *Elkhart Truth*). All you have to do is look at the numbers: Vendors' NICS background checks in Indiana for gun sales and transactions — an indicator of actual sales — totaled 437,604 in 2015 — up 13 percent from the previous year, the 15th highest in the nation. In December alone, more than 74,000 background checks for gun transactions were conducted in Indiana, a 54 percent increase over November and an all-time high for a single month. Over the last decade, the number of background checks for gun sales has increased by 154 percent in Indiana — the seventh-largest increase in the nation. On a per-capita basis, the number of background checks for gun sales in Indiana in 2015 was more than double the rate of Illinois and Michigan. There are nearly 630,000 active gun permits in the state, up 34 percent from June 2012, according to Indiana State Police figures. The overwhelming majority are concealed-carry permits for personal protection. Statewide, the number of permits issued represents 9.5 percent of Indiana's 6.6 million residents, nearly 1 out of 10 Hoosiers. Elkhart County has about 14,700 active permits, 1 for every 14 county residents. "The police cannot defend everyone. So, yes, more guns in the hands of good

guys is a good thing,” said Elkhart County Sheriff Brad Rogers, a staunch gun-rights advocate.

EDUCATION: IU GETS CYBERSECURITY GRANT - Indiana University's Bloomington campus soon will get an opportunity to lead a group of institutions to solve cybersecurity issues after it received a \$5 million grant from the National Science Foundation (*Associated Press*). The grant designates IU's Center for Trustworthy Scientific Cyberinfrastructure as a Cybersecurity Center of Excellence that will help solve the computer and software security challenges facing the National Science Foundation. The center is a three-year collaboration between the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center and the National Center for Supercomputing Applications.

DNR: RIVER OTTER TRAPPING BEGINS - At just halfway through the river otter trapping season, 460 river otters have been caught in the state of Indiana. The season is scheduled to end Mar. 15, but will conclude early if the quota of 600 otters is reached (*Indiana Public Media*). This is the first time the state has allowed the trapping of river otters since 1921. Indiana's Department Of Natural Resources has put limits on river otter trapping in Indiana.

Nation

WHITE HOUSE: IRAN RELEASES PRISONERS -The United States and Iran moved into a new era of international relations Saturday, with the implementation of a landmark agreement on Iran's nuclear program on a drama-filled day that also saw the release of imprisoned Washington Post reporter Jason Rezaian and four other Americans (Washington Post). U.S. and European officials lifted the harshest economic sanctions against Tehran after the United Nations' nuclear watchdog certified that the Islamic republic had fully complied with promises to curtail key parts of its nuclear program. Hours before diplomats in the Austrian capital hailed the official activation of the nuclear deal, Iran confirmed the release of Rezaian and the other American detainees, set free in exchange for U.S. clemency offered to seven Iranians charged or

imprisoned for sanctions violations and the dismissal of outstanding charges against 14 Iranians outside the United States. Rezaian and two other released Americans were flown out of Tehran on Sunday, after a delay. They were expected to go to Switzerland, then to a U.S. military facility in Germany to be examined by medical personnel. One of the Americans, Nosratollah Khosravi-Roodsari, did not fly out with the others, U.S. officials said. "We can confirm that our detained U.S. citizens have been released and that those who wished to depart Iran have left," a senior administration official said. "We have no further information to share at this time and would ask that everyone respect the privacy of these individuals and their families."

WHITE HOUSE: OBAMA HAILS NUKE DEAL - President Obama on Sunday defended his historic nuclear accord with Iran as proof that "smart, patient and disciplined" diplomacy can improve relations with a longtime foe, even as his administration announced new sanctions related to Tehran's ballistic-missile program (*Washington Post*). His declaration followed the lifting of many of the harshest international economic sanctions against Iran and confirmation that Iranian authorities had freed imprisoned Washington Post reporter Jason Rezaian and four other Americans. The president's remarks Sunday at the White House capped a dramatic two-day stretch that highlighted the complex and uncertain nature of the United States' new relationship with one of its oldest and most determined enemies. Obama's critics have pilloried the nuclear deal, casting it as a capitulation to Iran's ruling clerics and evidence of the president's weakness on the world stage. Obama discussed the deal in a tone more sober than celebratory and acknowledged that "profound differences" remain between the two countries. "The United States has never been afraid to pursue diplomacy with our adversaries," he said, citing the examples of past presidents Franklin D. Roosevelt, John F. Kennedy and Ronald Reagan.

WHITE HOUSE: OBAMA DECLARES FLINT EMERGENCY - On Saturday, President Barack Obama declared a state of emergency in Flint over contaminated water supplies, the *Detroit Free Press* reports. Such a declaration allocates up to \$5 million in federal funds to the city. It also authorizes the Federal Emergency Management Agency to galvanize supplies and distribute water bottles, filters, and other supplies. Local and state-level declarations of emergency were made by Flint Mayor Karen Weaver and Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder in December and January, respectively. But the problem started in 2014, when an unelected state official switched the city's main water supply from Lake Huron to the Flint River to save money.

ENERGY: OIL PRICE PLUNGE HITTING WALL STREET - Firms on Wall Street helped bankroll America's energy boom, financing very expensive drilling projects that ended up flooding the world with oil (*CNN/Money*). Now that the oil glut has caused prices to crash below \$30 a barrel, turmoil is rippling through the energy industry and souring many of those loans. Dozens of oil companies have gone bankrupt and the ones that haven't are feeling enough financial stress to slash spending and cut tens of thousands of jobs. Three of America's biggest banks warned last week that oil prices

will continue to create headaches on Wall Street -- especially if doomsday scenarios of \$20 or even \$10 oil play out. For instance, Wells Fargo (WFC) is sitting on more than \$17 billion in loans to the oil and gas sector. The bank is setting aside \$1.2 billion in reserves to cover losses because of the "continued deterioration within the energy sector." JPMorgan Chase (JPM) is setting aside an extra \$124 million to cover potential losses in its oil and gas loans. It warned that figure could rise to \$750 million if oil prices unexpectedly stay at their current \$30 level for the next 18 months.



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Local

CITIES: BUTTIGIEG ISSUES DIVERSITY ORDER - On the late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s 87th birthday, Mayor Pete Buttigieg has issued an Executive Order (E.O. No. 01-2016) establishing an official city-wide diversity and inclusion initiative. Mayor Buttigieg launched the initiative to promote equal opportunity in the city's workforce and operations (*Howey Politics Indiana*). "The order outlines the actions my administration will take to become a model of equality, diversity, and inclusion," Mayor Buttigieg says. "It's not enough to speak of the importance of these values, the city must lead by example."

CITIES: HOGSETT MAKES CIB APPOINTMENTS - Mayor Joe Hogsett has quickly moved to replace five of the six board members his predecessor named to the Capital Improvement Board, which we know is really his number one priority like all mayors of Indianapolis under UniGov (*Advance Indiana*). His appointees include: Melina Kennedy, former Democratic mayoral candidate and Cummins executive; David Corbitt, a partner of Krieg DeVault and son-in-law of the late Bill Mays; David

Ruhmkorff, IBEW union vice president; Michael Terrell, a partner of Taft Stettinus and Hollister; and Mary Ann Fagan, who is identified as a long-time St. Margaret's Hospital Guild member.

COUNTIES: WAYNE MOVES TOWARD NEEDLE EXCHANGE

-The Wayne County Board of Commissioners this week received proposed plans for a needle exchange program to be administered by the county health department (*Richmond Palladium-Item*). A public hearing, which is required before launching the exchange program, will be scheduled after commissioners review the plans and offer feedback, health department executive director Eric Coulter said. Indiana now has four counties — Scott, Madison, Fayette and Monroe — that have needle exchange programs. Wayne County is modeling its program on Madison County's, Coulter said

COUNTIES: LAKE INCOME TAX DOESN'T BUY HAPPINESS

-Lake County's local income taxes will be 3 years old and no less controversial this year (Dolan, *NWI Times*). The Indiana Department of Local Government Finance reports it will dole out \$51 million this year for public safety and economic development among county government and Lake County's 19 cities and towns. Another \$100 million is earmarked for property tax relief, although a sizable chunk of that will be find its way into local government coffers, too, under the Indiana's convoluted public finance system. "The public safety money is wonderful," Hammond Mayor Thomas McDermott Jr. said. He said it is used to buy new police cars and pay overtime to city officers for additional patrols. "Every penny is going toward reconstruction of Chicago Avenue," he added. East Chicago's share of income taxes helps balance City Hall's books, replacing the more volatile casino fees it once relied on. It pays police officers salaries, buys new fire trucks and police SUVs and will fund the construction of four

new community centers, Jim Bennett, a city consultant said.

COUNTIES: FORMER VANDERBURGH OFFICIAL ARRESTED

- A former Vanderburgh County Commissioner candidate and Evansville Emergency Management Agency director was arrested Saturday on battery and intimidation charges, police said (*Evansville Courier & Press*). Sherman G. Greer, 67, was lodged in Vanderburgh County jail around 8:30 a.m. after deputies said he slapped his wife and pulled a gun on her while their 12-year-old child was awake in another room, according to a Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Office arrest affidavit. The incident occurred around 6:45 a.m. at the couple's residence at 7227 Ashton Park Drive.

COUNTIES: NEW PLANNING SOFTWARE FOR CLARK -

Clark County is up and running with a new software system to be used on planning and zoning projects (*News & Tribune*). The building development software from Franklin Information Systems was approved by the Clark County Commissioners in October and in use by December. It can generate custom reports for the user, based on variables such as contractor, lot, subdivision, trade, type of inspection, street address and last name, said Michael Tackett, executive director of the Clark County Plan Commission. "It searches anything — from lot number to violations ... or which houses have not had a final inspection throughout the year," he said. "So it's just a large database of information."

COUNTIES: LAKE POLICE CARRYING NARCAN - The Lake County Sheriff's Department soon could become the first law enforcement agency in Lake County to carry a lifesaving drug that reverses the effects of heroin and other opioid overdoses (*NWI Times*). Lake County Sheriff John Buncich said he has informed his uniformed officers and medical team, and his department is

looking into ordering naloxone kits. He said he plans to purchase kits for 100 officers at \$75 each. Buncich said his staff is working to identify funding sources, including grant money, and he hopes to move forward by month's end.

Sports

COACH STEVENS EULOGIZES ANDREW SMITH: Brad Stevens, the former Butler coach who is now head coach of the Boston Celtics, delivered a six-minute eulogy to former Butler basketball star Andrew Smith (Woods, *IndyStar*). Stevens, who was closer to Smith than anyone outside his family, missed the Celtics' Jan. 7 game to visit him in the hospital. Life is not measured in years, Stevens said, but in meaningfulness. "And nobody could have packed more meaningfulness into 25 years than Andrew Smith," Stevens said. The coach recalled Smith's freshman season, when the 6-11 center labored to improve while understanding that minutes would be limited. However, during the 2010 NCAA West Regional, Stevens advised Smith to be ready to play against Kansas State the next day. All that was at stake was the Bulldogs' first-ever trip to a Final Four. "That unsure young kid was gone. And all of a sudden, it's the look of a confident man who had prepared well for his time," Stevens said. "From that point on, it's pretty well documented." Smith did play, and the Bulldogs won to reach that Final Four. Improbably, they did so the next year, too, with Smith as their starting center. "What I'll remember most are the things we talked about his freshman year," Stevens said. "He never complained. He was always a great teammate. He tried to help everybody else live a little bit better. And he taught us all how to prepare for our time." Finally, his voice cracking, Stevens said: "You did well, big fella."

COACH MARCHIBRODA DIES: Former NFL coach Ted

Marchibroda charmed players with his soft-spoken personality and his innovative concepts (*Associated Press*). Fans appreciated his down-to-earth descriptions and his ability to win games. On Saturday, the NFL lost one of its great innovators. After confirming the death with his family, the Indianapolis Colts announced that Marchibroda died at age 84. He coached the Colts twice — for five years in Baltimore and four years in Indianapolis — and is the only man to have coached both Baltimore franchises, the Colts and Ravens. He was probably one of the few who could have been accepted by both communities after the Colts' move from Baltimore, too. "Ted was as humble as they come, and he represented the Colts and our community with class both off the field and on," Indianapolis owner Jim Irsay said in a statement. "He was beloved by many, and will be sorely missed."

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PSE BILLS DWINDLE TO JUST ONE: Less than two months ago, House Speaker Brian Bosma was calling for prescription-only legislation for pseudoephedrine medication. Now it seems that call will go unanswered this session (Osowski, *Evansville Courier & Press*). Although several different bills attempting to change the way pseudoephedrine medications such as Sudafed were sold in order to cut down on meth production in Indiana, it seems only one option will be heard this year. Rep. Cindy Kirchhofer, R-Beech Grove, chairs the House Public Health Committee. She has limited the pseudoephedrine discussion to one bill, House Bill 1157, which will be heard on Wednesday. HB 1157 is authored by Rep. David Frizzell, R-Indianapolis, and would make it illegal for anyone convicted of a drug-related felony from buying pseudoephedrine medications. Currently, the NPLeX system, which limits how much medications a person can buy in a given month and year, does not have information on people with drug-related felonies. Frizzell's bill would require the Indiana State Police to put that information into the system, which would then generate a stop sale if a convicted drug felon attempted to buy pseudoephedrine. Kirchhofer said Friday there was not enough support for other bills to consider them. Rep. Wendy McNamara, R-Mount Vernon, had authored one of those alternatives. Her bill would have allowed for a small amount of pseudoephedrine to be purchased in case of emergencies but any subsequent purchases would have required a prescription. Rep. Ben Smaltz, R-Auburn, authored House Bill 1390, which would have made pseudoephedrine medication completely prescription-only. A day before Kirchhofer's announcement, Bosma said there were three or four bills he thought were worth talking about but said it was up to the committee to decide which idea was best. "There are three or four options that have been introduced, all worthy of discussion," Bosma said on Thursday. "I've told the chairman I have expectations that they come out with something." Similar legislation will be heard in a Senate committee Tuesday morning. Sen. Randy Head, R-Logansport, has authored Senate Bill 80, which would do the same things as Frizzell's bill and allow for pharmacist consultations to anyone trying to buy Sudafed or similar medications. SB 80 is expected to be the only bill heard on the topic of meth.

SUPERINTENDENTS LASH OUT AT PENCE OVER ISTEP: Decatur County Community Schools Superintendent Johnny Budd and Greensburg Community Schools Superintendent Tom Hunter shared their thoughts on the recent news that continues to update from Indianapolis in regards to the 2015 ISTEP scores (Howell & Heath, *Greensburg Daily News*). Governor Mike Pence also spoke at the annual State of the State about the scores. Pence claimed his stance remains firm alongside other Republicans on expectations of accountability for the educators of the state, but 2015's

test showed lack of consistency. "Accountability is important, but testing must be reliable, and the results fairly applied," Pence stated. "Let's take a step back from ISTEP and improve on the test we use to measure our kids and schools every year. Let's also take action to ensure that our teachers and schools are treated fairly with the results of the latest ISTEP test." Both superintendents struggled with taking the quote seriously due to Pence's long run of standing strong in holding others accountable for the test. "I am pleased that it is a re-election year," Budd said. "The same people that are saying these things were not sharing the same things a year ago. If re-elected these people will not be saying this same thing a year from now either." Hunter shares similar thoughts and even recalled another statement he heard from Gov. Pence. "Governor Pence says to not take it personal (the results of the test)," Hunter said. "Well I do take it personal. We (the district) take it personal."

FACEBOOK POSTING ON CIVIL RIGHTS CAUSES STIR: A Facebook posting from a key House Republican political consultant that was temporarily posted on Monica Boyer's *Not On My Watch* blog has roiled the battle over the civil rights extension (*Howey Politics Indiana*). Mike Gentry, who consults with the House Republican Campaign Committee and heads the Mark It Red consulting firm, wrote last Tuesday, shortly after Gov. Mike Pence's State of the State address, "If this is true, it should die in the Senate because why would they pass anything the Gov won't support." In a subsequent posting, Gentry said, "We must be sure all forms of this bill die in the Senate. No form of this bill should be allowed to get to conference committee. The battleground is the Senate and I implore all activist Christians to run to secure that high ground and defend it now. Do now wait until basketball takes center stage (March Madness)." Statehouse sources tell HPI that when Senate President David Long learned of the posting, he complained to Speaker Brian Bosma. Gentry told HPI, "I was basically expressing my personal opinion as a Missouri Synod Lutheran." He added that by being a political consultant, "I did not give up my 1st Amendment rights."

DONNELLY SEES SUMMERTIME MILITARY SUICIDE SURGE: A summertime suicide surge among military reservists almost certainly will bring an end to the nation's three-year streak of annual declines in service member suicides (Carden, *NWI Times*). Seventy troops in the reserve forces and National Guard, primarily the Army, took their own lives between July 1 and September 30, according to a U.S. Department of Defense report released this month. That's the highest number of reservist suicides in any quarter since the Pentagon began keeping detailed records in 2013, and just 21 fewer reservist suicides than the entire first half of 2015. Another 72 active-duty members of the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps and Navy took their own lives during the summer, according to the report. Since 2012, the United States never has never recorded fewer than 100 military suicides in a quarter, making it likely the 2015 total

will surpass the 443 service member suicides tallied in 2014. It also will be the fourth year in a row that military suicides have exceeded combat deaths. U.S. Sen. Joe Donnelly, D-Ind., who won approval in November for his plan to expand access to military mental health services, said the suicide statistics demonstrate the need to fully implement the new law as quickly as possible. "This report from the Pentagon is a stark reminder of the devastating losses to families and communities across our nation," Donnelly said. "There is still a great deal of work to be done to combat military suicide and bring these numbers down to zero."

CLINTON PREPARING FOR PRIMARY SLOG INTO MAY: Facing a tougher than expected challenge from Senator Bernie Sanders of Vermont, Hillary Clinton's campaign is preparing for a primary fight that could stretch into late April or early May and require a sprawling field operation in states and territories from Pennsylvania to Guam (*New York Times*). With the Iowa caucuses in two weeks and Mr. Sanders's insurgent candidacy chipping away at Mrs. Clinton's once formidable lead there, Clinton aides are acknowledging that the road to the party's July convention could be an expensive slog. "Remember, I campaigned all the way into June last time," Mrs. Clinton told CNN last week. Even though the Clinton team has sought to convey that it has built a national operation, the campaign has invested much of its resources in the Feb. 1 caucuses in Iowa, hoping that a victory there could marginalize Mr. Sanders and set Mrs. Clinton on the path to the nomination. As much as 90 percent of the campaign's resources are now split between Iowa and the Brooklyn headquarters, according to an estimate provided by a person with direct knowledge of the spending. The campaign denied that figure.

GOP IMAGE SUFFERS IN PRESIDENTIAL RACE: The tumultuous race for the Republican nomination is taking a toll on the GOP's image, with more than four-in-ten voters saying that the primary contest has soured their perceptions of the Republican Party -- more so than impressions of the Democrats, according to the latest *NBC News/Wall Street Journal* poll (*NBC News*). In the poll, 42 percent of registered voters said the primary race has made them feel less favorable about the GOP, compared to just 19 percent who said they feel more favorable. Thirty-eight percent said the brawl for the Republican nomination hasn't changed their view of the party as a whole.

BRITISH PARLIAMENT CASTIGATES TRUMP: They came at him with every insult imaginable: demagogue, idiot, fool, buffoon (*Washington Post*). They depicted him as a menace, a danger to public safety. And they mused with care and concern over the country across the Atlantic that's given him so much prominence in its politics. But in

the end, the dozens of members of the British Parliament who spent an extraordinary three hours Monday debating about the front-runner for the Republican nomination for U.S. president did not ban Donald Trump. A ban wasn't their plan, though that was the ostensible excuse for meeting. It wasn't in their power, anyway. Only the Home Secretary can decide to bar an individual from British shores. But even if a ban had been an option, it wasn't the preference of a majority of those who spoke during a passionate and, insults aside, reasonably high-minded discussion that touched on weighty issues of free speech, political extremism and what's become of Britain's American cousins.

HPI DAILY ANALYSIS: We want to extend a welcoming hand to Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders to return to Indiana for our May primary. Mrs. Clinton will be pleased to know that Bronko's is reopening in Crown Point. As for the Republican race, the Brits are making fun of Donald Trump, who should just refrain from quoting from the Holy Bible, particularly at Liberty University. And Ted Cruz says the JFK mantle belongs to him. Too bad Lloyd Bentsen isn't around to respond to that one. - *Brian A. Howey*

Campaigns

LONG IN POLITICAL CROSSHAIRS: The Republican Leader in the Indiana state Senate is emerging as the key player in the civil rights battle at the Statehouse (Shella, *WISH-TV*). David Long is in a difficult position and his political future could be on the line. Long is up for re-election this year and that makes him a target. Tea Party Republicans don't like the fact that he promised a debate on civil rights protections for the LGBT community and they are now trying to recruit a candidate to oppose him in the May primary. David Long kicked off his re-election campaign last week with a flashy Internet video which spelled out his accomplishments. "Which is why I'm running for the Indiana state Senate again," he said in the video, "to make sure we stay focused on what matters most." But a group of conservative ministers believes that Long is focused on the wrong issues. It targeted him during an Organization Day rally. "This is war," said Rev. Ron Johnson of the Indiana Pastors Alliance. "Today the leader of our Senate will produce a piece of legislation that he would like to see passed. "That is a sign of war as it relates to people who are concerned about religious liberty." And last week the same group delivered 5,000 petition signatures to Long. A critic on facebook accused Long of betraying the GOP. And so Long points to a new bill has been filed in the Senate. It calls for civil rights protections for gays, lesbians, and bisexuals but not transgendered people. "It reflects the fact that there's a lot of questions about the transgender issue right now that haven't been discussed before," he said in a meeting

with reporters following the State of the State Address. That earns Long criticism from the other side of the argument. "Our community won't leave the transgender people at the altar," said civil rights activist Rick Sutton. "They've stood with us through thick and thin, we can't leave them now." "It's not an easy discussion. It's not an easy answer," said Long. "We're trying to navigate there."

MacALLISTER ENDORSES FREEMAN: Long-time Indianapolis civic leader and businessman P.E. MacAllister is endorsing Aaron Freeman for Indiana State Senate District 32. Freeman is a current member of the Indianapolis City-County Council (*Howey Politics Indiana*). MacAllister is Chairman of the Board at MacAllister Machinery Company, Indiana's leading heavy equipment supplier. "I am grateful to P.E. MacAllister for his endorsement of my campaign," says Freeman. "He's been at the forefront of our city's growth and development, and he's always been a true, giving servant to our community. I am humbled to have gained his trust as I seek to become our next State Senator."

ROBERSON SEEKS 3RD CD DEM NOMINATION: John Forrest Roberson of Fort Wayne has filed to run again for the Democratic nomination for the northeast Indiana seat in the U.S. House (*Fort Wayne Journal Gazette*). Roberson sought the nomination in 2012, finishing last in a field of six candidates in the Democratic primary election in the heavily Republican 3rd Congressional District. Last year, he was disqualified from seeking the Democratic nomination for mayor of Fort Wayne because he had failed to obtain the party chairman's permission after having voted in the 2014 Republican primary election. Roberson is the first Democrat to file his candidacy to replace Rep. Marlin Stutzman, R-3rd, who is running for an open U.S. Senate seat. Two Republicans have filed for their party's nomination in the 3rd District.

GRIMES RUNNING IN HD91: Republican Jim Grimes is challenging State Rep. Robert Behning in the HD91 primary. Grimes has had many different types of jobs, including working as a forklift operator, manufacturing supervisor, purchasing manager, CEO of 10 real estate companies, deputy sheriff and a small business owner. This varied experience has given him insight into the needs of Hoosiers from all walks of life (*Howey Politics Indiana*). In addition, he has consistently pursued his passion for improving the community in many different ways. He serves on the Board of Directors for numerous organizations, including Perry Township GOP. He also served in Rotary International and is a member of the Scottish Rite. Grimes founded and worked in various capacities with the Boys and Girls Club and coached Little League and girls'

basketball. He is a Freemason and an active member of the Indiana Republican Party, Perry Township Board of Directors, and Decatur Township Lions.



Presidential 2016

CNN POLL OF POLLS SEES TIGHTENING SANDERS/CLINTON RACE: The Democratic race, long expected to be less competitive than the GOP race, is tightening in the home stretch, both nationally and in Iowa. The Iowa *CNN Poll of Polls*, which incorporates the first polling conducted in 2016, finds Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders running dead even, with 45% each, while former Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley languishes in single digits. The same analysis conducted using polling released in December yields an average of 52% support for Clinton to 37% for Sanders. Nationally, Clinton continues to maintain a significant lead over Sanders, yet here too, the contest has tightened, though not as dramatically as in Iowa. Overall, Clinton tops Sanders 54% to 36% across polls conducted between mid-December and now. Conducting the same analysis on polling released earlier in December, Clinton topped Sanders 56% to 31%.

GOP IOWA RACE TOO CLOSE TO CALL: On the Republican side, national front-runner Donald Trump has maintained a strong advantage overall as the campaign rolls toward its final days, yet he faces stiff competition for the hearts of Iowa caucusgoers from Texas Sen. Ted Cruz. The *CNN Poll of Polls* average in Iowa finds Cruz with 27%, just ahead of Trump at 25%, with Marco Rubio at 14% and Ben Carson at 10%. The rest of the field stands at 5% or less. That's less of a change since December than the averages suggest on the Democratic side. Averaging polls of Republican likely caucusgoers released in December, 26% said they backed Cruz, 25% Trump, virtually the same as the January figures. Nationally, Trump's lead stands at 14 points in the Poll of Polls, with Trump at 34%, Cruz at 20%, Rubio at 12%, Carson at 10% and the rest of the field at 4% or less. Compared with averages from earlier in December, before

the final GOP debate of 2015, Trump has held steady while Cruz has gained a few points over that time. Cruz averaged 17% across five national polls conducted just before that debate, held on December 14. Looking ahead, there's been little polling elsewhere that's found anything other than a Trump lead, and in New Hampshire, Trump's support in recent polls has been among the highest of the cycle.

BIG CLINTON LEAD IN NATIONAL POLL: Hillary Clinton is leading Bernie Sanders nationwide by a crushing 25-point margin, though Sanders bests Clinton in a hypothetical general election match-up against GOP front-runner Donald Trump, two polls released Sunday by *NBC News/Wall Street Journal* have found (*CNN*). The former secretary of state received 59% support from Democratic primary voters, while 34% support the Vermont senator. Former Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley received 2% support. The poll, released with a little more than two weeks to go before the first votes are cast in Iowa, also finds 79% of Democratic primary voters saying they could see themselves supporting Clinton, compared to 66% saying the same about Sanders.

SOUTH CAROLINA IS CLINTON FIREWALL: With Iowa and New Hampshire looking increasingly dicey and even Nevada shaping up as something short of a sure thing, South Carolina is suddenly assuming a different – and more consequential -- role in the Democratic primary: Hillary Clinton's early-state bulwark (*Politico*). It's as much out of necessity as design. It's the only early state where nearly everyone agrees Clinton holds a big advantage -- she's still viewed here as a sure bet to beat Sanders, and has the backing of much of the state's Democratic establishment.

POLITICO INSIDERS SEE LITTLE TRACTION FOR SANDERS: Bernie Sanders is riding a wave of momentum in Iowa and New Hampshire, but his debate performance failed to dislodge Hillary Clinton from her perch as national frontrunner for the Democratic nomination in Sunday night's debate. That's according to Democratic members of The *POLITICO* Caucus – a panel of leading strategists, operatives and activists in Iowa, New Hampshire and the two states that will follow with nominating contests next month: Nevada and South Carolina, where Sunday night's debate was held. "She wins anytime her opponents don't draw blood," said a New Hampshire Democrat who, like all the insiders, completed the survey anonymously. "She gave as good as she got," said an Iowa Democrat. "Sanders at times seemed unable to control his emotions." "The conjuring up of Bernie Sanders' voting record on several issues took a nick out of his vaunted, saintly consistency," added a Nevada Democrat.

MANY BELIEVE SANDERS WON FINAL DEBATE: The final Democratic debate before the Iowa caucuses was mostly about Bernie Sanders (*Washington Post*). Front-runner Hillary Clinton often sounded like an underdog, as she attacked the Vermont senator for flip-flopping on guns, proposing an unrealistic health care plan and admitting that he would raise taxes on the middle class. The former Secretary of State closely linked herself with Barack Obama, praising the president repeatedly as she appealed to African American voters who could save her campaign if she loses Iowa and New Hampshire. She had a very strong closing argument and dominated when talk turned to foreign policy. But the overnight verdict from most in the pundit class is that Sanders prevailed, even if narrowly. Here's what they are saying:

The Fix's Chris Cillizza names Sanders the winner: "More than anything he said, it was the passion and disruption that Sanders oozed from every pore over the two hours that should push Democrats on the fence about the race into his camp. Sanders effectively positioned himself as the anti-status-quo candidate, a very good position to have in this electoral environment."

Democratic strategist Chris Kofinis tweeted that 27 of 30 undecided voters in a South Carolina focus group he convened picked Sanders as the winner.

Republican focus group maestro Frank Luntz: "Bernie needed an overwhelming victory in tonight's #DemDebate. At best, he got a narrow one. That won't be enough to win the Dem nomination."

Bloomberg's Mark Halperin gave Sanders a B+, Clinton a B and Martin O'Malley a C+: "Sanders' improvement manifested itself all night, winning him more good moments overall than both Clinton and O'Malley."

NBC's Alex Seitz-Wald: "Sanders shined at times overpowering Clinton in a format she typically controls."

CNN senior producer Teddy Davis: "Sanders notched debate win. 1) Blurring distinction on guns. 2) Putting out a health plan. 3) Being high minded on Bill Clinton."

The Atlantic's Conor Friedersdorf: "I'm going to call tonight's debate a win for Sanders. I thought he bested Clinton. ... But even if they performed equally well, he stands to benefit, as the candidate who still has less name recognition, from squaring off in front of folks who've never seen him before and equaling his opponent."

The Atlantic's Molly Ball: "It wasn't great for Hillary, but I didn't hear any major gaffes, and Sanders didn't expand his appeal beyond the base that is already responding to his angry fulminating."

The Nation, which endorsed Sanders last week, says "Sanders Set the Tone": "Clinton remains a formidable candidate, but at times it was possible to forget she was even on stage."

Vox's Dylan Matthews thinks Clinton's attacks on Sanders "as insufficiently pro-Obama ... generally didn't sound that persuasive."

NBC's Chuck Todd: "Who's the frontrunner? If you only watched the debate and didn't read polls, you might assume Sanders."

10M WATCHED DEM DEBATE: The fourth Democratic primary debate broadcast Sunday on NBC was watched by 10.2 million viewers, according to Nielsen data (*Associated Press*). The figure ranks second among the four Democratic debates held so far and is up substantially from the 8.03 million who watched ABC's telecast of the Dec. 19 meeting of the three contenders for the 2016 Democratic nomination, Hillary Clinton, Sen. Bernie Sanders and former Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley.

TRUMP, CRUZ VOLLEY OVER IMMIGRATION: Republican presidential candidate Ted Cruz launched one of his toughest attacks yet against fellow contender Donald Trump in New Hampshire Monday night, accusing the billionaire real estate developer of being "nowhere to be found" during the debate in Congress over whether to grant amnesty to illegal immigrants (*Fox News*). "If you didn't stand up and fight amnesty,

when the stakes were live or die, do we lose this permanently or do we win, I would suggest as voters you have reasons to doubt the credibility of the promises of a political candidate who discovers the issue after he announces for president," the Texas senator said at a town hall meeting in Whitefield. Trump has become a figure of controversy throughout the campaign for his various immigration proposals, which have included deportation of all illegal immigrants, an end to birthright citizenship and a call to bar all Muslims from entering the United States after last month's San Bernardino terror attack. Cruz also questioned whether Trump is a true conservative, noting donations he's made to Democrats over the years, including \$50,000 in 2010 to Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel, the former chief of staff to President Barack Obama. And Cruz rejected Trump's self-comparison to Ronald Reagan, saying he was "pretty sure" Reagan never supported or made large donations to Democrats.

CRUZ CLAIMS JFK'S MANTLE: Ted Cruz on Sunday swapped his tinge of Texas twang for an attempt at an upper-crust Boston accent as he asserted here in New England that former President John F. Kennedy would be a Republican today (*Politico*). "JFK campaigned on tax cuts, limiting government and standing up and defeating Soviet communists," he said in a packed room at a restaurant here, his first stop on a swing through New Hampshire. "JFK would be a Republican today. He stood for religious liberty, and he would be tarred and feathered by the modern Democratic Party." He delivered those remarks in a town near the Massachusetts border, a state where the Kennedys have deep roots and are lionized as liberal heroes. "As JFK said," Cruz continued, dropping his "r's" as he aimed to assume a New England accent, "Some men see things as they are and ask, Why? I see things that never were and ask, why not?" These are the principles that work."

TRUMP BUNGLES BIBLE VERSE AT LIBERTY U: Donald Trump, speaking to a religious crowd at Virginia's Liberty University on Monday, turned to Scripture (*Politico*). "We're going to protect Christianity. I can say that. I don't have to be politically correct," he said. "Two Corinthians, 3:17, that's the whole ballgame ... is that the one you like?" The verse, "Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty," seems to have been Trump's attempt to ingratiate himself to the audience of religious students. But the crowd tittered, and several of the students audibly corrected him, pointing out that Christians say "Second Corinthians," not "Two Corinthians." Rival campaigns noticed the error immediately.

RNC REPLACES NBC WITH CNN FOR FEB. DEBATE: The Republican National Committee officially severed ties on Monday with NBC for what was supposed to be a

Feb. 26 Republican primary debate in Houston. Instead, CNN will host the debate in Houston on Thursday, Feb. 25, five days before Super Tuesday (*Politico*). The committee voted via conference call Monday after negotiations with NBC failed, two sources familiar with the call confirmed. The RNC initially suspended the relationship with NBC on Oct. 30, following a debate on CNBC that angered many of the campaigns and the RNC for the network's handling of the debate format and the moderators' line of questioning.



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General Assembly

FENCED DEER BILL IS BACK: Indiana lawmakers are again debating the question of how the state should regulate high-fenced deer hunting preserves as opponents continue to argue such hunting is inhumane and should be banned (*Associated Press*). The state Senate is scheduled to consider a bill this week that would require any new preserves to have a minimum of 100 acres with fences at least 8 feet high. The proposal does not place any limits on how many of the farm-raised deer can be kept in the preserves or how many can be killed by those who pay to hunt in them. Senators defeated a bill last spring that would have authorized only the four preserves then in operation, but three more have since opened in Whitley, Miami and Decatur counties, according to the Indiana Board of Animal Health.

KRUSE BACKS GOSHEN TAP PROGRAM: A professional development program praised by Goshen Community Schools leaders has earned the support of a state senator who hopes to expand it to more Hoosier school corporations (Beer, *Goshen News*). Last month, Goshen school administrators, staff members and board members met with Sen. Dennis Kruse, R-Auburn, to discuss ways in which the school corporation has benefited from the System for Teacher and Student Achievement, — commonly called TAP — program and to advocate for additional state-level support for the initiative. The TAP system hinges on providing support for teachers, regular classroom

observations by certified evaluators and providing additional compensation as teachers meet certain performance standards or take on additional responsibilities. Goshen is one of 14 Hoosier school corporations that are using the TAP model and has led the state in implementation, according to Indiana TAP Director Jen Oliver, who works for the Center of Excellence in Leadership and Learning, or CELL.

State

GOVERNOR: PENCE OBSERVES MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY - Gov. Mike Pence made this statement about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Monday: "Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was a leader in the civil rights movement, and he will forever be an American icon. Guided by faith and his deep commitment to justice for all, Dr. King changed the course of our nation. His words serve as a source of inspiration still today, and on this holiday, I encourage all Hoosiers to reflect upon the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr."

EDUCATION: HS GRAD RATE DOWN SLIGHTLY - Despite a more than 10 percent increase in Indiana high school graduation rates over the last nine years, slightly fewer students graduated across the state last year compared to 2014 (*Evansville Courier & Press*). Data released late Friday by the Indiana Department of Education showed the overall number of Hoosier students in public and nonpublic schools who graduated in 2015 decreased from 89.8 in 2014 to 88.9 percent last year. The state's nonwaiver graduation rate also decreased slightly — 82.8 percent last year compared to 83.4 percent in 2014.

ENERGY: EXPERTS WARN EPA SUIT PROBLEMS - Indiana is one of 26 states suing to block the Obama Administration's Clean Power Plan, but energy industry representatives are advising the state to start planning how to comply (*Network Indiana*). The Clean Power Plan requires states to cut carbon emissions by one-third within 14 years. Karen Obenshain with the Edison Electric Institute says the plan appears to pass legal muster. Court precedent requires a showing of substantial and immediate economic harm to block a rule from taking effect, and Obenshain says while utilities have objections to the rule, it'll be difficult to meet that standard. Without a stay, Obenshain says it's likely to take a couple of years for the case to work its way through the courts, while regulators are requiring states to submit plans by September. Nuclear power advocates suggest the required one-third cut in emissions will all but force states to turn to reactors to generate enough power. "The rule regulates

emissions, it doesn't regulate generation," says Christine Csizmadia with the Nuclear Energy Institute. "So if you're looking at the carbon reduction goals of certain states, it's very difficult, if not impossible, to meet them without nuclear, without these large generating low-carbon generators." Industry and environmental leaders testified before the Senate Utilities Committee at a hearing on the future of energy.

INDOT: \$1B COMING TO STATE - An 11th-hour federal transportation bill the president signed last month adds \$50 million in annual federal funds each year to Indiana's transportation budget, but some people say that money might not make much of a difference in solving the state's maintenance needs (*Indiana Public Media*). The bill, called the FAST Act, gives Indiana \$1 billion annually through 2020. INDOT spokesman Will Wingfield says it's the first long-term transportation bill the federal government has released in years. "It's typically been short extensions or extensions of the previous bill and so what had happened that over time the amount of state funds that have been used for state highways has increased."

LOBBY: BROWN NAMES TO CHAMBER POST - Doug Brown, a partner at Bose McKinney & Evans LLP and managing principal at Bose Public Affairs Group LLC, has been named to the Indiana Chamber of Commerce's Government Affairs Council (Howey Politics Indiana). As part of this newly-created council, Brown will participate with other government affairs professionals from Chamber member companies to provide a forum for networking, leadership, policy and best practices. Brown is a partner in the Business Services Group of Bose McKinney & Evans LLP. He is also an active member of the firm's Governmental Services and Financial Institutions Groups.



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Nation

WHITE HOUSE: LEVINSON FAMILY LASHES OUT - The family of former FBI agent Robert Levinson, who disappeared in Iran nine years ago, slammed the Obama administration Monday for not informing them that their relative was not included in a prisoner exchange announced over the weekend (*Fox News*). "We had to learn it from the TV ourselves, and that's very disappointing and heartbreaking," Robert Levinson's wife, Christine, told the Associated Press. She used stronger language in another interview, telling ABC News that she felt "extremely betrayed" by the White House. Christine Levinson told ABC that she had tried unsuccessfully to meet face-to-face with administration officials for the past six weeks. Hours after the prisoner exchange was announced Saturday, she said Deputy National Security Adviser Lisa Monaco called to apologize, claiming the White House had meant to inform her before the news broke, but the Iranian government had leaked the word early. Robert Levinson disappeared from an Iranian resort on March 9, 2007, while in the country on an unauthorized mission for the CIA. It's unclear where he is; Iranian officials have said they don't know but Levinson's family does not believe them.

WHITE HOUSE: OBAMA BLASTED OVER DEPORTATIONS - The Obama White House is working frantically to quell the political outrage among immigration rights advocates and Latino leaders who say they feel betrayed by a recent series of deportation raids launched by the administration, mostly against women and children from Central America (*Washington Post*). While the raids continue with administration support, White House aides announced an expanded State Department partnership with the United Nations to resettle Central American refugees in the United States and elsewhere, and Vice President Biden traveled to the region last week to meet with the presidents of Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador. "The goal of this effort is to provide a safe and legal alternative to the dangerous journey many are currently taking in the hands of human smugglers," said White House spokesman Peter Boogaard. "Expanding resettlement opportunities is a key part of our broader response to the situation" in the three nations, he said.

WHITE HOUSE: BURWELL PROMOTES OBAMACARE IN INDY - U.S. Rep. Andre Carson accompanied U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Sylvia Matthews Burwell on a tour of the United Way building and services in Indianapolis Friday. More importantly they talked with Hoosiers who have benefitted from the Affordable Care Act (*NUVO Newsweekly*). According to Burwell, hearing the personal stories from people about the ACA helps her office improve the program as well as encourage others to sign up for coverage. "As a follow up to the State of the Union, one of the things the president's cabinet is doing is going all over the country to have real conversations with real people about the issues that our departments have worked on," said Burwell. "As a

law it was about three fundamental things — access, affordability and quality — and changing that dynamic for everyone in the country.”

PENTAGON: NEW DETAILS IN IRAN CAPTIVE SITUATION - The U.S. military released new details on Monday about how 10 Navy sailors were taken captive briefly by the Iranian Revolutionary Guards in the Persian Gulf last week, but it remains unclear how the sailors first ended up in Iranian territorial waters before their capture (*Washington Post*). The sailors were detained Jan. 12 off Farsi Island as they were traveling in two riverine command boats from Kuwait to Bahrain, U.S. military officials said. The island is home to a closely guarded Iranian military base. The sailors were released the following morning. A defense official said that the boats veered into Iranian waters first, and then one of them experienced a mechanical problem. In a statement released Monday, U.S. military officials reiterated that that sailors are in good condition. The only equipment apparently taken from the boats are two digital SIM cards that were in two satellite phones, U.S. military officials said.

MISSOURI: PROPOSAL FOR REPORTING LOBBYIST SEX AS 'GIFT' - A Missouri lawmaker introduced a bill Wednesday that would require lobbyists to report "sexual relations" with state legislators as a "gift" in their disclosures to the state ethics commission (*CNN*). "We've already got a lobbyist gift reporting requirement and so that's how I worked it in there, by treating it as a definition of gift," Rep. Bart Korman, a Republican from High Hill, told CNN on Thursday. "I hope it deters any of that activity, but that if activity does occur, it's at least transparent." In 2015, two Show-Me State legislators left office after being accused of sexual misconduct. The House speaker, a Republican, resigned in May following a Kansas City Star report he sent illicit text messages to a teen intern. Over the summer, a Democratic state senator faced with allegations he sexually harassed two interns left office in what Gov. Jay Nixon called "a necessary step."

MUSIC: EAGLES GLENN FREY DIES - Glenn Frey, co-founder and guitarist for the Eagles, has died ... *TMZ* has learned. We're told the cause of death was a combination of complications from rheumatoid arthritis, acute ulcerative colitis, and pneumonia. Frey had been battling intestinal issues for months and had surgery in November. We're told in the last few days his condition took a turn for the worse. He died in New York City. Glenn co-wrote and sang on most of the Eagles hits, including "Take It Easy," "Tequila Sunrise," "Lyin' Eyes," and "Heartache Tonight," to name a few. He also co-wrote "Hotel California" and "Desperado" with Don Henley and took home 6 Grammys with the band.

MEDIA: TWITTER GOES DOWN FOR 2 HOURS - Twitter Inc. was only sporadically available to users on Tuesday, suffering technical problems that have lasted more than two hours (*Associated Press*). The company, which has 320 million active users, tweeted that it is aware of the issue and is trying to fix it. The announcement was sent at 0841 GMT. Users said the service was not accessible on desktop computers. Twitter's blog posts, corporate info and most other pages on the Twitter.com website were also inaccessible, displaying the blue error screen.

Local

CITIES: SOUTH BEND MANSION GOES BACK TO LANDMARKS - The Kizer house, the turreted Romanesque mansion at 803 W. Washington St., is back in the hands of Indiana Landmarks Inc. (South Bend Tribune). It stands vacant, with a "private property, no trespassing" sign posted on the front door. Trent Runyon and Leah Hudson-Runyon, a married couple who purchased the mansion last February with plans to renovate it and make it their home, announced online over the weekend that the house has been sold back to Indiana Landmarks, the agency from which they bought it. Details about why the deal fell through still remain largely a mystery. "There were several issues (contractual and title) that could not be resolved. Indiana Landmarks has repurchased the home," the Runyons announced online. "We are sad, disappointed, angry and eight thousand other emotions...depending on the day. However, we are resolved to move on and look forward to the future."

CITIES: TOPGOLF COMING TO FISHERS - A three-story indoor Topgolf complex is slated to open in Fishers next year (*IndyStar*). Topgolf International, entertainment complexes that feature golf games, food and drinks throughout the United States and United Kingdom, plans to build its first Indiana location on 116th Street near Cumberland Road, the company announced Monday. The Fishers City Council will decide whether to approve the plans for the 65,000-square-foot venue at its meeting Tuesday. The company would begin construction later this year with plans to open in the spring of 2017.

CITIES: ZIONSVILLE RATED SAFEST - The growing town of Zionsville has another accolade to add to its wall – Consumer Affairs has ranked it the safest place in Indiana (WRTV). The state's largest town also ranked 35th safest in the nation, based on 2014

FBI crime statistics. Last year, ADT Security ranked Zionsville the second-safest city in America. According to crime data, the odds of a home burglary happening in Zionsville are one-in-4,200, compared to 1-in-182 nationwide. "Zionsville cares about its appearance and keeps things nice, and it's harder to invite crime when things are nice," said Zionsville firefighter Donnie Starwalt. Fishers and Carmel also made it into the top five safest cities in the state. Indianapolis, however, ranked near the bottom at 110 out of 112.

Sports

PIKE, BEN DAVIS SEASONS CANCELLED BY IHSAA: The IHSAA suspended seasons for the girls basketball teams at Ben Davis and Pike high schools Monday following a brawl erupted between players Saturday at a game (*WIBC*). Several fans captured the the fight on their phones. There is no word on what started the fight. Marry Lang, Chief Communications Officer for MSD of Wayne Township released a statement Saturday night: "We are extremely disappointed that good sportsmanship was not shown by the players involved in today's girls basketball game at Ben Davis High School. We are working closely with administrators at Pike High School and the IHSAA to determine exactly which players were involved in this incident. This behavior is not representative of our values, beliefs, or how we coach our student athletes. It is not reflective of the Ben Davis pride our students, alumni, and community share. And it certainly does not reflect the rich tradition and success of our girls basketball team." The Ben Davis players involved will face consequences at school, and we will comply with any consequences we receive from the IHSAA. IHSAA Commissioner Bobby Cox announced the suspension at a press conference Monday. "These acts are not going to be tolerated," Cox said.

From: Mike
Sent: Tue 12/01/2015 4:32 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Brooks, Kara D" <kbrooks@gov.in.gov>
Cc: "Lloyd, Matthew" <MLloyd@gov.IN.gov>
Bcc:
Subject: Re: Why does this AP STORY my spokesman did not respond ?

Excellent

Sent from my iPhone

> On Dec 1, 2015, at 3:11 PM, "Brooks, Kara D" <kbrooks@gov.in.gov> wrote:
>
> Here is the most recent version of the AP story.
>
> If governor's order stands, religious charity says it will settle Indiana-bound Syrian family
> Columbus Republic
> INDIANAPOLIS - A religious charity will finance a Syrian refugee family's arrival in Indiana - even if Republican Gov. Mike Pence does not drop his order blocking state agencies from distributing federal funds intended to help settle refugees.
> But the family, which has spent the past three years in a Jordanian refugee camp, may ultimately be placed in another state if Indiana is perceived as "hostile" or "unwelcoming," Archdiocese of Indianapolis spokesman Greg Otolowski said Tuesday.
> "These families are already under an incredible amount of stress," Otolowski said of the family's anticipated arrival later this month. "What we don't want to do is traumatize these people any more than they have already been traumatized."
> The debate over settling Syrian refugees in Indiana puts Pence, who frequently touts his Christian faith and has cultivated a reputation as a defender of religious values, in the awkward spot of being at odds with a major faith-based organization.
> Pence spokesman Matt Lloyd said the governor has not shifted his stance and blamed the administration of President Barack Obama for failing to "provide adequate security and background information to governors across the country."
> "The Obama Administration ... continues to ignore the concerns raised about the program," Lloyd said in a statement.
> More than half of U.S. states, most with Republican governors and Indiana included, have objected to the arrival of the Syrian immigrants without assurances of property security measures in place following the deadly attacks in Paris. The Obama administration has said the vetting process for refugee resettlements is thorough and that states lack legal authority to block the funding.
> But the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration sent letters last month to Exodus Refugee Immigration in Indianapolis and Catholic Charities in Indianapolis, saying plans to accept two Syrian families should be halted. One Syrian family was rerouted to Connecticut as a result.

> The American Civil Liberties Union of Indiana sued Pence last month, asking a federal judge to block the governor's order.

> Indianapolis Archbishop Joseph Tobin has publicly called for the family of four to be settled in the Indianapolis area, though Otolski says the archdiocese wants to focus on the plight of the refugees and avoid an overtly political debate.

> Otolski said the family underwent an intense two-year vetting process, and noted that they are "fleeing the same kind of violence from terrorists that all of us are trying to avoid." Thus far, state welfare officials have been "friendly" in conversations about moving forward with plans to settle the family, Otolski said, but a decision has not yet been reached.

> "Nobody here should have any concerns that this family of a husband and wife and two small children pose any kind of danger," he said

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Mike [mailto:mpence1314@aol.com]

> Sent: Tuesday, December 01, 2015 3:10 PM

> To: Brooks, Kara D; Lloyd, Matthew

> Subject: Why does this AP STORY my spokesman did not respond ?

>

> **** This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email. ****

>

> Did they really contact us?

>

> <http://neurope.eu/wires/if-governors-order-stands-religious-charity-says-it-will-settle-indiana-bound-syrian-family/>

>

> Sent from my iPhone