

From: Mike
Sent: Thu 1/29/2015 1:42 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Denault, Christina" <CDenault@gov.IN.gov>
Cc: "Brooks, Kara D" <kbrooks@gov.in.gov>
Bcc:
Subject: Re: [Govstate] Governor Pence Terminates JustIN Website

On Jan 29, 2015, at 1:05 PM, "Denault, Christina" <CDenault@gov.IN.gov> wrote:

From: "Spehler, Dan" <dspehler@fox59.com>
Date: January 29, 2015 at 1:01:41 PM EST
To: "Cleveland, Bridget" <BCleveland@gov.IN.gov>, "cdenault@gov.in.gov" <cdenault@gov.in.gov>, "kbrooks@gov.in.gov" <kbrooks@gov.in.gov>
Subject: Re: [Govstate] Governor Pence Terminates JustIN Website

Any availability from the governor on this today, phoner or otherwise? He is out of town at the moment, right?

On Jan 29, 2015, at 12:46 PM, Cleveland, Bridget <BCleveland@gov.IN.gov> wrote:

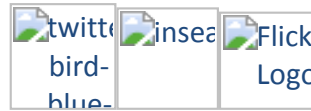
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 29, 2015

Contact: Christy Denault
cdenault@gov.in.gov

Governor Pence Terminates JustIN Website
*Directs All Executive Branch Agencies to Ensure Press Releases and Public
Notices Are Posted to Existing Website*

Indianapolis – Governor Mike Pence sent the attached memo today to all State Agency Heads under his direction.

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<Governor Pence Memorandum.pdf>

Govstate mailing list

Govstate@lists.in.gov

<http://lists.in.gov/mailman/listinfo/govstate>

<image001.jpg>

<image002.jpg>

<image003.png>

From: Mike
Sent: Wed 2/04/2015 4:37 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Christy Denault" <cdenault@gov.in.gov>
Cc: "Jim Atterholt COS" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>
Bcc:
Subject: Re: Morning Clips-February 4, 2015

On Feb 4, 2015, at 8:44 AM, "Gilson, Katie" <KGilson@gov.IN.gov> wrote:

GOVERNOR

[Pence to talk education with Congress](#)

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Gov. Mike Pence will be in Washington today to talk about education, and President Barack Obama will visit Indianapolis on Friday to speak to educators and students.

[Which states allow exemptions for vaccines](#)

The Washington Post

"Indiana law requires all children be protected from vaccine-preventable diseases like the measles by getting vaccinated," he said in a statement. "Vaccines protect all our children from illnesses, and our administration strongly urges Hoosier families to have their children vaccinated."

[Data analytics helps Indiana change its approach to infant mortality](#)

Gov Tech

Since the spring of 2014, Indiana has been using data analytics to [reduce the state's historically dismal infant mortality rate](#) -- and the results of those efforts have been announced in a [new report](#). The primary discovery? There is a subgroup of mothers whose infants face a steep risk for dying and birth-related issues.

[Study reveals three contributions to infant death](#)

Fort Wayne News Sentinel

On Jan. 14, first lady Karen Pence and the state health department announced the launch of a new infant mortality public awareness campaign called Labor of Love - Helping Indiana Reduce Infant Death. This campaign, using the report's findings, encourages women who are pregnant or planning to become pregnant to learn more about early and regular prenatal care and other

ways to help ensure a healthy pregnancy and first year of life for infants.

State releases data analytics report on infant mortality

Terre Haute Tribune Star

This study, which began in 2013 as a priority project for the Governor's Management and Performance Hub (MPH) initiative, is the result of a collaboration between the Indiana Office of Technology (IOT), Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) and KSM Consulting (KSMC).

Gov. Pence urges Hoosier families to vaccinate kids as measles spreads

Fox 59

In a statement released Tuesday, Gov. Mike Pence urged Hoosier families to get their kids vaccinated.

Manufacturing tax cut at center of Pence tax plan

Indy Star

Gov. Mike Pence is pushing a tax cut for Indiana's manufacturers this session that could cost anywhere between \$35 million and \$240 million a year, as part of a broader package of tax changes.

Signups underway for expanded Healthy Indiana Plan

Indianapolis Business Journal

The conversion of tens of thousands of people to Indiana's expanded health care program for low-income residents has gone well during its first week, the top state official overseeing the program said Tuesday.

*Subscription required, full text below

House panel passes bill adding oversight to state agencies

Indianapolis Indiana Business Journal

State government agencies could face greater scrutiny when proposing new regulations under a measure an Indiana House committee approved Tuesday. State executive agencies are currently required to submit new policy proposals to the attorney general's office. If approved, they are then signed by Gov. Mike Pence. The bill would instead, require agencies to first submit proposals to an office within the Legislative Services Agency for review. The office would then alert the Attorney General's office if any suggested policy falls outside of an agency's legal limit.

JustIN is Just Out; Pence aborts plan for state run news agency

Crothersville Times

That may have been the thinking of Indiana Gov. Mike Pence who was planning to start a state-run news organization that would have offered pre-written articles to smaller news outlets (such as this newspaper), as well as breaking stories about his administration, The Indianapolis Star reported on Monday, Jan. 26.

LEGISLATURE

Statehouse roundup: Bills tackle audits, religious hiring, massage therapy, divorce waiting times

Indianapolis Business Journal

State lawmakers on Monday advanced or considered legislation regarding religious hiring decisions, massage therapy, divorce waiting times, audit frequency, death benefits for emergency workers and how to treat school board members convicted of felonies. Following is a rundown:

*Subscription required, full text below

Senate passes bill allowing religious hires

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Some faith-based employers could consider religion in hiring decisions under a bill passed 39-11 by the Indiana Senate on Tuesday.

Ind. Senate OKs bill allowing religious discrimination

Indy Star

The Indiana Senate passed a measure today that would allow religious-affiliated organizations such as hospitals and universities to discriminate against employees based on religion, even if they receive state contracts. Senators voted 39-11 in favor of Senate Bill 127, which would allow faith-based recipients of state funds to hire employees based on religion. It would also allow those organizations to require employees to follow religious tenets.

Should terminally ill patients be able to use experimental drugs?

Indy Star

This year, another 22 states, including Indiana, are considering similar legislation, which would allow the use of medicines that have cleared basic safety tests to make sure the drugs are not toxic. (The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has three stages of testing before a drug is approved to be sold.) "This isn't to help drug companies. This is all patient-driven, because we have heard stories of people who are dying and there's drugs out there that could possibly save them and they're not allowed to take them and they're like, 'What have I got to lose?' " said Rep. Wes Culver, R-Goshen, sponsor of a right-to-try bill in the [Indiana General Assembly](#).

Indiana House backs new rules after nursing home scandal

Evansville Courier & Press

The Indiana House has adopted tighter rules on the conduct of lawmakers following an ethics investigation of a top Republican who fought privately to defeat legislation that would have hurt his family's business.

*Subscription required, full text below

Senate backs allowing religion-based hiring by contractors

NWI Times

Religious institutions that receive state and local government contracts would be allowed to make hiring decisions based upon religion under a bill approved by the Indiana Senate.

Court rules against DNR in high fence hunting fight

Indy Star

The Indiana Court of Appeals ruled Monday that state wildlife officers overstepped their authority a decade ago when they tried to ban the controversial practice of high-fence deer hunting.

Will Indiana lawmakers create Office of Marriage Promotion?

Indy Star

Would Hoosier children be better off if every parent were married? That's the premise behind one state lawmaker's proposal to create a government Office of Marriage Promotion. "Look at the example of what's happening in this city and the number of shootings," said Rep. Jeff Thompson, R-Lizton. "It doesn't occur in my community. I don't like what's happening. But there are regions and pockets where marriage is not the norm where children are born to."

Work Force bill passes through House

Inside Indiana Business

State Representative Greg Beumer (R-Modoc) has authored a bill which would allow the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) to provide further reemployment services and

training for unemployed Hoosiers. The bill passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 77-17 and will now go to the Senate for further consideration and debate.

Ind. House OKs ethics rules after nursing home scandal

Indy Star

The Indiana House has adopted tighter rules on the conduct of lawmakers after an ethics investigation of a top Republican who fought privately to defeat legislation that would have hurt his family's business

STATE AGENCIES

State unveils site to court foreign business

Inside Indiana Business

InvestIndiana.com, a multi-language website promoting foreign direct investment in Indiana, has launched as a resource for international businesses considering Indiana for investment and job creation

Tech company growing

Inside Indiana Business

Indiana has emerged as a tech sector leader, helping rising companies like InnovateMap grow into their own and find success here at home," said Eric Doden, president of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC). "We're committed to helping develop our tech community into one of the nation's strongest, with a low-tax, affordable environment that makes it easy to take your idea and get started."

Indiana to get \$21.5 million share of multi state S&P settlement

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Indiana will get \$21.5 million from a multi-state settlement of allegations that Standard & Poor's knowingly inflated its ratings of risky mortgage investments in the years prior to the 2008 financial crisis... Attorney General Greg Zoeller (ZEL'-ur) says a majority of Indiana's share of the settlement will go to the state's General Fund.

Indiana part of S&P settlement

Inside Indiana Business

Indiana Attorney General Greg Zoeller and Secretary of State Connie Lawson announced today that Indiana, the U.S. Department of Justice, 18 other states and the District of Columbia reached a settlement agreement with Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC (S&P) resolving allegations that S&P misled investors when it rated structured finance securities in the lead-up to the 2008 financial crisis.

Criminal probe underway into Muncie contracts

Indy Star

Indiana State Police investigators are looking into change orders — changes to public works projects that cost additional money — for several MSD projects, The Star Press has learned.

AROUND THE STATE

Obama budget would hit IU, Purdue athletic departments

Indy Star

The athletic departments at Indiana University and Purdue, like others nationally, tout the tax benefits of "donations" that are tied to purchasing premium game tickets.

First-ever staffed Amazon store opens at Purdue University

Indy Star

This semester, the freshman mechanical engineering major decided to rent his books from

Amazon and pick them up at the Web giant's first-ever staffed pick-up and drop-off location, which formally opened Tuesday at the Krach Leadership Center with Purdue and Amazon leaders on hand. "It's made my experience a lot cheaper. It's made the financial burden significantly less expensive. Last semester, I spent well over \$400 on books and this semester I didn't spend more than \$40 on one book. My total was around \$150," Jordan said after picking up a package Tuesday. "It was amazing."

Former congressman dies

Indiana Daily Student

Former Representative to the United States Congress John Myers died in his home in Covington, Ind., on Jan. 27. Myers was born Feb. 8, 1927, making him 87 at the time of his death.

EDITORIALS

Nate LaMar: Documentary must give NCLB (dis)credit

Pal-Item

A documentary about the state of education in Indiana, "Rise Above the Mark," was recently shown in New Castle. For a Friday evening non-athletic event, I was pleasantly surprised by the large turnout. We should be thankful that State Sen. Jean Leising and State Rep. Tom Saunders spoke afterward.

House panel passes bill adding oversight to state agencies

February 3, 2015

State government agencies could face greater scrutiny when proposing new regulations under a measure an Indiana House committee approved Tuesday.

House government reform committee members voted 7-4 to advance the proposal, which would add another layer of oversight to the policy-making process in Indiana.

State executive agencies are currently required to submit new policy proposals to the attorney general's office. If approved, they are then signed by Gov. Mike Pence. The bill would instead, require agencies to first submit proposals to an office within the Legislative Services Agency for review. The office would then alert the Attorney General's office if any suggested policy falls outside of an agency's legal limit.

"It gives us a red flag up front, as opposed to correcting things after the fact," said Rep. David Wolkins, R-Warsaw, who is sponsoring the bill.

The additional "thin layer of government" would keep agencies from imposing unnecessary and expensive regulations, he said.

Critics of the bill called it unnecessary, since Indiana law already has nine separate legal provisions that require regulators to develop responsible, science-based, statutorily-constrained, and cost-effective policies. The review office also has fairly minimal authority and won't prevent an agency's proposal from moving forward.

Jessie Kharbanda, from the Hoosier Environmental Council, said he's concerned that the oversight is just "a new layer of bureaucracy" and "government red tape" on the taxpayer's dime. According to the bill's fiscal note, the new review agency will cost about \$500,000 a year to operate.

The bill would also stop new policies from going beyond state and federal requirements, sparking criticism from environmentalists who said it would prevent regulators from tailoring federal laws to fit Indiana's circumstances.

Wolkins said the bill provides some flexibility for this. Agencies would still be able to go beyond federal law if the regulation specifically allows state discretion, but Kharbanda said the flexibility is more of a discrepancy and could be open to misinterpretation.

The bill now goes to the House for consideration.

Signups underway for expanded Healthy Indiana Plan

February 3, 2015

The conversion of tens of thousands of people to Indiana's expanded health care program for low-income residents has gone well during its first week, the top state official overseeing the program said Tuesday.

The Family and Social Service Administration has also started accepting new applications for the expanded Healthy Indiana Plan and is preparing an advertising campaign to encourage signups, agency Secretary John Wernert said.

Federal officials last week approved the state-run plan submitted in July from Republican Gov. Mike Pence dubbed HIP 2.0. It uses Medicaid funding to possibly extend coverage to an estimated 350,000 uninsured residents.

"The rollout has been very smooth, mainly because we've been up and ready for several months now," Wernert told the House Ways and Means Committee during an agency budget hearing.

Some 180,000 people who were already part of the previous HIP or Hoosier Healthwise programs have been converted to the new plan and applications are being processed from 6,000 people who were on the HIP waiting list, he said.

HIP 2.0 includes health savings accounts, which involves state contributions based on income levels, and will cover those with incomes below 138 percent of the federal poverty level, or the equivalent of a family of four that has an annual income of about \$33,000.

The basic level for those below 100 percent of the federal poverty level does not require payments from enrollees. But they are required to make co-pays for all services. A second tier of improved coverage is available if enrollees pay a monthly fee ranging from \$1 to \$25 into a health savings account.

Indiana House Minority Leader Scott Pelath, D-Michigan City, said he welcomed the expansion of health care coverage under the state program, but cautioned that not all would likely go perfectly with it.

"If there are problems, let's not use that as a cause to instantly condemn the entire system," Pelath said. "Let's try to fix it."

Wernert said an awareness campaign with television commercials was planned to start next month to encourage HIP 2.0 signups. The program is also being promoted through doctors and hospitals, which can have staff members help patients prepare applications.

"We're already getting lots of calls from providers who weren't participating in our Medicaid program who are now saying, 'Can I get in?'" Wernert said.

Statehouse roundup: Bills tackle audits, religious hiring, massage therapy, divorce waiting times

February 3, 2015

State lawmakers on Monday advanced or considered legislation regarding religious hiring decisions, massage therapy, divorce waiting times, audit frequency, death benefits for emergency workers and how to treat school board members convicted of felonies. Following is a rundown:

Religion-based hiring

The Indiana Senate could soon vote on a bill allowing religious institutions that receive state and local government contracts to make hiring decisions based upon religion.

Senators could vote as soon as Tuesday on whether to approve the proposal and advance it to the House for consideration.

Sen. Travis Holdman, R-Markle, said he sponsored the measure to restore the ability of Indiana Wesleyan University to receive state workforce training grants. The state attorney general's office determined last year that the university's religious lifestyle mandate violated state-contracting requirements against employment discrimination.

The Republican-dominated Senate voted 37-6 on Monday to defeat a proposed amendment from Sen. Tim Lanane, D-Anderson, that would have added sexual orientation to the state's anti-discrimination law.

Massage therapy regulation

A bill that would impose stricter regulations on massage therapists passed the House Public Health Committee on Monday.

House Bill 1360 would require professional massage therapists to be held to the same standards as other health care professionals, according to the bill's author, Rep. Sue Errington, D-Muncie.

"Professional massage therapists welcome more stringent regulation for their industry," Errington said in a written statement. "This legislation helps separate amateur therapists from those who are truly devoted to providing high-quality treatment to their patients."

The measure passed unanimously and moves to the full House for consideration.

Audit frequency

The State Board of Accounts could soon receive greater authority to determine the frequency of audits it conducts if legislation passed by the Indiana Senate on Monday becomes law.

Senate Bill 326, authored by Sens. Randy Head, R-Logansport, and Doug Eckerty, R-Yorktown, would provide the SBOA with an increased ability to undertake financial reviews of state and local government entities – determined by risk-based criteria established by the Audit and Financial Reporting subcommittee.

Head said the bill is an important step for the state's main accountability organization because the General Assembly has "cut their budget significantly," and it would allow the agency to "audit and receive the results faster to better address problem areas."

The proposed legislation would also allow an executive or fiscal officer of a government unit to establish a fraud hotline for the public to use to report suspected fraudulent activity of officers or employees of that unit. The identity of callers who use the hotline and any recorded audio from the conversation would be exempt from public disclosure.

The bill passed the Senate 43-1 and moves to the House for further consideration.

School board felons

The House approved a bill that would remove school board members from their positions if they are convicted of a felony. House Bill 1335 passed unanimously and moves to the Senate for consideration.

The bill extends impeachment provisions that already exist for public officers of cities, counties, towns and townships.

Rep. Steve Stemler, D-Jeffersonville, authored the bill. He said that he was inspired to write the legislation after a Greater Clark Schools board member pleaded guilty to a felony charge of shoplifting and he realized that wouldn't automatically remove her from office.

"A correction needed to be made to include individuals if this situation would ever occur," Stemler said Monday.

Special death benefit

A bill that would provide a special death benefit to emergency medical technicians and paramedics passed the House 92-1 and moves to the full Senate for consideration.

Rep. Karlee Macer, D-Indianapolis, authored House Bill 1080, which would create a fund to pay \$150,000 to family members of an emergency medical services worker who is killed while carrying out work-related duties.

The bill gained abundant support in committee and had no opposition on the floor.

Law enforcement officers and firefighters already receive death benefits. But, Macer said, the families of EMS workers do not receive special benefits when their lives are lost in the line of duty.

Ryan Ballard of the Wayne Township Fire Department testified last week before the House Veteran Affairs and Public Safety Committee. Ballard said paramedics and EMTs often work two or three jobs to be the bread winner for their families. That means upon death, their families could be left without help.

Divorce waiting periods

A state senator wants to try to preserve the institution of marriage by lengthening the time some couples must wait to get divorced.

Joseph Zakas, R-Granger, presented Senate Bill 564 to the Family and Children Committee on Thursday but asked the group to postpone a vote to allow more discussion.

The bill would extend the waiting period before a couple finalizes a divorce if children under age 17 are involved. The waiting period would also be extended if one spouse objects to the divorce. Cases involving domestic violence would be exempt from the changes.

Currently, state law imposes a 60-day waiting period for divorces to be finalized. The bill would extend that to 180 days for couples with minor children and 120 days when one spouse objects. Advocates of the bill say that the extended waiting period will help direct couples to resources that can preserve the marriage and spare children the challenges that are associated with a divorce.

Indiana House backs new rules after nursing home scandal

The Indiana House has adopted tighter rules on the conduct of lawmakers following an ethics investigation of a top Republican who fought privately to defeat legislation that would have hurt his family's business.

House members voted 97-0 on Tuesday to approve the revised ethics code.

Major changes in the code include instructions that House members should avoid the appearance of impropriety. It also directs House members to not carry out any public or private advocacy on issues in which they have a personal financial interest.

The tightening follows December's resignation of former House Speaker Pro Tem Eric Turner after The Associated Press reported he privately lobbied to kill a proposed ban on nursing home construction that could have cost his family's business millions of dollars.

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Sent: Thu 1/29/2015 1:05 PM (GMT-05:00)
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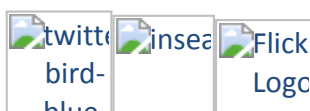
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