



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

Eric J. Holcomb
Governor

September 22, 2017

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

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

Re: Public Records Request 17-27

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 emails and related documents addressing AIDS or the HIV viruses that were routed through private and official email accounts maintained by Mike Pence between the dates 1/1/2015 and 6/31/2015 which also include any of the following people on the chain: Jim Atterholt, Karen Pence, Chris Crabtree, Jerome Adams, Cary "Lani" Czarniecki, Jennifer Walthall, Bill Smith, Kara Brooks and Christy Denault.

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 Jim Atterholt, Karen Pence, Chris Crabtree, Jerome Adams, Cary "Lani" Czarniecki, Jennifer Walthall, Bill Smith, Kara Brooks, or Christy Denault in the relevant time period containing the terms "AIDS" or "HIV."

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: Indiana Code § 5-14-3-4(b)(6), records that are advisory or deliberative material. The person responsible for the denial and/or withholding of records, or portions thereof, is Mr. Joseph R. Heerens, General Counsel.

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

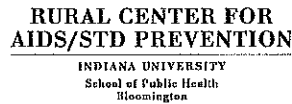
Enclosures
cc: File

From: Neale, Brian S
Sent: Wed 4/08/2015 7:22 PM (GMT-04:00)
To: "Mike" <mpence1314@aol.com>
Cc: "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "McGrath, Danielle" <DMcGrath@gov.IN.gov>
Bcc:
Subject: Needle Exchange
Attachments: Policy Brief HCV as indicator of SEP need 3-29-1500001.pdf

Governor,

Attached is a brief by IU Health on the need for a needle exchange program in Indiana to combat Hepatitis C. High incidences of Hepatitis C, of course, suggest that HIV is not far behind.

Brian Neale
Healthcare Policy Director
Office of Governor Mike Pence
(317) 232-4567



March 2015

Syringe exchange programs (SEPs) are part of a comprehensive public health response to HIV and Hepatitis C.¹ Key indicators of need for SEPs include reported Hepatitis C, and injection drug use. CDC indicates that between 50-90% of people with HCV are co-infected with HIV.

SEPs are cost effective, because they reduce Hepatitis C and HIV among injection drug users. Evidence-based programs link SEPs tightly with HIV testing, antiretroviral treatment and substance abuse treatment.

*Dr. Beth Meyerson,
Rural Center for
AIDS/STD Prevention,
Indiana University
School of Public Health-
Bloomington*

Heroin: From 2001-2011 there was a significant increase in reported heroin use among Hoosiers (most recent trend data available). Of those admitted for substance abuse treatment, 9% reported heroin as their primary drug in 2011. This is significantly higher than in 2007 (2.9%).³

Youth: In 2011, 2.9% of Indiana youth (9-12th grades) reported using heroin at least once.⁴ Nationally, there is evidence of an increase of HCV among young, heroin-injecting drug users who first used oral prescription opioid drugs.⁵

HIV Testing, Case Management and Treatment Resources in Region

A map of Kentucky showing its county boundaries. Several counties are highlighted with callout lines pointing to specific services:

- Deacon County Health Department (testing)**: Points to Deacon County.
- Franklin**: Points to Franklin County.
- Bartholomew County Health Department (testing)**: Points to Bartholomew County.
- Positive Link IU Health-Bloomington (testing & case management)**: Points to Monroe County.
- Greene**: Points to Greene County.
- Monroe**: Points to Monroe County.
- Bloom**: Points to Bloom County.
- Lawrence**: Points to Lawrence County.
- Jackson**: Points to Jackson County.
- Jennings**: Points to Jennings County.
- Ripley**: Points to Ripley County.
- Draughton**: Points to Draughton County.
- Ohio**: Points to Ohio County.
- Switzerland**: Points to Switzerland County.
- Jefferson**: Points to Jefferson County.
- Madison**: Points to Madison County.
- Washington**: Points to Washington County.
- Clark**: Points to Clark County.
- Floyd**: Points to Floyd County.
- Harrison**: Points to Harrison County.
- Crawford**: Points to Crawford County.
- Perry**: Points to Perry County.
- Dupont**: Points to Dupont County.
- Warlick**: Points to Warlick County.
- Pike**: Points to Pike County.
- Dubois**: Points to Dubois County.
- Orange**: Points to Orange County.
- Martin**: Points to Martin County.
- Dayless**: Points to Dayless County.
- Knox**: Points to Knox County.
- Gibson**: Points to Gibson County.
- Posy**: Points to Posy County.
- Wadsworth**: Points to Wadsworth County.
- Clark County Health Department, Jeffersonville (testing & case management)**: Points to Clark County.
- Infectious Disease Clinic - Louisville**: Points to Louisville.
- Matthew 25, Evansville (testing)**: Points to Evansville.
- AIDS Resource Group, Evansville (testing & case management)**: Points to Evansville.

Acute and Chronic Hepatitis C in Indiana Counties 2011-2013

An analysis of publicly available reported cases of acute and chronic HCV by county for 2011, 2012 and 2013 suggests the following: (see attached table)

- Both rural and urban communities are affected by HCV. Those in **quartile 4** merit attention to their public health systems to assure early HCV and HIV screening; and linkage to HIV, HCV and substance abuse treatment.
- Counties with state prisons that report HCV cases likely have unique public health system needs to assure coordinated services.
- Rates of HCV (cases per 100,000 population) indicate more about the impact of HCV in communities than case counts do, and they allow comparison between and among communities.
- Scott County, the center of the current HIV outbreak, ranks among the top 3 counties for rates of acute and chronic hepatitis C.
- Wayne, Fayette and Henry counties, also in quartile 4, experienced a rapid increase of acute HCV among young injection drug users in early in 2011.⁶

Methodology

The state of Indiana publishes combined reported cases for acute and chronic HCV by year for each county. While HCV case rates are usually calculated for acute HCV, both types are associated with HIV. Thus, rates for the combined acute and chronic reported cases were calculated per 100,000 population to allow for county comparison.

Recommendations

- Separate analyses of county level reported acute and chronic Hepatitis C is recommended to allow comparison with the nationally published acute HCV annual rates.
- Identification of current HCV screening and reporting systems will be necessary to understand public health system capacity and preparedness.



RURAL CENTER FOR
AIDS/STD PREVENTION
INDIANA UNIVERSITY
School of Public Health
Bloomington

References:

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Syringe Exchange Programs United States -2008. *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* 2010 59(45);1488-1491.
2. Indiana State Department of Health. Chronic and Acute Hepatitis C rates by county (Maps) 2011, 2012, 2013.
3. Center for Health Policy, IUPUI. *The Consumption and Consequences of Alcohol, Tobacco and Drugs in Indiana: A State Epidemiologic Profile* 2013.
4. Indiana Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS), 2011.
5. Kleven RM, Hu DJ, Jiles R, Holmberg SD. Evolving epidemiology of hepatitis C virus in the United States. *Clin Infect Dis* 2012;55(S1):S3-9.
6. Gross BM, Emergence of Acute Hepatitis C in Young Injection Drug Users. Presentation at the 2013 Hepatitis Technical Assistance Meeting hosted by the National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors.

Cases and Rates of Acute and Chronic Hepatitis C by Indiana County 2011-2013
(Quartiles based on 3-year county median rate)

	2011			2012		2013	
	3-year median case rate (per 100,000 population)	Case Rate (per 100,000 population)	Reported Cases	Case Rate (per 100,000 population)	Reported Cases	Case Rate (per 100,000 population)	Reported Cases
Quartile 1							
Benton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Newton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ohio	-	-	-	-	-	116.0	7
Warren	-	-	-	95.4	8	-	-
Whitley	18.1	15.0	5	33.1	11	18.1	6
Wells	19.9	21.6	6	18.1	5	-	-
Hamilton	21.5	21.5	61	28.0	81	15.2	45
Steuben	26.4	26.4	9	26.4	9	17.5	6
Noble*	27.4	29.5	14	16.9	8	27.4	13
White	28.7	-	-	24.6	6	32.8	8
Adams	28.8	32.0	11	23.3	8	28.8	10
Posey	31.3	31.2	8	31.3	8	31.4	8
Kosciusko	32.1	27.1	221	43.8	34	32.1	25
Carroll	32.3	-	-	39.8	8	24.9	5
Johnson*	32.5	32.5	46	41.8	60	30.2	44
Huntington	34.2	37.7	14	34.2	13	16.3	6
LaGrange	34.5	-	-	34.5	13	-	-
Dubois	35.5	35.5	15	38.0	16	28.4	12
Marshall	36.2	36.2	17	36.2	17	19.1	9
Elkhart	36.3	36.3	72	43.7	87	25.4	51
DeKalb	37.9	54.2	23	37.9	16	33.1	14
St. Joseph*	38.2	38.2	102	60.0	160	37.9	101
Porter	38.7	38.7	64	45.9	76	25.8	43
Quartile 2							
Pike	39.5	39.2	5	47.0	6	39.5	5
Hancock	41.2	41.2	29	53.8	38	32.4	23
Fountain	41.5	46.7	8	35.1	6	41.5	7
Jasper	41.9	41.9	14	47.8	16	36.0	12
Bartholomew	43.1	55.4	43	43.1	34	41.5	33
Daviess	43.2	68.1	22	34.2	11	43.2	14
Vermillion	43.5	43.5	7	43.9	7	37.8	6
Knox	44.7	46.8	18	44.7	17	34.2	13
Tippecanoe	44.9	53.9	93	44.9	80	24.9	45
Orange	45.7	35.2	7	45.7	9	50.6	10
Gibson	47.7	47.7	16	38.9	13	47.7	16
Spencer	48.0	52.2	11	33.6	7	48.0	10

Cases and Rates of Acute and Chronic Hepatitis C by Indiana County 2011-2013
(Quartiles based on 3-year county median rate)

	3-year median case rate (per 100,000 population)	2011		2012		2013	
		Case Rate	Reported Cases	Case Rate	Reported Cases	Case Rate	Reported Cases
		(per 100,000 population)		(per 100,000 population)		(per 100,000 population)	
Quartile 2 (continued)							
Fulton	48.7	-	-	43.6	9	53.8	11
Pulaski	49.9	-	-	38.3	5	61.5	8
Clay	50.2	48.3	13	52.1	14	-	-
Allen*	51.3	51.3	184	63.2	228	39.1	142
Sullivan	51.8	75.3	16	51.8	11	33.0	7
Cass*	51.9	66.8	26	43.9	17	51.9	20
Decatur	53.7	54.1	14	53.7	14	22.9	6
Owen	54.1	-	-	56.2	12	52.0	11
Boone	55.3	55.3	32	69.4	41	44.6	27
Harrison	56.3	89.2	35	51.1	20	56.3	22
Crawford	56.6	56.5	6	93.9	10	56.6	6
Quartile 3							
Wabash*	58.6	61.0	20	58.6	19	40.2	13
Franklin	60.9	60.9	14	108.7	25	43.6	10
Warrick	62.4	62.4	29	71.2	43	52.5	32
Lake	63.1	65.7	325	63.1	311	51.5	253
Starke	64.7	60.3	14	64.7	15	68.9	16
Monroe	64.8	64.8	91	71.5	101	35.9	51
Greene	66.4	66.4	22	118.1	39	54.9	18
Shelby	67.6	67.6	30	78.9	35	44.9	20
Rush	70.5	40.4	7	75.9	13	70.5	12
Perry*	71.8	102.7	20	61.8	12	71.8	14
Floyd	73.1	81.4	61	73.1	55	71.0	54
Ripley	73.1	73.1	21	70.1	20	116.1	33
Morgan	73.4	66.5	46	85.2	59	73.4	51
Jefferson*	73.8	68.4	22	98.4	32	73.8	24
Washington	75.2	88.7	25	75.2	21	46.8	13
Switzerland	75.7	75.7	8	57.7	6	142.5	15
Howard	75.9	90.5	75	75.9	63	62.7	52
Tipton	76.0	75.7	12	76.2	12	-	-
Grant	84.0	91.9	64	62.1	43	84.0	58
Clinton	84.7	84.7	28	87.9	29	57.7	19
Lawrence	86.8	86.8	40	76.0	35	91.6	42
Marion*	87.9	94.0	856	87.9	807	54.3	504
Montgomery	89.2	140.8	54	86.4	33	89.2	34

Cases and Rates of Acute and Chronic Hepatitis C by Indiana County 2011-2013
(Quartiles based on 3-year county median rate)

	3-year median case rate (per 100,000 population)	2011		2012		2013	
		Case Rate	Reported Cases	Case Rate	Reported Cases	Case Rate	Reported Cases
		(per 100,000 population)		(per 100,000 population)		(per 100,000 population)	
Quartile 4							
Madison*	89.8	104.5	137	89.8	117	53.7	70
LaPorte*	90.9	98.0	109	90.9	101	55.7	62
Brown	92.9	-	-	92.9	14	-	-
Union	95.4	66.9	5	95.4	7	95.8	7
Clark*	96.6	91.5	102	99.1	111	96.6	109
Martin	107.5	116.6	12	-	-	98.4	10
Miami*	109.7	161.3	59	109.7	40	85.8	31
Jackson	110.5	142.1	61	106.9	46	110.5	48
Vanderburgh	116.2	136.5	246	116.2	210	83.2	151
Dearborn	116.5	115.8	58	166.5	83	116.5	58
Randolph	119.2	119.2	31	123.9	32	78.0	20
Jay	121.7	51.5	11	121.7	26	135.1	29
Putnam*	124.1	124.1	47	124.7	47	64.0	24
Delaware	129.5	91.7	108	130.4	153	129.5	152
Henry*	135.8	135.8	67	162.4	80	108.1	53
Jennings	141.9	141.9	40	141.9	40	74.3	21
Vigo	150.5	150.5	163	173.1	188	116.3	126
Wayne	179.5	156.9	108	190.2	103	179.5	122
Blackford	223.1	173.5	22	223.1	28	232.2	29
Fayette	250.4	302.1	73	250.4	60	213.9	51
Scott	259.9	267.3	64	176.1	42	259.9	62
Hendricks*	526.9	526.9	783	552.0	841	489.4	752
Parke*	1468.0	1413.3	242	1472.7	252	1468.0	253
Indiana	87.5	87.8	5719	87.5	5718	67.6	4445

*Includes cases reported from Indiana Department of Corrections facilities in these counties

**Annual rates for counties with suppressed cases (less than <5) were not calculated

***Hepatitis C case counts published by the state of Indiana include combined reported acute and chronic hepatitis C cases

From: McGrath, Danielle
Sent: Tue 3/24/2015 4:56 PM (GMT-04:00)
To: "Mike" <mpence1314@aol.com>
Cc: "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "Pavlik, Jennifer L" <JPavlik@gov.IN.gov>
Bcc:
Subject: Contact Information

Governor Pence –

Provided below is the contact information for Sheriff Dan McClain of Scott County and Senator Patricia Miller.

Sheriff Dan McClain
Cell phone: 812-8[REDACTED]
Work phone: 812-752-8400, ext. 419

Recent article quoting Sheriff McClain:

- March 24th - http://www.rushvillerepublican.com/news/rural-sheriff-fears-losing-a-generation-to-drugs-hiv/article_9c535608-7353-5f90-87d1-f5d7afb8fa93.html

Senator Patricia Miller
Cell phone: 317-6[REDACTED]
Home phone: 317-8[REDACTED]

Please let me know if you need anything else.

Danielle

Danielle McGrath, APR
Deputy Chief of Staff for Legislative Affairs
Office of Governor Mike Pence

Direct: 317-234-5339
Cell: 317-3[REDACTED]
Email: DMcGrath@gov.in.gov

From: Mike
Sent: Sat 5/09/2015 11:42 AM (GMT-04:00)
To: "SMMB (OS/IOS)" <SMMB@hhs.gov>
Cc:
Bcc: "Jim Atterholt COS" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>
Subject: Re: Just Checking In

Sylvia,

Thank you for the email and the call. I appreciate all the support which CDC and HHS have provided. Our team has informed me of good support and collaboration from the outset of this epidemic and I am grateful for your personal attention and your prayers.

We are encouraged by the progress in identifying and treating those affected in Scott County but there is much work to be done.

I am enroute to China on a trade mission for the next week but am available by email if you need to reach me. I just wanted to drop you a note to express my appreciation on behalf of the people of Indiana.

Thanks again.
Mike Pence

Sent from my iPhone

> On Apr 25, 2015, at 12:56 PM, "SMMB (OS/IOS)" <SMMB@hhs.gov> wrote:

>

> Governor,

>

> I have been staying close to CDC and their work to support your team in Indiana on the HIV issue and I thought I would just check in with you to make sure that you all have all the support you need. Let me know if there is more that might help.

>

> Holding the team that is working on this and those that have contracted HIV in my prayers.

>

> Best,

>

> Sylvia

>

> Sent from my iPad

From: Gilson, Katie
Sent: Wed 5/06/2015 8:52 AM (GMT-04:00)
To: "Quyle, Lindsay" <LQuyle@gov.IN.gov>, "Anderson, Christopher M" <CAnderson@gov.in.gov>, "Hodgin, Stephanie" <SHodgin@gov.in.gov>, "#All Governor's Office" <allgovoffice@gov.IN.gov>, "Bailey, Brian (OMB)" <bbailey@gov.in.gov>, "Pitcock, Josh" <jpitcock@sso.org>, "Baker, Lou Ann (DWD)" <lbaker@dwd.IN.gov>, "Rosebrough, Dennis (LG)" <DRosebrough@g.IN.gov>, "Rossier, Sarah (SBOE)" <SRossier@sboe.IN.gov>, "McKinney, Ted" <TMckinney@isda.IN.gov>, "Bausman, David" <DBausman@isda.IN.gov>, "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "#All Lieutenant Governor's Office" <#AllLieutenantGovernor'sOffice@gov.IN.gov>, "smith@ [REDACTED]" <smith@[REDACTED]>, "tomrose [REDACTED]" <tomrose@[REDACTED]>, "Kams, Allison" <AKams@gov.IN.gov>, "Brookes, Brady" <BBrookes@gov.IN.gov>, "Triol, Shelley" <STriol@isda.IN.gov>, "Wall, Kathryn E" <KWall@gov.IN.gov>, "Reed, Katie" <KReed@gov.IN.gov>, "Griffis, Andrew D (IER)" <AGriffis@ier.IN.gov>, "Betley, James" <JBetley@gov.IN.gov>, "Schlake, Josh" <JSchlake@gov.IN.gov>, "McCleery, William" <WMcCleery@iot.IN.gov>, "Aycock, Hailey" <HAycock@gov.IN.gov>, "Braun, Steven J" <SBraun@dwd.IN.gov>, "Lubsen, Graig" <GLubsen@iot.IN.gov>, "Myers, Janille (ISDH)" <JanMyers@isdh.IN.gov>, "Timmerman, Chad E (GOV)" <ctimmerman@gov.in.gov>, "Dowd, Jaclyn (DWD)" <jcdowd@dwd.IN.gov>, "Stephen.simcox [REDACTED]" <Stephen.simcox@[REDACTED]>, "Jeff Cardwell" <jcardwell@cardwellhomecenter.com>, "mobst [REDACTED]" <mobst@[REDACTED]>, "emreece [REDACTED]" <emreece@[REDACTED]>

Cc:

Bcc:

Subject: Morning Clips- May 6, 2015

GOVERNOR

Pence signs bill to give civil immunity to volunteer doctors, nurses

The Statehouse File

Gov. Mike Pence signed a bill into law on Tuesday that gives civil immunity to volunteer healthcare providers.

*Subscription required, full text below

Pence signs bill to try to reduce infant mortality rates

The Statehouse File

Gov. Mike Pence signed a bill into law on Monday that is designed to lower infant mortality rates in the state.

*Subscription required, full text below

Pence signs bunch of bills

Inside IN Business

Governor Pence today signed HEA 1002, which changes ethics procedures and guidelines regarding legislative ethics, lobbyist and legislative liaison reporting, and executive agency ethics.

Firm can give hiring preferences to vets under bill Pence signed into law

The Statehouse File

Gov. Mike Pence has signed a bill into law that lets companies give preference to veterans in hiring or promoting workers.

*Subscription required, full text below

Needle exchange bill now law; Pence says it will save lives

The Statehouse File

Gov. Mike Pence signed legislation Tuesday that will make it easier for other counties to launch needle exchange programs to combat diseases passed through intravenous drug use.

*Subscription required, full text below

Pence to get his state run news service

NWI Times

It is not the all-encompassing propaganda network his staffers once envisioned, but Gov. Mike Pence has signed legislation creating a state-run news service for farm commodity prices. House Enrolled Act 1170, which takes effect July 1, permits Pence's Department of Agriculture to operate a market news service pilot program intended to provide Hoosier farmers unbiased reports on the prices paid for their products in different regions of the state.

LEGISLATURE

Focus now turn to mayoral campaign

Evansville Courier & Press

Voters could be forgiven for barely noticing amid the sound and fury of bruising Democratic primary campaigns, but the two major party candidates for Evansville mayor were on Tuesday's ballot too. Running unopposed, Republican Mayor Lloyd Winnecke collected 1,723 votes. Democratic challenger Rep. Gail Riecken, also running without opposition, received 3,785 votes.

*Subscription required, full text below

Indiana lawmakers could meet in June for technical session

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Indiana lawmakers could return to the Statehouse next month to correct errors in new statutes or override a veto by the governor.

STATE AGENCIES

State offers jobs to HIP 2.0 members

The Statehouse File

Members of state's health insurance plan for low-income Hoosiers will now have access to career development resources.

*Subscription required, full text below

Indiana black expo details education conference

Inside IN Business

Indiana Black Expo announced today that children's advocate Leigh Anne Tuohy and activist and author Hill Harper will keynote its 8th Annual Education Conference presented by Cummins Inc. and the Indiana Civil Rights Commission. The Education Conference will be held on Thursday, July 15th at the Indiana Convention Center as part of the 45th Annual Summer Celebration.

Most Indiana homes not tested for meth contamination

Evansville Courier & Press

Although Indiana has led the nation in meth busts for the past two years, the state's home inspectors don't routinely test for methamphetamine contamination, which can lead to a variety of health problems, according to a newspaper investigation...An Indiana State Police public database identifying locations of meth lab seizures dating back to 2007 may be helpful to potential homebuyers, but homes and other

sites that have been cleaned up to standards set by the state Department of Environmental Management are removed from the list.

*Subscription required, full text below

AROUND INDIANA

Brainard wins Carmel, Hogsett, Brewer win in Indianapolis
Evansville Courier & Press

A five-term mayor of an affluent Indianapolis suburb known for its sustained building boom defeated a challenger in the Republican primary who said the city was spending too much and would eventually need to raise taxes.

*Subscription required, full text below

Incumbent mayors win; Ind'y battle set

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

A five-term mayor of an affluent Indianapolis suburb known for its sustained building boom defeated a challenger in the Republican primary who said the city was spending too much and would eventually need to raise taxes.

Small business person of the year announced

Inside IN Business

Christopher "Shane" Conner, Owner/President of Advanced Technologies in Electrical and Communications, Inc. (ATEC) has been named Indiana Small Business Person of the Year for 2015 by the Indiana District Office of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). ATEC is a full service electrical and communications contractor. Services include: electrical and telecommunications sales, service and support, engineering, project management and sustainable energy consulting and installation.

Five key developments in the primary election

Indy Star

Jim Brainard won more than the nomination for a sixth term as Carmel mayor Tuesday. Council candidates he supported also won, vanquishing Brainard's critics.

Multiple mayors fall in primaries

Inside IN Business

In all, eight sitting mayors lost their primary races. In addition to Brown in Columbus, the mayors of Delphi, Garrett, Lake Station, Lebanon, Martinsville, Mitchell and Rochester were defeated.

JOBS/ECONOMY

Shell building to open in Plymouth

Inside IN Business

The event is set for May 14 in Plymouth. A groundbreaking ceremony was held just over a year ago on the property in the Plymouth Industrial Park. The building is 45,000 square feet, but officials say it has room to grow to 135,000 square feet.

EDITORIAL

Tully: In Carmel, Jim Brainard savors another vote of confidence

Indy Star

A white wine in his hand, Carmel Mayor Jim Brainard stood in his campaign headquarters Tuesday night as the election returns began to trickle in. It was early, but it was clear things were going his way.

Indiana is national leader in adoptions

Indy Star

As the nation prepares to celebrate Mother's Day, families formed through adoption are more common in Indiana compared with other states.

Video & story: Pence signs bill to give civil immunity to volunteer doctors, nurses

May 5, 2015 | Filed under: [Health](#), [Top stories](#), [Video](#) | Posted by: [Lesley Weidenbener](#)

By [Alec Gray](#)

[TheStatehouseFile.com](#)

INDIANAPOLIS — Gov. Mike Pence signed a bill into law on Tuesday that gives civil immunity to volunteer healthcare providers.

The new law also provides immunity to licensed medical professionals who volunteer their services at no cost to taxpayers or patients. It applies to physician assistants, advanced nurses, podiatrists, and optometrists and allows them to provide basic treatments like physicals, routine services, and the treatment of minor cuts.

Pence said the new law will encourage doctors to volunteer and give back to the community in that way.

"There is no greater importance than ensuring the health and safety of Hoosier families," Pence said.

"Hoosiers are known for their hospitality, and the medical health shield bill allows licensed medical professionals the necessary assurance to continue volunteering and serving in our communities."

Rep. Dave Frizzell, R-Indianapolis, said the new law will help Hoosiers get care they need.

"Millions of people in the state are going to receive care they've never received before," Frizzell said.

"That's the important thing."

Pence signed the bill at Shepherd Community Center in Indianapolis where he met with doctors and community members.

"It will proceed simply out of the heart of people who believe that a part of the calling of their profession is to come alongside those most vulnerable and most in need," Pence said.

The law will take effect on July 1.

Pence signs bill to try to reduce infant mortality rates

May 4, 2015 | Filed under: [Health](#) | Posted by: [Lesley Weidenbener](#)

By [Alec Gray](#)

[TheStatehouseFile.com](#)

INDIANAPOLIS — Gov. Mike Pence signed a bill into law on Monday that is designed to lower infant mortality rates in the state.

The new law establishes the Safety Protecting Indiana's Newborns grant program and has been referred to throughout the session as Safety PIN.

The General Assembly allocated \$8 million for the first fiscal year of the program starting July 1 and \$5.5 million for the second. In the first year, \$2.5 million of the allocation will be to develop a web application that will be used as an outreach program for at-risk mothers.

Pence said in a statement that his administration is committed to lowering the infant mortality rate.

"Currently, on average, seven Hoosier babies for every 1,000 births do not live to see their first birthday, and reducing this rate remains the top priority of the Indiana State Department of Health," Pence said. "But this is not just about the statistics — this is about reducing the heartbreak of infant mortality for Hoosier families."

Dr. Jerome Adams, commissioner of the health department said infant mortality has many causes, but there are ways to fight it.

"Local programs that help expectant mothers get prenatal care, understand the importance of safe sleep, encourage and make it easier for new moms to breastfeed, and help expectant mothers to get off drugs, alcohol and tobacco, are absolutely essential if we are going to save babies' lives," Adams said.

House Speaker Brian Bosma, R-Indianapolis, said lawmakers were pleased to pass the Safety PIN legislation this session.

"The very creative means of leveraging those funds for the private sector and civic groups, health groups to make a difference without a government mandate (saying) that hears how you have to do it," Bosma said. "We're very hopeful for that one."

The program will be administered by the Indiana State Department of Health and will take effect on July 1.

Needle exchange bill now law; Pence says it will save lives

May 5, 2015 | Filed under: [Health, Top stories](#) | Posted by: [Lesley Weidenbener](#)

By Lesley Weidenbener

[TheStatehouseFile.com](#)

INDIANAPOLIS — Gov. Mike Pence signed legislation Tuesday that will make it easier for other counties to launch needle exchange programs to combat diseases passed through intravenous drug use.

The law takes effect immediately.

It comes after Pence declared an emergency and created a temporary needle exchange program in Scott County, where more than 140 people have been diagnosed with HIV. The cases are all tied to intravenous drug use.

"Since that time, our public health community has worked tirelessly to confront this outbreak," Pence said in a statement. "Our administration worked with members of the Indiana General Assembly to construct a legal framework under which Scott County and other counties could respond to public health emergencies in the future, and I am pleased to sign SEA 461 into law today."

Originally, though, Pence said he opposed a statewide needle exchange program. The resulting compromise requires local governments to prove to the Indiana State Department of Health that a hepatitis C or HIV epidemic is occurring. Hepatitis C is also spread through shared needles and typically is an early indicator of a problem.

Last year, the House approved a bill to study needle exchange programs but it died in the Senate. This year, lawmakers said they acted to try to avoid the kinds of programs occurring in Scott County.

"I am grateful for the efforts of legislators in both political parties for moving this important public health measure forward in a timely way," Pence said. "This measure will save lives and give public health officials the broadest range of options to confront this and other public health emergencies in the future."

Firm can give hiring preferences to vets under bill Pence signed into law

May 5, 2015 | Filed under: [Jobs, economy & labor](#) | Posted by: [Lesley Weidenbener](#)

Staff report

[TheStatehouseFile.com](#)

INDIANAPOLIS — Gov. Mike Pence has signed a bill into law that lets companies give preference to veterans in hiring or promoting workers.

"Our Hoosier heroes deserve our utmost respect, and we owe them a debt of gratitude that can never be repaid," Pence said in a statement. "The legislation I sign today will ensure these courageous men and women have every opportunity for success in their chosen careers after putting their lives on the line for our freedom."

Senate Bill 298 passed the House and Senate unanimously.

The bill requires the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs and the Indiana Department of Workforce Development to verify veterans preference programs.

The Governor also signed the following bills:

House Bill 1497, which boosts the requirements for the Jobs for Hoosiers program. The program requires individuals filing for unemployment to visit a WorkOne center within the first four weeks of receiving benefits and requires a person collecting unemployment to participate in reemployment.

House Bill 1104, which allows the State Board of Accounts to prioritize audits for local units of government the agency determines to be at the highest risk of loss due to fraud and noncompliance with state requirements.

State offers jobs help to HIP 2.0 members

May 4, 2015 | Filed under: [Jobs, economy & labor](#), [Top stories](#) | Posted by: [Lesley Weidenbener](#)

By Olivia Covington

[TheStatehouseFile.com](#)

IND ANAPOLIS Members of state's health insurance plan for low-income Hoosiers will now have access to career development resources.

The Family and Social Services Administration announced the creation of the Gateway to Work program on Monday. Only Healthy Indiana Plan members will be eligible to join Gateway to Work, which is designed to help low-income Hoosiers secure jobs.

Gateway to Work will help Hoosiers complete job applications, create resumes, and hone their interviewing skills. Some funds for the program will also go toward providing transportation to or clothes for job interviews.

"Gateway to Work and Healthy Indiana Plan are ideally matched because they give low-income Hoosiers a set of parallel tracks toward improving their health, their lives and the lives of their families," Gov. Mike Pence said in a statement.

FSSA Communications Director Jim Gavin said the program was submitted as part of the initial HIP 2.0 waiver last year. He said participation in Gateway to Work is not a requirement for HIP members.

"Making it mandatory would require approval from [Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services], and CMS has rejected similar proposals from other states," Gavin said.

Gavin said while only HIP members are eligible for Gateway to Work right now, it could be expanded in the future.

The state will provide \$650,000 for the program, Gavin said. That money — which covers half of the program's total cost — will come from cigarette tax revenues. Gavin said federal funds will cover the remaining 50 percent.

The FSSA said it's sending roughly 300,000 letters to HIP customers to inform them about Gateway to Work services.

Brainard wins in Carmel, Hogsett, Brewer win in Indianapolis

A five-term mayor of an affluent Indianapolis suburb known for its sustained building boom defeated a challenger in the Republican primary who said the city was spending too much and would eventually need to raise taxes.

Mayor Jim Brainard, who ran on a campaign that Carmel would continue to thrive if the city continued to invest in development, handily defeated City Council President Rick Sharp.

"We're going to move ahead and continue to build a city so it can compete with the best places anywhere in America so it's a great place to live, work, raise a family and run a business," Brainard said Tuesday night by telephone. "We won by a good margin. That's an indication of trust. I want to make sure that we continue to fulfill that trust."

Sharp, a city councilman for 12 years, ran on a platform of fiscal restraint, saying he would cut spending and pay down debt. He warned voters that the future of the city 15 miles north of Indianapolis was in jeopardy because of overspending. Sharp said the problem was that everything looks fine in Carmel now,

"This is a beautiful community, wonderful amenities and the problem we were talking about doesn't really hit for 10 or 12 years. I guess we were not effective enough at communicating that message to voters that we need to make policy changes now to avoid the problem," he said.

There was no Democratic candidate running in the Carmel primary. Carmel was one of 115 Indiana cities holding mayoral primaries Tuesday.

In Indiana's biggest city of Indianapolis, former U.S. attorney Joe Hogsett easily defeated community activist Larry Vaughn in the Democratic primary, while restaurateur Chuck Brewer, an Iraq War veteran, defeated three challengers to win the Republican race. Hogsett and Brewer are seeking to succeed Greg Ballard, a Republican who decided against running for a third term.

Hogsett said crime will be one of the issues he will be focusing on for the fall campaign.

"There's been a crime epidemic that seems to have gripped our city for the last two or three years," he said.

In South Bend, incumbent Mayor Pete Buttigieg beat Democratic primary challenger Henry Davis Jr., a Common Council member who had come under criticism for posting an explicit photo on Facebook last year and for pleading guilty to reckless driving after driving the wrong way on a highway. Buttigieg will face small business owner Kelly Jones, who was unopposed in the Republican primary, in November. He won the general election four years ago with 74 percent of the vote. South Bend hasn't had a Republican mayor in more than 40 years.

Buttigieg called the primary win a strong vote of confidence, and said he won't take the general election for granted.

"We think we have a strong advantage going into November. But if you ever take an election for granted you deserve what you get," he said.

Fort Wayne Mayor Tom Henry defeated two challengers in the Democratic primary, receiving 76 percent of the vote, and in November will face City Councilman Mitch Harper, who defeated three other Republican challengers with 84 percent of the vote.

Focus now turns to mayoral campaign

Tomas B. Langhorne, John Martin

Voters could be forgiven for barely noticing amid the sound and fury of bruising Democratic primary campaigns, but the two major party candidates for Evansville mayor were on Tuesday's ballot too.

Running unopposed, Republican Mayor Lloyd Winnecke collected 1,723 votes. Democratic challenger Rep. Gail Rieken, also running without opposition, received 3,785 votes.

And therein lies perhaps the biggest threat to Winnecke's re-election: Even accounting for the fact that Democrats had more competitive and contentious primary elections than Republicans Tuesday, Evansville is a Democratic city. Winnecke is just the third Republican to lead it since H.O. "Hank" Roberts' defeat in 1955.

Aware that he won in 2011 with the aid of Democratic infighting, Winnecke knows what he's up against this time.

"I think in our first three-plus years in office we've proven that we represent the entire city," said

Winnecke, who has courted traditionally Democratic constituencies since taking office in January 2012.

"We've built really strong coalitions across party lines, across political demographics and I think as a result, you have a more engaged community."

That doesn't mean Rieken won't try to sharpen the differences between her and Winnecke. The veteran legislator has indicated, for one, that she will have something to say about the city's decision under Winnecke to loan Earthcare Energy \$200,000 in federal funds to start a green energy facility in the former Whirlpool plant on U.S. 41. Those plans fell apart amid revelations about troubled financial histories of Earthcare and its executives, and now the company is struggling to pay back the loan.

Critics called it bad judgment and sloppy vetting. Winnecke called it an aggressive pursuit of new employers that simply didn't pay off.

"We're disappointed that it didn't pan out. Not everything works the way you want," the 54-year-old mayor said.

Riecken likely begins by working to solidify her party's factions, which just finished battling in a handful of hotly contested primaries.

"The first thing I have to do after this election is bring this team together and talk to them about the office and the opportunity of working together — what we can do in terms of walking and mailing," the 69-year-old Riecken said. "But I do think after this fight in the primary is that they will pull back together. I wanted to stay away from a lot of the confrontational thoughts and actions that caused people to have real hard feelings. Hopefully they can look beyond that and recognize the importance of regaining this mayoral seat back."

For Riecken, the time also has come to hit the campaign trail full-time. Since declaring her candidacy in January, she's been able to do campaign work only after-hours and on weekends due to her work in the State Legislature.

Despite that, she said she is pleased with her campaign's fundraising effort for the first quarter of 2015. Riecken's campaign raised \$111,445 for the quarter. Riecken, who acknowledges Winnecke will outspend her, reported having \$85,572 in the bank on her last report. Winnecke reported having \$433,698 on hand.

Riecken said her fundraising will continue in earnest, and so will other campaign activities.

"(Monday), as an example, I was able to do call time and hit a neighborhood meeting that night," she said. "That's pretty much going to be the flavor from now on."

Riecken likely will get help from the Indiana Democratic Party, although decisions about what form that aid will take depend on political developments in other cities with competitive mayoral races.

John Zody, chairman of the state party, said financial and organizational support will be available to the candidate.

"We don't like to tell campaigns what they need. We like to help them where they believe they need help," Zody said. "Obviously, money's tight everywhere — but organizational support, we've already been involved with her campaign."

"We're going to try to help Gail however we can. That decision's already made. It's just a matter of what that is."

Riecken has criticized Winnecke's handling of city finances and promised a city government that is more "transparent." She has yet to release many specific policy positions, but said those will be forthcoming.

"It's important for me to be able to talk to people and get their input on the ideas I have," Riecken said. "I have spent some time doing that over the last few months and we are in the process of forming those statements, and we will be pouring those out very soon. I don't think we can make light of this issue on spending and transparency. I think that's something people are very interested in. That's going to be an overriding theme, I believe."

While Democrats battled it out in the spring primaries, Winnecke's campaign quietly gathered nuts for the winter. The mayor's aides report fundraising has continued unabated since the pre-primary campaign finance report showed almost \$434,000 on hand.

Enconced in the lobby of the former Old National Bank building at 420 S. Main St., the Winnecke campaign has three paid staffers and claims hundreds of volunteers. Winnecke has hired 27-year-old Matt Humm, who has worked in congressional campaigns, to manage his re-election effort. Humm managed 9th District U.S. Rep. Todd Young's successful 2014 re-election campaign, having served in other capacities for 2nd District U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski and the Indiana Republican Party before that.

Winnecke has never lost an election. He has held office continuously since shortly after the 1999 city campaign, when he was selected in a Republican Party caucus to succeed then-newly elected Mayor Russ Lloyd Jr. on the Vanderburgh County Council.

In 2002, in a County Council re-election campaign that attracted 12,125 voters, Winnecke defeated Democrat Chris Walsh by 61 percent to 39 percent. Winnecke had a GOP primary opponent in his 2006 council campaign but no Democratic opponent. He was unopposed again when he sought a County Commissioners seat in 2008.

Running for mayor in 2011, Winnecke first crushed little-known primary opponent Douglas DeGroot with 92 percent of the vote and then defeated Democrat Rick Davis with 54 percent. In that campaign, Winnecke was aided by Democratic infighting between supporters of the late Davis and other Democrats who resented Davis' challenges to some of the party's elected officials. Some of the latter group worked openly to help Winnecke defeat Davis in 2011, and Davis supporters accused party establishment figures of doing the same thing behind the scenes.

Most Indiana homes not tested for meth contamination

Although Indiana has led the nation in meth busts for the past two years, the state's home inspectors don't routinely test for methamphetamine contamination, which can lead to a variety of health problems, according to a newspaper investigation.

With a daily average of more than four meth lab discoveries by law enforcement officials in Indiana, experts say thousands of homes across the state likely have been contaminated by residents making or using the drug, the Indianapolis Star (http://indy.st/1E5A_OI) reported. But many homeowners aren't aware of the risk and don't know meth can be detected through several hundred dollars' worth of testing. Although the state's real estate disclosure form asks sellers specifically about the meth contamination, the law doesn't require real estate agents to verify their answer through testing. It's not part of a standard pre-sale home inspection in Indiana or any other state.

An Indiana State Police public database identifying locations of meth lab seizures dating back to 2007 may be helpful to potential homebuyers, but homes and other sites that have been cleaned up to standards set by the state Department of Environmental Management are removed from the list.

Signs of meth contamination aren't always obvious, and the hazards associated with the drug can linger for months or longer, according to Nick Gromicko of the International Association of Certified Home Inspectors. Gromicko said many inspectors offer such testing for an additional fee.

"It's a growing concern, and not just for prospective buyers," he said. "Not long ago we had an inspector in Idaho who was hospitalized" after being exposed to meth residue while going through a home.

The presence of meth in a home can lead to severe skin irritation, nausea, diarrhea, body aches, coughing and breathing issues, said First Sgt. Niki Crawford, commander of the Indiana State Police meth suppression section. Children, the elderly and people with existing health problems are most at risk.

"Symptoms often mimic the flu," Crawford said, "but they will not go away."

From: Gilson, Katie
Sent: Thu 5/07/2015 8:42 AM (GMT-04:00)
To: "Quyle, Lindsay" <LQuyle@gov.IN.gov>, "Anderson, Christopher M" <CAnderson@gov.in.gov>, "Hodgin, Stephanie" <SHodgin@gov.in.gov>, "#All Governor's Office" <allgovoffice@gov.IN.gov>, "Bailey, Brian (OMB)" <bbailey@gov.in.gov>, "Pitcock, Josh" <jpitcock@ssso.org>, "Baker, Lou Ann (DWD)" <lbaker@dwd.IN.gov>, "Rosebrough, Dennis (LG)" <DRosebrough@g.IN.gov>, "Rossler, Sarah (SBOE)" <SRossler@sboe.IN.gov>, "McKinney, Ted" <TMckinney@isda.IN.gov>, "Bausman, David" <DBausman@isda.IN.gov>, "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "#All Lieutenant Governor's Office" <#AllLieutenantGovernorsOffice@gov.IN.gov>, "smith@ [REDACTED]" <smith@[REDACTED]>, "tomrose [REDACTED]" <tomrose@[REDACTED]>, "Kams, Allison" <AKams@gov.IN.gov>, "Brookes, Brady" <BBrookes@gov.IN.gov>, "Triol, Shelley" <STriol@isda.IN.gov>, "Wall, Kathryn E" <KWall@gov.IN.gov>, "Reed, Katie" <KReed@gov.IN.gov>, "Griffis, Andrew D (IER)" <AGriffis@ier.IN.gov>, "Betley, James" <JBetley@gov.IN.gov>, "Schlake, Josh" <JSchlake@gov.IN.gov>, "McCleery, William" <WMcCleery@iot.IN.gov>, "Aycock, Hailey" <HAycock@gov.IN.gov>, "Braun, Steven J" <SBraun@dwd.IN.gov>, "Lubsen, Graig" <GLubsen@iot.IN.gov>, "Myers, Janille (ISDH)" <JanMyers@isdh.IN.gov>, "Timmerman, Chad E (GOV)" <ctimmerman@gov.in.gov>, "Dowd, Jaclyn (DWD)" <jcdowd@dwd.IN.gov>, "Stephen.simcox [REDACTED]" <Stephen.simcox@[REDACTED]>, "Jeff Cardwell" <jcardwell@[REDACTED]>, "mobs [REDACTED]" <mobs@[REDACTED]>, "emreeca [REDACTED]" <emreeca@[REDACTED]>

Cc:

Bcc:

Subject: Morning Clips- May 7, 2015

GOVERNOR/LT. GOVERNOR

Pence set to sign bill for regional development program

IBJ

A new state grant program aimed at encouraging Indiana counties and cities to collaborate on regional development projects is set to be signed into law by Gov. Mike Pence.

*Subscription required, full text below

Pence signs regional cities legislation

The Statehouse File

Gov. Mike Pence signed a bill into law Wednesday that he said would have a "transformational effect" on the state by establishing the Regional City Initiative.

*Subscription required, full text below

Indiana Gov. Pence signs utility energy-efficiency bill

Evansville Courier & Press

Indiana Gov. Mike Pence has signed a new law to reduce state oversight of the energy efficiency programs of major utilities.

*Subscription required, full text below

Indy celebrates Lowe's center opening

Inside IN Business

Today, Indianapolis Mayor Greg Ballard, Lieutenant Governor Sue Ellspermann and Congresswoman Susan Brooks will join representatives from Lowe's Corporation for a ceremony celebrating the opening of its new Indianapolis customer support center.

Gov. Pence signs regional cities initiative, talks with Fox 59 about trade trip to China

Fox 59

The result of months of negotiations and a last-minute lobbying campaign, Gov. Mike Pence signed the regional cities initiative into law Wednesday.

Governor Mike Pence signs bill repealing common construction wage

Fox 28

Indiana Governor Mike Pence signed a bill repealing the common construction wage into law Wednesday. A release from the office of the governor said the legislation will remove the common construction wage statute, allowing the market to determine wages.

Pence signs regional cities legislation

Evansville Courier & Press

Gov. Mike Pence signed a bill into law Wednesday that he said would have a "transformational effect" on the state by establishing the Regional City Initiative.

*Subscription required, full text below

New law encourages RDA-like projects across Indiana

NWI Times

Communities across the state are set to start mimicking the successful, cooperative quality-of-life improvement projects carried out by the Northwest Indiana Regional Development Authority for the past decade. On Wednesday, Gov. Mike Pence signed into law House Enrolled Act 1403, authorizing the Indiana Economic Development Corp., the state's commerce department, to award grants and loans for "regional cities" programs that will attract new people or businesses to an area.

Pence to OK Budget Bill

Inside IN Business

Tomorrow, Governor Mike Pence will visit with Hoosiers in Clinton County where he will stop at Kramer Lumber in honor of Small Business Week, as well as Flavors Coffee House and Deli. Later in the afternoon, he will sign the biennial budget bill (HFA 1001) at Perry Worth Elementary School in Boone County. The biennial budget includes \$480 million in new funding for K-12 education.

Pence signs needle-exchange bill as HIV outbreak cases grow

Belleville news-democrat

Indiana communities facing an HIV epidemic tied to intravenous drug use will have a way to implement needle-exchange programs under a measure Gov. Mike Pence signed into law Tuesday, as the number of confirmed cases in a rural outbreak grew to nearly 150.

Pence signs repeal of common construction wage

NWI Times

With the stroke of a pen Wednesday, Gov. Mike Pence ended a system the state and local governments have used for eight decades to set wages on most publicly funded construction projects.

LEGISLATURE

Indiana students want firefly named official state insect

NWI Times

Indiana's legislative session may be over, but a group of elementary school students says it's time for lawmakers to make the firefly the state's official insect. Second-graders at Cumberland Elementary School in West Lafayette recently learned that Indiana doesn't have any state insect. That sobering news prompted them to write postcards to state Sen. Ron Altig and State Reps. Sheila Klinker and Randy Truitt urging them to support giving state insect status to the illuminating insect.

Indy Eleven GM vows to keep pursuing stadium
Inside IN Business

By now you've read the headlines that the effort to secure a multipurpose stadium to house Indy Eleven games in downtown Indianapolis stalled during the last hurdle in the legislative process in the Indiana General Assembly. Although we are disappointed that time simply ran out at the Statehouse, we continue to be inspired by the remarkable support shown by fans, sports enthusiasts and everyday Hoosiers for a stadium built to showcase not just soccer, but other events that would be a tremendous economic driver for both the City and the State.

STATE AGENCIES

Most Indiana state parks raising entrance fees \$2 next week
Evansville Courier & Press

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources said Wednesday that beginning May 13 entrance fees will increase from \$5 to \$7 per in-state vehicle at most state parks and three state recreation areas with gated entrances. Entrance fees at Prophetstown State Park will rise from \$3 to \$8 per in-state carload.

*Subscription required, full text below

Education board set to meet before possible member changes

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

The Indiana Board of Education is set to meet for the last time before a significant change in membership.

Police find 10,000 child pornography files in Avon home

Indy Star/Chalkbeat

Indiana State Police detectives arrested an Avon man after police said they found more than 10,000 files of child pornography in his residence.

AROUND INDIANA

Saint Francis leader gets Sagamore award

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Sister M. Elise Kriss, president of the University of Saint Francis, said she is not easily surprised. Behind Kriss, Niezer, a broker with USI Insurance Services, unveiled the framed citation, sitting on an easel. The prestigious award, signed by Gov. Mike Pence, was presented with the "enthusiastic support of state Sen. Liz Brown," Niezer said.

Hoosier energy unveils solar program

Inside IN Business

When the sun shines, Hoosier Energy and its member systems beam. Hoosier Energy, in partnership with its 18 electric cooperative members, recently announced a 10-megawatt solar program that will bring the benefits of solar power to member consumers throughout southern Indiana and southeastern Illinois.

Brownsville rejects school tax hike, 3 districts OK increases

Indy Star

Brownsburg residents voted down a \$96 million tax increase, opting Tuesday to deny the construction of a new elementary school and an upgrade of the high school.

Growth in English language learners challenges Indy teachers

Indy Star

When an Indianapolis school meets new students from Burma, there is a lot the teachers, staff and their new classmates can't imagine about the students' life experiences.

Officials: Voters, competitiveness in short supply

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Allen County Elections Director Beth Dlug got the best night's sleep on election night that she can remember.

High school brawl: 'Why did nobody stop it?'

Indy Star

The online video, depicting a fight at Northwest High School Tuesday, was provocative in its own right, but even more provocative to some was the response of Indianapolis Public Schools. According to IPS, teachers "are instructed to remain physically out of the altercation and call school police for assistance. Teachers are also poised to prevent any crowds from gathering in the area." The video and the policy raise so many questions. Why didn't the staff member do more to intervene? Do IPS policies actually promote student safety? Do other schools have similar policies? Should it be part of teachers' jobs to put themselves in the middle of brawls?

JOBS/ECONOMY

Chase plastics to break ground in South Bend

Inside IN Business

Chase Plastics, a leading stocking distributor of more than 6,400 specialty, engineering and commodity thermoplastics, announced today that groundbreaking for its new North America centralized distribution center in South Bend, Indiana, will commence on May 15, 2015, following a groundbreaking ceremony on May 13, 2015, at 8:30 a.m. EST. Construction of the new 125,000-square-foot facility, which is projected to be fully operational by December 2015, will begin in June. The new facility will be located at 5245 Dylan Drive in South Bend, Indiana.

EDITORIAL

Swagens: How Mike Pence can save his political career

Indy Star

Mike Pence leaves the country this week, on a trade mission to China, with a big question about his political future unanswered.

Pence set to sign bill for regional development program

May 6, 2015

Associated Press

A new state grant program aimed at encouraging Indiana counties and cities to collaborate on regional development projects is set to be signed into law by Gov. Mike Pence.

The governor is scheduled to sign the Regional Cities program bill during a meeting Wednesday afternoon of the Indiana Economic Development Corp. board.

Legislators included \$84 million for the program over the next two years in the new state budget. Money

for the initiative will come from a new state tax amnesty program allowing people and businesses who owe back taxes before 2013 to pay their bills without penalties.

Some lawmakers hesitated to approve the Regional Cities program, saying its details weren't explained well.

Pence says the program will encourage long-term planning by regional groups.

Pence signs regional cities legislation

Gov. Mike Pence signed a bill into law Wednesday that he said would have a "transformational effect" on the state by establishing the Regional City Initiative.

The Republican governor, who made the effort part of his agenda, said the initiative will "encourage collaboration among Hoosier communities to develop ways to bolster investment, attract talent, and continue Indiana on a pathway to economic growth and success."

The law creates a grant program that enables neighboring communities to work together as a region to promote economic development, quality of life and help attract talent and investment.

Pence said that Hoosiers should think regionally to help the entire state reach its full potential.

The General Assembly allocated \$85 million for the program in the next two-year state budget, which Pence plans to sign into law on Thursday. That money will come from a state amnesty program that's authorized in the state budget.

But that's just one time funding. Pence said the tax amnesty will simply jumpstart the initiative and he didn't say where future funding might come from. But he said it was important to have the money to get the program launched.

Participating communities would also be required to use the money to leverage other public and private investments in areas that drive economic development.

"This legislation provides our communities with the necessary framework to continue fostering economic growth and development," said Sen. Ed Charbonneau, R-Valparaiso. "I look forward to seeing the positive impact these projects will have on Hoosiers."

In addition to House Bill 1403, Pence also signed a number of bills into law that were on his agenda.

- HB 1303 provides highly-skilled professionals a voluntary alternative to licensing, eliminates arbitrary barriers to employment, and reduces costs for consumers by giving them the information they need to make better choices about services they buy and people they hire.
- SB 441 simplifies the tax code to reduce the paperwork burden for Hoosiers and incentivize investment in Indiana.
- SB 412 requires electric utilities to file energy efficiency plans with the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission meant to ensure more affordable and reliable energy for Hoosiers.

Indiana Gov. Pence signs utility energy-efficiency bill

Indiana Gov. Mike Pence has signed a new law to reduce state oversight of the energy efficiency programs of major utilities.

Pence approved a measure Wednesday to allow major utility companies to develop their own efficiency programs and charge customers to implement them. The Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission will have final approval over the programs.

Supporters say companies should have the flexibility to choose their own programs, which help decrease electricity use and save ratepayers money.

But some experts say the bill is missing key elements for such programs to be effective and won't save consumers as much as supporters have advertised.

Environmentalists also argue that Indiana will have a harder time meeting federal requirements for reducing carbon dioxide emissions under the new law, which takes effect immediately.

Pence signs regional cities legislation

Erika Brock

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Most Indiana state parks raising entrance fees \$2 next week

Visitors to Indiana's state parks will pay \$2 more per vehicle to enter most state parks under a price increase that takes effect next week.

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources said Wednesday that beginning May 13 entrance fees will increase from \$5 to \$7 per in-state vehicle at most state parks and three state recreation areas with gated entrances. Entrance fees at Prophetstown State Park will rise from \$5 to \$8 per in-state carload.

The DNR says the price increase is in response to the parks' rising operating costs.

User fees pay about 70 percent of state park operational costs, with the rest coming from Indiana's General Fund.

DNR Director Cameron Clark says visiting a state park or forest is still a great value for families.

From: Gilson, Katie
Sent: Fri 5/15/2015 8:44 AM (GMT-04:00)
To: "Quyle, Lindsay" <LQuyle@gov.IN.gov>, "Anderson, Christopher M" <CAnderson@gov.in.gov>, "Hodgin, Stephanie" <SHodgin@gov.in.gov>, "#All Governor's Office" <allgovoffice@gov.IN.gov>, "Bailey, Brian (OMB)" <bbailey@gov.in.gov>, "Pitcock, Josh" <jpitcock@sso.org>, "Baker, Lou Ann (DWD)" <lbaker@dwd.IN.gov>, "Rosebrough, Dennis (LG)" <DRosebrough@g.IN.gov>, "Rossler, Sarah (SBOE)" <SRossler@sboe.IN.gov>, "McKinney, Ted" <TMckinney@isda.IN.gov>, "Bausman, David" <DBausman@isda.IN.gov>, "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "#All Lieutenant Governor's Office" <#AllLieutenantGovernorsOffice@gov.IN.gov>, "smith@ [REDACTED]" <smith@[REDACTED]>, "tomrose [REDACTED]" <tomrose@[REDACTED]>, "Kams, Allison" <AKams@gov.IN.gov>, "Brookes, Brady" <BBrookes@gov.IN.gov>, "Triol, Shelley" <STriol@idpa.IN.gov>, "Wall, Kathryn E" <KWall@gov.IN.gov>, "Reed, Katie" <KReed@gov.IN.gov>, "Griffis, Andrew D (IER)" <AGriffis@ier.IN.gov>, "Betley, James" <JBetley@gov.IN.gov>, "Schlake, Josh" <JSchlake@gov.IN.gov>, "McCleery, William" <WMcCleery@iot.IN.gov>, "Aycock, Hailey" <HAycock@gov.IN.gov>, "Braun, Steven J" <SBraun@dwd.IN.gov>, "Lubsen, Graig" <GLubsen@iot.IN.gov>, "Myers, Janille (ISDH)" <JanMyers@isdh.IN.gov>, "Timmerman, Chad E (GOV)" <ctimmerman@gov.in.gov>, "Dowd, Jaclyn (DWD)" <jcdowd@dwd.IN.gov>, "Stephen.simcox [REDACTED]" <Stephen.simcox@[REDACTED]>, "Jeff Cardwell" <jcardwell@[REDACTED]>, "mobst [REDACTED]" <mobst@[REDACTED]>, "enreece [REDACTED]" <enreece@[REDACTED]>, "Johnson, David (OSBI)" <DJohnson@gov.IN.gov>
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: Morning Clips- May 15, 2015

GOVERNOR

Indiana governor orders flags half-staff to honor officers
Evansville Courier & Press

Indiana Gov. Mike Pence has ordered flags fly at half-staff in honor of fallen officers. Pence's office says flags at state facilities statewide will be flown at half-staff on Friday in honor of Peace Officers Memorial Day. It is meant to honor federal, state and local officers killed or disabled in the line of duty. The governor also asks private businesses and residents to lower their flags to honor the officers.

Pence visits Cummins plant in China

The Columbus republic

Gov. Mike Pence's job mission to China this week has huge implications for Indiana and Columbus, local business representatives and economic leaders said.

IN Governor Mike Pence to return from China this weekend

Fox 28

Indiana Governor Mike Pence is getting ready to come back home to Indiana from China.

Pence renews cultural, corporate ties on China trip

NWI Times

No job or new investment announcements so far have come out of Gov. Mike Pence's trade mission to China, which ends Saturday, but the Republican this week has renewed Indiana's existing ties to various Chinese communities and companies.

LEGISLATURE

Exemption on equipment tax for small businesses about to take effect

Evansville Courier and Press

Small business owners in Indiana soon won't have to pay a tax on their equipment.

*Subscription required, full text below

STATE WIDES

AG Zoeller creates victim services and outreach division

Evansville Courier & Press

Indiana Attorney General Greg Zoeller has created a victim services and outreach division to help people traumatized by crimes.

*Subscription required, full text below

Initial work on RFRA image repair to cost \$750k

Evansville Courier & Press

The Indiana Economic Development Corp. finalized a contract that could reach \$750,000 with outside public relations firm, Porter Novelli, to develop a marketing campaign aimed at promoting the state's image. But a fuller picture of the cost will come this fall, when the IEDC and the firm are expected to settle on the launch and implementation of the campaign.

*Subscription required, full text below

AROUND INDIANA

Porter County health officials urge H V testing for at risk individuals

NWI Times

A public health crisis in Southern Indiana has prompted local health officials to remind Porter County residents that H V and other medical screenings are available at a low cost from the Health Department.

Indiana saw jump in recreational boating deaths during 2014

Evansville Courier & Press

A new report shows that during 2014 Indiana had its most recreational boating deaths in three years but still remained below the national rate for such fatalities. The Coast Guard report lists Indiana with nine boating deaths for 2014, up from five the year before. The state had 10 boating deaths in 2011 before having only two such deaths during 2012. Alcohol use was listed as a contributing factor in five of Indiana's 2014 boating deaths. The report says that 610 people died nationwide in recreational boating accidents last year. That was up slightly from the recorded low 560 fatalities during 2013. Indiana had a rate of 4.2 deaths per 100,000 registered boats for last year, compared to the national rate of 5.2 deaths.

Discovery halts construction at part of the transit center

Indy Star

An unexpected underground find has forced a halt to construction on part of the new transit center Downtown.

Officer Perry Renn's widow talks with Fox 59 in Washington D.C.

Indy Star

The widow of a fallen Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department officer is in Washington, D.C., to remember her husband and officers across the country who were killed in the line of duty.

EDITORIAL

Tully: The reader mailbag: Texas! Are you kidding?

Indy Star

A state whose legislature has been a model of intolerance. A state whose lawmakers are reacting to the increased acceptance of same-sex marriage by coldly doubling down on their opposition to it. A state whose highest-profile U.S. senator has proudly embraced Indiana's religious freedom law. A state that has a similar law.

Where is data on school vouchers?

Evansville Courier & Press

How many low-income children have been enrolled and sustained in schools accepting Indiana voucher or SGO grants? On May 2 a Courier & Press article said, "[Gov. Mike] Pence said the two-year state budget makes 'a historic investment in education in every form, at every level,' including ... charter schools and vouchers enabling economically poor children to attend private schools."

*Subscription required, full text below

Howey: Historic damage to Pence Brand

The Herald Tribune

Over the past several years, we have witnessed a dramatic change in polling on social issues. It has happened nationally on gay marriage, with a recent NBC/Wall Street Journal Poll showing 59 percent now approve of it.

Exemption on equipment tax for small businesses about to take effect

Chelsea Schneider

Small business owners in Indiana soon won't have to pay a tax on their equipment.

For those businesses, the Indiana General Assembly made permanent during this year's legislative session an exemption from the business personal property tax. The move comes a year after lawmakers approved giving counties the option to remove the tax for businesses acquiring less than \$20,000 in machinery or equipment in a given year.

Negotiations over the option to lower the business personal property tax became a large talking point for lawmakers in 2014. The exemption passed this year will cover approximately 150,000 business filers.

State Sen. Brandt Hershman, who authored the legislation, said talk of eliminating the tax for small business owners got entangled in the larger debate over the tax during last year's General Assembly session.

"When they are first brought up, there is a concern about new ideas in general, and so it takes some time to socialize the issues and work through the potential concerns, and I think we did that," said Hershman, a Buck Creek Republican.

Several local government leaders, whose communities receive revenue from the tax, had decried attempts to reduce the tax without providing an option to replace the revenue. This year lawmakers, sought to soothe those concerns by allowing counties to adopt a \$50 fee for small business filers as a way to recoup some of the lost revenue.

Hershman said the exemption is aimed at helping small businesses that pay a small tax burden for their machinery and equipment, but face significant accounting fees to prepare their returns.

The change to exempt small businesses from the tax would result in about a \$7 million revenue loss to counties, according to an analysis by the nonpartisan Legislative Services Agency. The analysis completed last year found Vanderburgh County would lose an anticipated \$455,930; with Warrick County would lose \$8,080.

Matt Greller, executive director and CEO of the Indiana Association of Cities and Towns, said his group was pleased to see the replacement revenue option. He said the \$50 fee won't replace all lost revenue, but it will come close.

"It's still a tremendous reduction in what small business folks will have to pay and pay a CPA to prepare their return," Greller said.

The change for small business owners goes into effect for assessment dates after Dec. 31, 2015.

New options also kick in this July for counties seeking to further reduce the tax for businesses. One option exempts new investment in a county, over time leading to a full phase-out of the tax as equipment is retired. The other option expands a tool already in use by local governments across the state that allows the tax to be abated for up to 20 years.

AG Zoeller creates victim services and outreach division

7:13 AM, May 15, 2015

Indiana Attorney General Greg Zoeller has created a victim services and outreach division to help people traumatized by crimes.

Zoeller says the division will help those with critical needs, including victims of human trafficking, domestic violence and sexual assault. His office plans to offer training and information on human trafficking and related problems to existing victim services networks, to assist them in connecting victims with necessary programs and services.

Zoeller said his office has launched the Victim Advocates' Network, an informal group that will coordinate with other victim-services groups and victim advocacy workers statewide to provide information and training programs.

As part of this new initiative, the AG's Office will publish a Victim's Rights Handbook that will be available online and for distribution to advocates and social services providers.

Initial work on RFRA Image repair to cost as much as \$750,000

Chelsea Schneider

The cost to repair Indiana's reputation following the fallout over the state's Religious Freedom Restoration Act is beginning to take shape.

The Indiana Economic Development Corp. finalized a contract that could reach \$750,000 with outside public relations firm, Porter Novelli, to develop a marketing campaign aimed at promoting the state's image. But a fuller picture of the cost will come this fall, when the IEDC and the firm are expected to settle on the launch and implementation of the campaign.

The contract states the IEDC and the Indiana Office of Tourism Development are working on a "reputation enhancement initiative" to strengthen the state's brand as a "welcoming place to live, visit and do business."

The state's economic development arm announced in April that it had retained Porter Novelli after controversy over the "religious freedom" law drew criticism nationwide over concerns the law could serve as a mechanism to discriminate against gays and lesbians. Criticism was so intense that Republican legislative leaders and Gov. Mike Pence quickly endorsed a clarification barring the law from being used as a defense to discriminate against any member of the public on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.

The initial phase of the contract with Porter Novelli runs through the end of September. According to the contract, the firm will assess the state's reputation and create a campaign that's launch ready. Then, the IEDC and the firm will determine the funding required to implement the campaign.

The IEDC will pay for its work with the firm out of its promotional funds, according to agency spokeswoman Abby Gras. It's too early to know costs for implementing the campaign because it's dependent on the initial phase of work, Gras said.

The contract does not make specific mention of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act. But an IEDC executive vice president told the Courier & Press in April that the "religious freedom" law played a part in the agency's decision to retain the public relations firm.

"The debate about RFRA has affected that," Chris Cotterill, an executive vice president at the IEDC, said in April.

"More people in Indiana are realizing that it makes sense to talk about the reputation of Indiana."

Overall, the law sets a judicial standard a court can use to weigh religious objections. Supporters of the law say the standard adds protections for actions Hoosiers take based on sincerely held religious beliefs. But opponents feared that gay and lesbian Hoosiers could face discrimination on the basis of Indiana having such a law.

Where is data on school vouchers?

Ann Ennis

3:05 AM, May 14, 2015

[letters to the editor](#) | [opinion](#)

How many low-income children have been enrolled and sustained in schools accepting Indiana voucher or SGO grants?

On May 2 a Courier & Press article said, "(Gov. Mike) Pence said the two-year state budget makes 'a historic investment in education in every form, at every level,' including ... charter schools and vouchers enabling economically poor children to attend private schools."

Show Indiana families the data, please.

Where are the numbers? What are the five-year trends in low income student private school enrollment?

What is the data showing trends in "economically poor children," who have enrolled and still attend the A-B and Four Star private and parochial schools?

According to the www.indiana.gov transcription of Gov. Pence's 2015 State-of-the-State, he said, "Today some 30,000 low- and middle-income kids are able to attend the school that works best for them because of our choice scholarship program." How many low income vis-à-vis middle income? Does data show the schools that "work best" for the low income students are Indiana-rated excellent schools?

The problem for Indiana taxpayers is that this data does not exist.

From February 23-April 10, the Indiana Department of Education and I exchanged emails about this exact chunk of data. I sought public-private-parochial-charter school data on A-F school grades along with each school's free-reduced lunch enrollment numbers. In April an IDOE technician told me I have to look up each nonpublic school one at a time on the IDOE's COMPASS system. This exposes a giant hole in statements about the success of Indiana's COMPASS system. This exposes a giant hole in statements about the success of Indiana's vouchers and SGO grants. Public school data is assembled in an easy to find and read spreadsheet.

Gov. Pence says the vouchers are helping poor children. We are told to feel all warm and fuzzy about this. We find fuzzy accounting and hide-and-seek data.

In the end, I looked up data for private and parochial schools in Posey, Gibson, Vanderburgh, Warrick and Marion counties. I could be wrong, but no one at the State House can provide me the information. My research shows

1. Charter, private and religious schools serving low income students have lower test scores, are not consistently A-B schools; they are not Four-Star schools.

2. Religious based, private, and charter schools outside of Indianapolis, generally do not have significant numbers of students on free and reduced lunch program. If they do, they are poorly rated, low scoring schools.

3. It is absolutely sickening that we are not providing taxpayers the data for charter, private and parochial schools to the same degree we demand of public schools, since all school types receive taxpayer money. Indiana Republicans are starting to see that our experiment in funding three school systems has no oversight. Although promised this funding would help the most in need, we cannot verify the help is

being delivered. If private, religious-based and charter schools are providing this data, then the state is doing a disservice by not compiling it.

Beginning this summer the governor and IDOE need to show taxpayers the data regarding how the neediest are helped by tax supported voucher and SGO grants. Also, how does this affect the 90 percent of students attending Indiana public schools?

Ann M. Ennis is a resident of Evansville who attended and whose children attended public K-12 schools. Ennis is a member of Voices for Public Schools and the Indiana Coalition for Public Education.

From: Gilson, Katie
Sent: Tue 5/19/2015 8:43 AM (GMT-04:00)
To: "Quyle, Lindsay" <LQuyle@gov.IN.gov>, "Anderson, Christopher M" <CAnderson@gov.in.gov>, "Hodgin, Stephanie" <SHodgin@gov.in.gov>, "#All Governor's Office" <allgovoffice@gov.IN.gov>, "Bailey, Brian (OMB)" <bbailey@gov.in.gov>, "Pitcock, Josh" <jpitcock@sso.org>, "Baker, Lou Ann (DWD)" <lbaker@dwd.IN.gov>, "Rosebrough, Dennis (LG)" <DRosebrough@lg.IN.gov>, "Rossler, Sarah (SBOE)" <SRossler@sboe.IN.gov>, "McKinney, Ted" <TMckinney@isda.IN.gov>, "Bausman, David" <DBausman@isda.IN.gov>, "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "#All Lieutenant Governor's Office" <#AllLieutenantGovernor'sOffice@gov.IN.gov>, "smith@ [REDACTED]" <smith@[REDACTED]>, "tomrose [REDACTED]" <tomrose@[REDACTED]>, "Karns, Allison" <AKarns@gov.IN.gov>, "Brookes, Brady" <BBrookes@gov.IN.gov>, "Triol, Sholloy" <STriol@idoa.IN.gov>, "Wall, Kathryn E" <KWall@gov.IN.gov>, "Reed, Katie" <KReed@gov.IN.gov>, "Griffis, Andrew D (IER)" <AGriffis@ier.IN.gov>, "Betley, James" <JBetley@gov.IN.gov>, "Schlake, Josh" <JSchlake@gov.IN.gov>, "McCleery, William" <WMcCleery@iot.IN.gov>, "Ayccock, Hailey" <HAyccock@gov.IN.gov>, "Braun, Steven J" <SBraun@dwd.IN.gov>, "Lubsen, Graig" <GLubsen@iot.IN.gov>, "Myers, Janille (ISDH)" <jmyers@isdh.in.gov>, "Timmerman, Chad E (GOV)" <ctimmerman@gov.in.gov>, "Dowd, Jaclyn (DWD)" <jdowd@dwd.IN.gov>, "Stephen.simcox [REDACTED]" <Stephen.simcox@[REDACTED]>, "Jeff Cardwell" <jcardwell@[REDACTED]>, "mobst [REDACTED]" <mobst@[REDACTED]>, "emreeca [REDACTED]" <emreeca@[REDACTED]>, "Johnson, David (OSB)" <DJohnson@gov.IN.gov>
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Subject: Morning Clips- May 19, 2015
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GOVERNOR/LT. GOVERNOR

Pence to seek second term as governor

NWI Times

Gov. Mike Pence is putting aside, for now, any dreams of national office, and will announce next month he is running in 2016 for a second four-year term as Indiana's chief executive. Jeff Cardwell, chairman of the Indiana Republican Party and a former Pence aide, told reporters Monday that Pence will kick off his re-election bid June 18 during a party fundraiser in Indianapolis.

Pence re-election bid announcement set

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Gov. Mike Pence plans to make his re-election bid official at the upcoming Indiana Republican Party Spring Dinner on June 18.

Distribution Company to add jobs

Inside Indiana Business

The company says it will begin renovations on the new operation in the next few weeks. Hiring for sales, warehouse, transportation and office positions is set to begin late this year. The Indiana Economic Development Corp. offered IDS Inc. more than \$600,000 in conditional tax credits. The town of Plainfield is also considering incentives. As the Crossroads of America, Indiana is an ideal home for companies that rely on moving products efficiently," said Governor Mike Pence. "Logistics companies like IDS know that the Hoosier State not only boasts a central location but also low taxes, low regulations and a strong workforce - all qualities that make Indiana the best place to do business."

Senior citizens win Golden Hoosier award

Inside Indiana Business

Lt. Governor Sue Ellspermann was joined at the Indiana Statehouse this afternoon by Dr. John Wernert, Secretary of Indiana Family & Social Services Administration (FSSA) and Yonda Snycer, Director of the FSSA's Division of Aging, to announce and honor recipients of the 2015 Golden Hoosier Awards.

Pence to seek reelection; official announcement to come June 18

The Statehouse File

Gov. Mike Pence plans to announce that he'll run for reelection during the GOP's spring dinner next month.

*Subscription required, full text below

Michiana group applying for state funds

South Bend Tribune

The Indiana General Assembly appropriated some big money last month for ideas that might entice more people to live in the state. The legislature set aside \$84 million for the Indiana Regional Cities Initiative, which Gov. Mike Pence and the Indiana Economic Development Corp. designed with the goal of growing the state's population by improving the quality of life in the state's cities. The money will be awarded during the next two years for projects in two parts of Indiana where leaders have demonstrated an ability to work regionally across county lines and town boundaries.

LEGISLATURE

Ivy Tech's low grad rate brings grief

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Ivy Tech Community College's construction plans have been put on hold, and it will face a state review of its programs over concerns about low graduation rates and declining enrollment...Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Luke Kenley, R-Noblesville, said he has many questions about Ivy Tech's effectiveness a decade after it took over running the state's community college program.

STATE WIDES

Black & Decker adding Hancock County jobs

Inside Indiana Business

The company says it will make products including screw guns, hammer drills, reciprocating saws and small angle grinders. The manufacturer says, when fully operational, the Hancock County facility will produce more than 1 million power tools each year. The Indiana Economic Development Corp. has offered the company more than \$800,000 in conditional tax credits and training grants. The Hancock County Economic Development Council and the city of Greenfield are working on additional incentives.

High court ruling hits state taxes

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Indiana taxpayers who earn income in other states could pay less in taxes under a divided U.S. Supreme Court ruling Monday.

Indiana officials push back against reducing ozone levels

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Indiana environmental officials and Republican Gov. Mike Pence are pushing back against new rules proposed by the federal Environmental Protection Agency that would reduce the amount of ozone levels allowed in the atmosphere.

Inside Indiana's HIV epidemic

WIHR

It's a few minutes past noon on a Tuesday. Just a few blocks from the police station in Austin, Ind., about a dozen people are roaming the streets. They walk quickly, with their eyes looking downward. A woman wearing bunny slippers speeds up to catch up to a man with a gray beard. A block away, they meet up with three other people, and the group then disappears behind a garage.

AROUND INDIANA

Northwest Indiana companies honored

Inside Indiana Business

When it comes to working safely across all projects and jobsites, no one does it better than the hard-working men and women in Northwest Indiana's construction industry. Each year, the Northwest Indiana Business Roundtable (NWBRT) and the Construction Advancement Foundation (CAF) partner to host their annual awards banquet which celebrates construction industry achievement and excellence in safety. Roughly 600 people were in attendance at this year's event, representing about 60 of NWI's leading contractors and owner companies.

Textbook rental rates discussed for 2015-2016; vote to approve in June

Evansville Courier & Press

Textbook rental rates for next school year for students in grades K-8 in the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corp. could go down in cost compared to this year.

*Subscription required, full text below

New summer camp teaches kids technology

Evansville Courier & Press

Students will have the opportunity to play Minecraft Mania and learn about 3D printing during Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporations' new summer camps as well as many other high-tech activities.

*Subscription required, full text below

JOBS/ECONOMY

Economist: Price at pump could dip lower

Inside Indiana Business

Motorists can expect gasoline prices this summer to remain considerably lower than what they were last year even though they have been edging up in recent weeks, Purdue University energy economist Wally Tyner says.

Indianapolis outranks Chicago for best city jobs in 2015

RTV 6

According to a new report released early Tuesday, Indianapolis is among one of the best cities for jobs in 2015, even outranking Chicago.

EDITORIAL

Howey: Awaiting announcements from Pence, Pelath, Ritz

Kokomo Tribune

Democrats John Gregg and state Sen. Karen Tallian have declared their gubernatorial candidacies. Auto dealer Bob Thomas is considering a Republican primary challenge to Gov. Mike Pence. But for this race to

really take definition, it will be the coming decisions of Pence, Superintendent Glenda Ritz and House Democratic leader Scott Pelath to truly give this contest early definition.

BMV facilitates new bridge to toll payment

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

A new state law will make it possible for a California-based company to mail you a bill if you cross the company's East Chicago bridge without an E-Z Pass.

Pence to seek reelection; official announcement to come June 18

May 18, 2015 | Filed under: Elections, Top stories | Posted by: Lesley Weidenhener

Staff report

TheStatehouseFile.com

IND ANAPOLIS – Gov. Mike Pence plans to announce that he'll run for reelection during the GOP's spring dinner next month.

Indiana Republican Party Chairman Jeff Cardwell revealed the news to supporters Monday in an email about the dinner on June 18.

Pence – once considered a possible presidential candidate – had said he'd announce his campaign plans after the legislative session, which ended last month. But it had become increasingly clear that Pence would not enter the crowded Republican presidential field and instead seek a second term as governor. "We are excited the governor will formally announce his plans to seek reelection during our annual Spring Dinner," Cardwell said, "and we look forward to hearing his ideas for the future of our great state." The dinner is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. at Primo Banquet Hall in Indianapolis. Tennessee Gov. Bill Haslam is the keynote speaker.

The Indiana Constitution was amended in 1972 to allow governors to serve two consecutive terms in office.

Since then, every governor who has sought a second term has earned one, except Democrat Joe Kernan who had ascended to the position after former Gov. Frank O'Bannon died.

Former House Speaker John Gregg and state Sen. Karen Tallian have announced they'll seek the Democratic nomination for governor. State Superintendent Glenda Ritz has also said she's considering a run.

Textbook rental rates discussed for 2015-16; vote to approve in June

Textbook rental rates for next school year for students in grades K-8 in the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corp. could go down in cost compared to this year.

EVSC Chief Financial Officer Carl Underwood presented the proposed rates to school board members Monday night. The school board will set textbook fees at its June 1 meeting.

The total proposed textbook rental cost for the 2015-16 school year for regular kindergarten is \$76, compared to this year's rate of \$84.20; first grade for next school year is proposed at \$101.55, a decrease of \$19.20 compared to this year; second grade will also see a decrease of \$19.20 with a proposed rate of \$95.80; third grade is proposed at \$107.35, compared to this year's rate of \$139; fourth grade is expected to be \$89.60 compared to \$124.40; and fifth grade was presented at \$95.60, compared to this year's rate of \$131.10.

Middle and high school book rental rates vary because of the different classes offered at each individual school and/or grade level.

Sixth grade rates can range next year from \$136.99 to \$143.99, a savings range of \$70.21 to \$90.41; seventh grade rental rates are proposed between \$104.83 to \$116.19, a savings range of \$70.17 to \$90.41. And if approved, eighth grade class materials will cost between \$108.68 to \$119.55, a savings

range of \$72.27 to \$92.45. These costs depend on the curriculum used at the school and the classes each student takes.

Grades 6-12 rental fees include netbook/laptop costs as well as accidental damage and extended warranty insurance. For students in grades 6-8, total cost is proposed at \$75, compared to last year's \$100. And students in grades 9-12 have the same proposed rate as this year at \$37.50 per semester, or \$75 per year.

No textbooks are used at New Tech Institute, so students there will use full laptops with special software and offerings. The laptop rental rate, which also includes extended warranty and accidental damage insurance, is proposed at the same cost as this year at \$90.50 per semester or \$181 per year.

There are several reasons for the cost reductions for next school year, EVSC Chief Communications Officer Marsha Jackson said. Those include teachers in kindergarten through fifth grade changing instruction so the reading workbook is no longer necessary; third- through fifth-graders won't need a health book because that information is incorporated into the Indiana Science Initiative materials; students in grades 6-8 will see a cost reduction for their social studies book from 25 percent to 15 percent because of its age; and netbook costs for middle school students will drop because the EVSC "secured better financing," Jackson said.

Free workbooks for reading, language, English honors and science are given to students in grades 6-8.

- Approved high school fees
- Approved elementary and middle school fees
- Proposed high school book rental rates
- Proposed K-5 book rental rates
- Proposed 6-8 book rental rates
- Proposed 6-8 book rental rates non ISI

In other action at Monday night's meeting:

The K-12 class fees were approved for 2015-16. In elementary and middle school: K-5 art is \$3 per semester; 6-8 general music is \$3 per semester; vocal music \$10 per year; practical arts and lab classes are \$5 a semester; art is \$3 a semester; and advanced art is \$10 for the year. Instrumental music for grade 5-8, without instrument rental, is \$10 for the year. With the instrument rental, it is \$40 per year. High school class fees for math, English, social studies and other classes, with a resource calculated in the book rental rate, is a maximum of \$3 per semester. Classes such as science, art, technology, business and others with a lab component are \$10 maximum for the semester. Instrumental music, vocal music and other high school classes without an instructional resource rental calculated in the book rate is a maximum of \$10 per semester. Instrument rental is \$30 a year. High school principals determine fees based on guidelines.

The 2015 West Terrace School roof replacement project contract was awarded to Midwest Roofing Sheet Metal for the lowest base bid amount of \$493,000.

Bids for staples, dairy, bakery and paper/plastic products for the 2015-16 school year also were approved by board members.

Farm Boy Food Service and Troyer Foods were awarded the contract for food, staples and supplies. A combined bid of \$2,921,628 was approved for Farm Boy and Troyer Foods, with Farm Boy receiving \$2,277,023.10 and Troyer Foods getting the remaining \$644,604.90.

Prairie Farms received next year's dairy contract for an estimated \$947,564.75.

A & D Distributors received the bakery contract for \$109,530.

Next school year's paper and plastic products contract was awarded to CRS-One Source for \$240,727.75.

New summer camp teaches kids technology

Kaitlin Lange

Students will have the opportunity to play Minecraft Mania and learn about 3D printing during Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporations' new summer camps as well as many other high-tech activities.

EVSC's Summer Creativity Camps give students entering third through sixth grade the chance to take different weeklong technology classes. Classes include sessions on photography, computer coding, digital storytelling and stop motion animation.

Sponsored by parent-teacher associations, the sessions are offered at Highland Elementary School from June 15-19 and Scott Elementary School from June 22-26. Camp participants are not required to be students at either school.

Jerrad Gleim — an EVSC innovation, curriculum, technology specialist — came up with the idea because he couldn't think of any other technology camps in the area. He has a second-grader who he said often asks him questions about technology.

"The purpose of the Summer Creative Camp is to give kids an outlet to get an exposure to some of the creative tools there are out there," Gleim said. "Once they learn some of this stuff and have gotten deep into it, they'll be able to bring it into the classroom during the school year."

DeLyn Beard, an eLearning Coach at Central district, will be teaching Minecraft Mania. In her class, students can collaborate to create new worlds and also explore already created, historically based worlds on the Minecraft video game. She also plans to incorporate leadership skills and writing.

"Every child I know has an account," Beard said. "I have it on my phone because of my best friend's son. I'm with him a lot, so he uses my phone. I've learned a lot from him, and he is 9."

Beard didn't come up with the idea for the class herself. Minecraft is known for its educational value, and there is even a version specifically for school use — MinecraftEdu — that teachers can purchase.

"I think kids like it because they get to explore and create," Beard said. "Sometimes those pieces tend to get pushed aside in our classrooms because we are worried about the next test."

Brian Bobbitt, a Cedar Hall Community School engineering teacher, will be teaching the Engineering and Invention Workshop, focused on 3D Printing. During the session, students will design things using Google SketchUp and print them on a 3D printer.

Bobbitt used grants from the Public Education Fund of Evansville to purchase the printer for his Project Lead the Way class this January.

"It's not as hard as it sounds," he said. "The biggest thing is the kids get excited about it, and when they get excited about stuff, the sky is the limit."

Bobbitt said the printers are great for problem solving. When his students printed something that didn't work, they would go back and redesign it.

Vic Chamness, director of Science, Health, PE and Digital Resources, said the summer camps will help students learn how to take advantage of all the technology available to them.

"We live in a digital world. Students are digital natives. They've grown up with it," he said. "What is impactful is when you can actually use that technology to help you with your learning."

EVSC is invested in technology, even outside of the camps, Chamness said. The district gives every student from fifth to 12th grade a tablet to use, and has hired employees to specifically focus on using technology in the classroom.

If the camp offerings are successful, officials here plan to expand it to other schools or to a higher level.

Currently Gleim said there are about 50 students signed up at Scott Elementary School and 27 at Highland Elementary School. Registration ends June 1.

From: Gilson, Katie
Sent: Thu 5/21/2015 8:50 AM (GMT-04:00)
To: "Quyle, Lindsay" <LQuyle@gov.IN.gov>, "Anderson, Christopher M" <CAnderson@gov.in.gov>, "Hodgin, Stephanie" <SHodgin@gov.in.gov>, "#All Governor's Office" <allgovoffice@gov.IN.gov>, "Bailey, Brian (OMB)" <bbailey@gov.in.gov>, "Pitcock, Josh" <jpitcock@sso.org>, "Baker, Lou Ann (DWD)" <lbaker@dwd.IN.gov>, "Rosebrough, Dennis (LG)" <DRosebrough@g.IN.gov>, "Rossler, Sarah (SBOE)" <SRossler@sboe.IN.gov>, "McKinney, Ted" <TMckinney@isda.IN.gov>, "Bausman, David" <DBausman@isda.IN.gov>, "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "#All Lieutenant Governor's Office" <#AllLieutenantGovernorsOffice@gov.IN.gov>, "smith@ [REDACTED]" <smith@[REDACTED]>, "tomrose [REDACTED]" <tomrose@[REDACTED]>, "Karns, Allison" <AKarns@gov.IN.gov>, "Brookes, Brady" <BBrookes@gov.IN.gov>, "Triol, Shelley" <STriol@idba.IN.gov>, "Wall, Kathryn E" <KWall@gov.IN.gov>, "Reed, Katie" <KReed@gov.IN.gov>, "Griffis, Andrew D (IER)" <AGriffis@ier.IN.gov>, "Betley, James" <JBetley@gov.IN.gov>, "Schlake, Josh" <JSchlake@gov.IN.gov>, "McCleery, William" <WMcCleery@iot.IN.gov>, "Aycok, Hailey" <HAycok@gov.IN.gov>, "Braun, Steven J" <SBraun@dwd.IN.gov>, "Lubsen, Graig" <GLubsen@iot.IN.gov>, "Myers, Janille (ISDH)" <jmyers@isdh.in.gov>, "Timmerman, Chad E (GOV)" <ctimmerman@gov.in.gov>, "Dowd, Jaclyn (DWD)" <jcdowd@dwd.IN.gov>, "Stephen.slmcox [REDACTED]" <Stephen.slmcox@[REDACTED]>, "Jeff Cardwell" <jcardwell@[REDACTED]>, "mobst [REDACTED]" <mobst@[REDACTED]>, "emreece [REDACTED]" <emreece@[REDACTED]>, "Johnson, David (OSBI)" <DJohnson@gov.IN.gov>
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: Morning Clips- May 21, 2015

GOVERNOR

Faurecia to set up new emission control systems plant in Indiana
Automotive Business Review

Automotive emissions control systems manufacturer Faurecia Emissions Control Technologies (FECT) is planning to establish a new production facility in Columbus, Indiana. Commenting on the facility, Indiana Governor Mike Pence said: "Indiana's robust manufacturing sector is one of the key drivers of our economy."

Washington is paying attention to opioid abuse
National Journal

Witnesses scheduled to speak at Thursday's House committee hearing include Jerome Adams, Indiana's health commissioner, Indiana has made headlines recently because of an HIV outbreak, resulting in Gov. Mike Pence allowing communities to seek approval to run needle exchanges in an attempt to control the spread of HIV or hepatitis C. The outbreak is tied to needle sharing among drug users injecting a liquified painkiller.

LEGISLATURE

Donnelly's military mental health legislation moves forward

The Statehouse File

U.S. Sen. Joe Donnelly's proposal to provide more mental health options for active military servicemen is on its way to the full Senate.

*Subscription required, full text below

Indiana: wrap up of 2015 real estate-related legislation

Lexology

After this spring's legislative session, Governor Mike Pence signed into Indiana law the following real estate-related legislation:

Donnelly warns against fast-track deal

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Sen. Joe Donnelly, D-Ind., warned Wednesday that Indiana manufacturers could be losers if Congress approves presidential fast-track trade authority.

STATE WIDES

New Ed board will get new executive director

The Statehouse File

A newly appointed State Board of Education will get to choose its own executive director.

*Subscription required, full text below

State Board of Ed Executive Director to retire after 1 year on job

WFYI

The executive director of the Indiana State Board of Education will retire at the end of this month, just before the board is reconstituted under a new state law.

Indiana details possible routes of I-69's final segment

Evansville Courier & Press

The Indiana Department of Transportation showed off maps of the proposed routes this week, along with charts documenting the acreage each would impact, during public meetings on Monday and Tuesday.

*Subscription required, full text below

AROUND INDIANA

Navy holds ceremony for sub named for Indiana

Inside IN Business

The U.S. Navy held a keel laying ceremony for the Virginia-class submarine Pre-Commissioning Unit (PCU) Indiana (SSN 789) at Huntington Ingalls Industries, Newport News Shipbuilding, May 16.

Carmel Students reach Economic competition finals

Inside IN Business

The school says two teams from Carmel High School beat more than 10,000 students from throughout the United States to reach the national finals in New York City.

Date set for next Grand Prix of Indianapolis

Inside IN business

The third annual Angie's List Grand Prix of Indianapolis is scheduled to run on Saturday, May 14, 2016, at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

IU, Ivy Tech propose tuition freezes

Inside IN Business

Ivy Tech says students who enroll for a combined total of at least 30 credit hours for the fall 2015 and spring 2016 semesters are also eligible for the freeze.

First church of Cannabis could test RFRA

Indy Star

The newly formed First Church of Cannabis appears to some observers as an excuse for potheads to get together and light up.

JOBS/ECONOMY

Solstice Medical adding jobs

Inside IN Business

Solstice Medical provides advanced surgical supply chain software systems for the health care industry. The company says it has already begun hiring operational and accounting associates in Columbus, and software developers, marketers and client service professionals in Indianapolis.

State fair to hire seasonal workers

Inside IN Business

The Indiana State Fair Commission will be hosting the seventh annual Job Fair where it hopes to hire more than 500 seasonal positions, Thursday, May 28 at the Indiana State Fairgrounds Ag/Hort Building from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Lt. Governor Sue Ellspermann will attend the event and interview a few lucky candidates.

EDITORIAL

Donnelly's military mental health legislation moves forward

May 20, 2015 | Filed under: Health, Top stories | Posted by: Lesley Weidenberger

By Andi TenBarge

TheStatehouseFile.com

WASHINGTON — U.S. Sen. Joe Donnelly's proposal to provide more mental health options for active military servicemen is on its way to the full Senate.

The Service Member and Veteran Mental Health Care Package — also referred to as "Care Package" — is a component of the National Defense Authorization Act for the 2016 fiscal year.

The proposal is meant to help improve mental outcomes for service members by:

- Strengthening Department of Defense mental health services.
- Enhancing the ability for active military members to receive quality mental health care from community providers.
- Calling on the Department of Defense to train physician assistants to help meet the growing demand for mental health services.

The bill in its current form provides these services to active military — but not veterans. However, Donnelly said he's confident that language will be added later.

Donnelly said the provision would allow private providers to take part in an online registry that would make it easier for active duty military and veterans to find care.

"I would encourage any of our private providers to begin working together immediately with the Military Family Research Institute and other organizations where they can learn more each and every day and start to talk about themselves as being veterans friendly," Donnelly said.

The legislation comes a year after Donnelly backed a law that requires all active, reserve, and Guard service members to undergo person-to-person mental health assessments. President Barack Obama signed that provision into law in December 2014.

Donnelly's newest proposal passed the Senate Armed Services Committee and will be included in the 2015 defense bill. It now heads to the Senate.

Newed board will get new executive director

May 20, 2015 | Filed under: [Education](#) | Posted by: [Lesley Weidenbener](#)

By Lesley Weidenbener

[TheStatehouseFile.com](#)

INDIANAPOLIS — A newly appointed State Board of Education will get to choose its own executive director.

Robert Guffin, the man currently in the position, announced Wednesday that he will retire at the end of May after roughly a year in the position.

That change comes as the board undergoes changes to its makeup. Under a bill Gov. Mike Pence signed into law this month, two of the group's 11 members will now be appointed by legislative leaders while eight will be appointed by the governor.

Pence used to have 10 appointments. The state superintendent also serves on the board.

The law means some changes in the board's makeup are almost a certainty — and the new group will have a major decision immediately.

The role of executive director has become a somewhat controversial one since Pence was elected. The Department of Education has traditionally staffed the education board. But after voters gave that office to Democrat Glenda Ritz, the governor created a new agency to serve the board. He later eliminated that agency but lawmakers gave the board wide latitude to set up its own staff.

During Guffin's tenure, the board has created a new A-F school grading system, partnered with Indianapolis Public Schools on the development of innovation network schools, and developed a new process for partnering with local school districts in the turnaround of chronically failing schools.

He's a former classroom teacher and principal.

"It has been an honor working to improve the lives of Hoosier students and preparing the next generation of education leaders during my career in our schools and as executive director of the State Board of Education," Guffin said in a statement. "I am looking forward to beginning the next chapter of my life and enjoying time with my children and grandchildren."

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Sent: Fri 5/22/2015 8:50 AM (GMT-04:00)
To: "Quyle, Lindsay" <LQuyle@gov.IN.gov>, "Anderson, Christopher M" <CAnderson@gov.in.gov>, "Hodgin, Stephanie" <SHodgin@gov.in.gov>, "#All Governor's Office" <allgovoffice@gov.IN.gov>, "Bailey, Brian (OMB)" <bbailey@gov.in.gov>, "Pitcock, Josh" <jpitcock@sso.org>, "Baker, Lou Ann (DWD)" <lbaker@dwd.IN.gov>, "Rosebrough, Dennis (LG)" <DRosebrough@g.IN.gov>, "Rossler, Sarah (SBOE)" <SRossler@sboe.IN.gov>, "McKinney, Ted" <TMckinney@isda.IN.gov>, "Bausman, David" <DBausman@isda.IN.gov>, "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "#All Lieutenant Governor's Office" <#AllLieutenantGovernorsOffice@gov.IN.gov>, "smith@ [REDACTED]" <smith@[REDACTED]>, "tomrose [REDACTED]" <tomrose@[REDACTED]>, "Kams, Allison" <AKams@gov.IN.gov>, "Brookes, Brady" <BBrookes@gov.IN.gov>, "Triol, Shelley" <STriol@idba.IN.gov>, "Wall, Kathryn E" <KWall@gov.IN.gov>, "Reed, Katie" <KReed@gov.IN.gov>, "Griffis, Andrew D (IER)" <AGriffis@ier.IN.gov>, "Betley, James" <JBetley@gov.IN.gov>, "Schlake, Josh" <JSchlake@gov.IN.gov>, "McCleery, William" <WMcCleery@iot.IN.gov>, "Aycock, Hailey" <HAycock@gov.IN.gov>, "Braun, Steven J" <SBraun@dwd.IN.gov>, "Lubsen, Graig" <GLubsen@iot.IN.gov>, "Myers, Janille (ISDH)" <jmyers@isdh.in.gov>, "Timmerman, Chad E (GOV)" <ctimmerman@gov.in.gov>, "Dowd, Jaclyn (DWD)" <jcdowd@dwd.IN.gov>, "Stephen.simcox [REDACTED]" <Stephen.simcox@[REDACTED]>, "Jeff Cardwell" <jcardwell@[REDACTED]>, "mobst [REDACTED]" <mobst@[REDACTED]>, "emreecer [REDACTED]" <emreecer@[REDACTED]>, "Johnson, David (OSBI)" <DJohnson@gov.IN.gov>

Cc:

Bcc:

Subject: Morning Clips- May 22, 2015

GOVERNOR

Indiana approves 1st needle exchange program under new law

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Indiana's health commissioner approved a one-year needle-exchange program Thursday for a rural county at the center of the state's largest HIV outbreak, an epidemic that's being driven by needle-sharing among intravenous drug users. Dr. Jerome Adams' approval for Scott County includes a public health emergency declaration that will allow it to operate a needle-exchange through May 21, 2016. The southeastern Indiana county had been operating a temporary needle-exchange under an executive order signed by Gov. Mike Pence that will expire Sunday.

LEGISLATURE

At 66, state Rep. John Bartlett earns college degree from Marlin U

Indy Star

Democrat state Rep. John Bartlett graduated high school in 1966. This month, he earned his college degree from Martin University -- at age 66.

STATE WIDES

Gold Statehouse basement could get gray makeover

The Statehouse File

The basement of the Indiana Statehouse -- the place where thousands of school kids, tour groups and people with disabilities enter the historic building -- could be getting a bit of a facelift. The current color scheme is "less than attractive," said Shelley Triol, a spokeswoman for the Indiana Department of Administration. That's "based on a number of opinions."

*Subscription required, full text below

Indiana approves 1st needle-exchange program under new law

Belleville News Democrat

Indiana approved a yearlong needle-exchange program Thursday for a rural county at the center of an HIV outbreak that spurred a new state law allowing such programs to curb the spread of diseases among intravenous drug users.

State report shows child deaths up 44 percent in 2013

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Forty-nine Hoosier children died from neglect or abuse during fiscal year 2013 - including a large number of drownings.

AROUND INDIANA

Big Ten leaders to discuss RFRA impact

Lafayette Journal

When the Indiana's Religious Freedom Restoration Act put the state in the middle of a nationwide firestorm, the Big Ten Conference quickly denounced the new law.

Chamber seeks community of the year nominations

Inside IN Business

The Indiana Chamber of Commerce is now accepting nominations for the 2015 Community of the Year Award. This annual honor goes to a deserving Hoosier community for significant contributions to its local business climate and overall image during the past year.

Indy Eleven to host Mexican team

Inside IN Business

Indy Eleven Professional Soccer will make club history on Sunday, June 28, when Indiana's Team will play its first international exhibition match against Mexican first division (Liga MX) side Monarcas Morelia. The international club friendly at IUPUI's Michael A. Carroll Stadium is set for a 1:30 p.m. ET kickoff.

IndyCar racing into Boston for 2016 Labor Day weekend

IRJ

The footprint of the IndyCar Series will expand to Boston in 2016 with the addition of a Labor Day weekend event, officials announced Thursday.

*Subscription required, full text below

JOBS/ECONOMY

Allied Solutions looking to hire

Inside IN Business

The job fair will run Wednesday, May 27 and Thursday, May 28 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:30 a.m. at the company's Carmel headquarters.

EDITORIAL

Swarens: Mike Pence says he needed to listen more about RFRA

Indy Star

Gov. Mike Pence ticked off the accomplishments. Rising student achievement. Falling unemployment. A new, balanced budget, which includes in dollar terms the largest single increase in school funding in the

state's history. A small but groundbreaking investment in preschool. A responsible, innovative expansion of Medicaid.

IndyCar racing into Boston for 2016 Labor Day weekend

May 21, 2015

Anthony Schoett'e

The footprint of the IndyCar Series will expand to Boston in 2016 with the addition of a Labor Day weekend event, officials announced Thursday.

The Grand Prix of Boston will feature an 11-turn, 2.25-mile temporary street course winding around the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center in the Seaport District. The event will mark the first time an IndyCar race has been run in Boston.

IndyCar's agreement for the race extends through 2020.

"The level of enthusiasm we have received from the Boston community has been phenomenal, and we look forward to showcasing the Verizon IndyCar Series on Labor Day weekend in 2016," said Mark Miles, CEO of Hulmar & Co., the parent of the IndyCar Series and Indianapolis Motor Speedway. "Establishing IndyCar racing in the Northeast is an integral part of our strategy for growing our national fan base."

"This is an exciting time in Boston, and as we explore new ways to grow and attract visitors here, we're engaging in strong dialogue with organizations like the Grand Prix of Boston," said Boston Mayor Martin Walsh in a statement. "This event has great potential to bring an influx of tourism and support our local businesses during what is traditionally a challenging holiday weekend for hospitality. I'm excited to begin this process and hear from our residents and business owners as we move forward."

Mayor Walsh's office contacted IndyCar last June, expressing interest in hosting a race as part of plans to attract high-profile events to the city, series officials said. IndyCar had been looking to slot more races in metro areas—especially on the East Coast.

Derrick Walker, IndyCar Series president of competition and operations, said there are "at least six passing spots" on the circuit. A unique feature, Walker said, will be parallel pit lanes.

From: Zach Bauer
Sent: Wed 3/25/2015 3:42 PM (GMT-04:00)
To: <mpence1314@aol.com>, "Christy Denault" <cdenault@gov.in.gov>, "Chris Crabtree" <CCrabtree@gov.IN.gov>
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: New Recording 4
Attachments: New Recording 400001.m4a

First min is HIV rest is RFRA

From: Gilson, Katie
Sent: Thu 6/04/2016 8:48 AM (GMT-04:00)
To: "Quyle, Lindsay" <LQuyle@gov.IN.gov>, "Anderson, Christopher M" <CAnderson@gov.in.gov>, "Hodgin, Stephanie" <SHodgin@gov.IN.gov>, "#All Governor's Office" <allgovoffice@gov.IN.gov>, "Bailey, Brian (OMB)" <bbailey@gov.in.gov>, "Pitcock, Josh" <jpitcock@sso.org>, "Baker, Lou Ann (DWD)" <lbaker@dwd.IN.gov>, "Rosebrough, Dennis (LG)" <DRosebrough@g.IN.gov>, "Rossier, Sarah (SBOE)" <SRossier@sboe.IN.gov>, "McKinney, Ted" <TMckinney@lsda.IN.gov>, "Bausman, David" <DBausman@lsda.IN.gov>, "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "#All Lieutenant Governor's Office" <#AllLieutenantGovernor'sOffice@gov.IN.gov>, "smith@ [REDACTED]" <smith@[REDACTED]>, "tomrose [REDACTED]" <tomrose@[REDACTED]>, "Kams, Allison" <AKarns@gov.IN.gov>, "Brookes, Brady" <BBrookes@gov.IN.gov>, "Triol, Shelley" <STriol@gov.IN.gov>, "Wall, Kathryn E" <KWall@gov.IN.gov>, "Reed, Katie" <KReed@gov.IN.gov>, "Griffis, Andrew D (IER)" <AGriffis@ier.IN.gov>, "Betley, James" <JBetley@gov.IN.gov>, "Schlake, Josh" <JSchlake@gov.IN.gov>, "McCleery, William" <WMcCleery@iot.IN.gov>, "Aycock, Hailey" <HAycock@gov.IN.gov>, "Braun, Steven J" <SBraun@dwd.IN.gov>, "Lubsen, Graig" <GLubsen@iot.IN.gov>, "Myers, Janille (ISDH)" <jmyers@isdh.IN.gov>, "Timmerman, Chad E (GOV)" <ctimmerman@gov.in.gov>, "Dowd, Jaclyn (DWD)" <jcdowd@dwd.IN.gov>, "Stephen.simcox [REDACTED]" <Stephen.simcox@[REDACTED]>, "Jeff Cardwell" <jcardwell@[REDACTED]>, "mobst [REDACTED]" <mobst@[REDACTED]>, "emreeca [REDACTED]" <emreeca@[REDACTED]>, "Johnson, David" <DJohnson@gov.IN.gov>, "Lloyd, Matthew" <MLloyd@gov.IN.gov>
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: Morning Clips- June 4, 2015

GOVERNOR/FIRST LADY

Pence makes Jennings stop to visit manufacturer

Columbus Republic

Gov. Mike Pence's visit to North Vernon on Wednesday involved learning and a little bit of lunch.

Serving up tips and fried fish

TribTown

Gov. Mike Pence's visit to North Vernon on Wednesday involved learning and a little bit of lunch. Pence, who is expected to formally announce his re-election bid in a couple weeks, toured Hilex Poly in the morning and met with employees and management before stopping at the Grateful Grubb to meet with local Republican Party members and other diners over the noon hour.

Crossing State Lines

My Wabash Valley

On Tuesday, Governor Mike Pence said, "We love the cross-state competition, but frankly Indiana has great advantages, not only over the state of Illinois, but states all across the country." Tuesday's announcement that Franklin Well Services was relocating from Lawrenceville came as a hit to the city.

Beach Mold & Tool Inc. Expanding, adding 160 new jobs in Southern Indiana

Business Facilities

Beach Mold & Tool Inc., an injection molding and precision tool manufacturer, has announced plans to expand its operations in New Albany, IN, creating up to 160 new jobs by 2019. The company, which currently employs 603 Indiana residents and 665 total associates in New Albany, has already begun hiring. "Beach Mold & Tool continues to expand, fueled by demand for quality manufacturing and supported by

an economic environment that lays the groundwork for growth without standing in the way," said Gov. Mike Pence.

Indiana's tax amnesty program-coming this fall

Lexology

This legislation, which was signed into law by Governor Mike Pence, authorizes the Department to enact emergency regulations detailing the parameters of the program, and it is our understanding that the Department is currently in the process of drafting such regulations. The amnesty program will last for an eight week period and is required to occur prior to 2017. The Department is currently planning on conducting the program this fall, from the middle of September until the middle of November.

Pence letter for Pride Fest finds no favor

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Gov. Mike Pence was attacked from both sides Wednesday for a letter he sent welcoming visitors to next week's Circle City IN Pride Festival.

Pence's letter to LGBT festival letter draws criticism

Washington Times

A letter from Gov. Mike Pence welcoming visitors to Indianapolis' upcoming Circle City IN Pride Festival is drawing criticism from both the state Democratic Party chairman and a conservative group, who are unhappy for different reasons with the governor's greeting to gays, lesbians and others.

LEGISLATURE

Riecken's campaign- for legislature- to host fundraiser

Evansville Courier & Press

With the legislative session over, state Rep. Gail Riecken has been able to focus less on Statehouse matters and more on her fall race to unseat Republican Mayor Lloyd Winnecke.

*Subscription required, full text below

STATE WIDES

A state school board that works?

NWI Times

It took replacing half the membership, but the State Board of Education appeared Wednesday to finally work together on behalf of Indiana students instead of spending hours taking cheap shots at one another.

School 93 a step closer to possible takeover despite new law's timeline changes

Chalkbeat

A change in state law that could see failing schools taken over by the state two years quicker won't affect schools that have already earned four or five F grades in a row...A dismal report on School 93 from the Indiana Department of Education to the Indiana State Board of Education raised alarms for some board members who wanted assurances that state and district officials would help the school get back on track.

SBOE meets, targets two struggling Evansville schools

Evansville Courier & Press

The reworked Indiana State Board of Education gathered for the first time Wednesday for a relatively low-key meeting, a sharp contrast to the tension that's dominated board meetings in the past.

*Subscription required, full text below

Supreme court suspends license of Indianapolis lawyer

Indy Star

The Indiana Supreme Court on May 29 suspended Indianapolis attorney DeJuan Bouvean from the practice of law. He was suspended for not cooperating with the court's Disciplinary Commission in its investigation of a grievance against him.

Ritz, Gregg bids for governor: 'Will it be a nasty split?'

Indy Star

As Glenda Ritz reached out to key Democrats in recent weeks to seek their support for her run for governor, one of her phone calls was to labor leader David Frye.

Glenda Ritz to make campaign announcement

Indiana Daily Student

This week, Indiana Superintendent of Public Instruction Glenda Ritz plans to make a "special campaign announcement" to supporters gathered at events across the state, according to her official Facebook page, Ritz4Education.

Ritz four to announce candidacy

Inside IN Business

Fellow Democrat John Gregg is also running for the state's top office. He spent 16 years in the Indiana House, including six as speaker. He won the Democratic nomination in 2012, before losing to Governor Mike Pence. State Senator Karen Tallian (D-4) has also announced her candidacy.

AROUND INDIANA

Vigo County Health department working to combat HIV

WishTV

The number of people HIV positive in southern Indiana continues to rise at an alarming rate. There are currently 166 confirmed cases...State Senator Jon Ford (R-District 38) reached out to the department in April asking what the plan was if an outbreak occurred in Vigo County. The testing will be offered at the clinic at the Health Department. Exact dates and times have not been determined. We will continue to bring you more information as it becomes available.

EPD, Jacksonville kick off summer academy

Evansville Courier & Press

The hope behind bringing the Evansville Police Department's Citizen's Academy program specifically to the Jacobsville neighborhood is to foster better understanding between law enforcement and the people in one of the city's poorest areas, said one of its organizers.

*Subscription required, full text below

Group seeks scenic byway nomination for Lincoln Highway

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

A new campaign is underway to have the Lincoln Highway in northern Indiana nominated as a National Scenic Byway.

Thompson back in state to teach

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Jill Long Thompson has returned to Indiana from Washington, D.C., where she had led the Farm Credit Administration since late 2012. Thompson, a Democrat who represented northeast Indiana in the U.S.

House from 1989 through 1994, left the FCA in mid-March, nine months after her term on its board of directors was to expire. She remained as the federal agency's chairman and chief executive officer until the Senate confirmed her replacement, Kenneth Spearman.

JOBS/ECONOMY

Kroger looks to hire thousands

Inside IN Business

The Kroger Co.'s Central Division is hosting a city-wide job fair in Indianapolis, hiring associates for the following positions: Cashier, Utility Clerk, Grocery, Deli/Bakery, Produce, Meat, Pharmacy Technicians, Drug/General Merchandise and entry level store management. Day, evening, weekend and overnight shifts are available. Hiring needs vary by location.

EDITORIAL

A quick study

Fort Wayne Journal

Over the summer, legislative study committees will zero in on all sorts of Indiana issues, from the compelling to the mundane. "Alternate means of agricultural assessment." "Pension management." "Whether the name of the school corporation capital projects fund should be changed to reflect the use of money in the fund for purposes other than capital projects."

Riecken's campaign — for legislature — to host fundraiser

John Martin

With the legislative session over, state Rep. Gail Riecken has been able to focus less on Statehouse matters and more on her fall race to unseat Republican Mayor Lloyd Winnecke.

On Tuesday, though, Riecken will return to Indianapolis for a political fundraiser — not for her mayoral bid, but for her legislative campaign fund. Riecken's legislative seat in District 77, like all 100 in the House of Representatives, comes up for election in 2016.

The event caught the attention of Vanderburgh County Republican Party chairman Wayne Parke, who questioned the Democrat's ongoing involvement with campaign funds for two offices or two election cycles.

Parke said he wondered if Riecken planned to combine the two funds to assist her mayoral bid, "or has she given up on the mayor's race and is planning for next year? I've never seen anyone raise funds for two races at the same time."

Riecken's mayoral campaign had \$85,572 on hand on April 10, which was the most recent reporting deadline. Her state legislative fund had less than \$6,000 as of Jan. 20. Riecken's legislative fund transferred \$5,000 to her mayoral campaign fund on Jan. 10.

According to the Indiana Secretary of State's Office, state law places caps on the amount of political contributions a corporation or labor organization can provide. But the limits in state law are based on the type of political race, and not a specific person or candidate.

That leads to a scenario where Riecken could collect double the contributions from those organizations, since state law places separate caps on contributions to House races and local races.

But Ben Young, Riecken's mayoral campaign chairman, said there will be no further mingling of her two campaign funds.

Young said all dollars raised during Tuesday's event, which is being hosted by the Indiana State Teachers Association, will be doled out from Riecken's legislative campaign fund to Democratic candidates in the 2016 election.

"She's looking to be able to support statehouse candidates in 2016," Young said. "It's for her account, but its purpose is to support candidates across Indiana who want to take the Statehouse back (for Democrats)."

Young said no money that Riecken's event raises on Tuesday will be used on her mayoral campaign. He said Riecken — who has long been known as a strong Democratic Party loyalist — wants to support candidates who want to roll back Republican legislative measures, such as this year's vote to repeal common construction wage.

Issues such as those "are still important to her," Young said.

Ed Feigenbaum, editor of Indiana Legislative Insight, said that for elected officeholders of any political party, campaign funds are a way to demonstrate and exact loyalty.

In Riecken's case, Feigenbaum said that even if funds are not mingled among the two campaign accounts, raising money for 2016 candidates could indirectly assist her 2015 bid for mayor if it needs a late boost.

Feigenbaum said party donors could tell one another, "Gail has raised money for state rep candidates, so why don't you in recognition of this make a contribution to her mayoral campaign?"

EPD, Jacobsville kick off summer academy

Richard Gootco

The hope behind bringing the Evansville Police Department's Citizen's Academy program specifically to the Jacobsville neighborhood is to foster better understanding between law enforcement and the people in one of the city's poorest areas, said one of its organizers.

The newly formed Jacobsville Crime-Free Alliance is paying for the weekly program, which is free for participants to come every Wednesday through early August. The first session of the program took place at DiLegge's Restaurant on Wednesday because of a scheduling conflict, but subsequent sessions will be at SWIRCA. That alliance is funded by a federal grant that was awarded to the ECHO Housing Corp in 2013. The academy is just one program listed in the alliance's comprehensive plan to try to decrease crime and other problems in the neighborhood.

One of the organizers of the alliance is Jennifer Mason Evans. She is also an ECHO employee and is the one who approached police department officials about bringing the academy to the neighborhood this summer.

Each week, the program includes talks by officers in several units of the police force. Evans said she and other leaders of the alliance recognized that most residents in the neighborhood don't have a solid understanding of the police department. Specifically, she said many citizens had complaints about the length of police run times in their area. Evans said she has worked with police officials at times as part of her job. She is hopeful that the inside look at the police department during the next 10 weeks will lead to a better understanding between residents and the patrol officers in the neighborhood. She, too, plans to go through the program.

"We've had the great experience working with our local law enforcement for a couple of the initiatives that we have done, and I think have a good foundation of understanding," Evans said. "But I did my first full ride-along with them (last) month and still learned a quite a bit about how they do their jobs and the reasoning (behind) certain things that they did. I really gained a new appreciation for what law enforcement does."

During Wednesday's first session, attendees heard presentations from the Gang Task Force and the Hostage Negotiation Team. The program was kicked off by assistant chief Chris Pugh who thanked residents for making the commitment to learn more about the department. He promised that the presentations would give a real look into what different units do. The hope is that participants — regardless of how they feel about the police department now — "walk away with a more realistic impression of what the police department does and how we do things" at the end of the 10 weeks. Pugh also thanked Evans and other organizers for their efforts to revitalize the Jacobsville area.

"Seeing the pictures (of what's planned), seeing the things that are going on and seeing the things that Jacobsville Join In are doing in the community — that's huge," he said. "We're glad as the police department to be included in that effort and to be a part of it."

Police department training coordinator Debbie Baird said while one aspect of the program is to show residents how sophisticated and high-tech some aspects of the police department are, it is just as important that the program educates people on what to do if they spot suspicious activity or have another reason to contact law enforcement. Baird said the program can also serve as an introduction to any participants who think they might like to pursue a law enforcement career in the future.

The citizen's academy will be Wednesdays from 6-9 p.m., through Aug. 5. Though the program has already begun, more participants are welcome. However, organizers ask that people pre-register.

Participants are also not required to attend all nine remaining sessions. To reserve a spot or for information about the program, call Baird at 812-436-4948 or email her at dbaird@evansvillepolice.com.

SBOE meets, targets two struggling Evansville schools

Chelsea Schneider

The reworked Indiana State Board of Education gathered for the first time Wednesday for a relatively low key meeting, a sharp contrast to the tension that's dominated board meetings in the past.

The meeting comes on the eve of state schools chief Glenda Ritz's widely anticipated entrance into the governor's race. But at Purdue University, board members quietly went through the board's agenda, and Ritz declined to discuss specifics of her political future and Thursday's announcement.

Ritz is expected to discuss education and its tie to the Hoosier economy at a series of campaign stops on Thursday and Friday. The stops kick off at an Indianapolis high school and also will take Ritz to Vanderburgh County.

Ritz said she thought the meeting, which concluded in about three hours, went well.

"I think we had a lot of action items that were just pretty quick that I expected to be quick," said Ritz, while saying she was impressed with discussion on school improvement and testing for Hoosier students. All five new members to the state board, which includes former Evansville Vanderburgh School Corp. Superintendent Vince Bertram, were in attendance, along with four of the five returning members. Ritz, an automatic member of the board, will remain chair through her current term in office as state superintendent. The term runs through 2016, and the board will begin electing its chair in 2017. The board spoke of the need for public hearings for two EVSC schools — Caze Elementary and Washington Middle School — that are nearing a potential intervention by the state board because of failing accountability grades.

The state will hold hearings to garner public opinion on the performance of the two schools likely in August. Under state law if either school receives a sixth consecutive "F" school accountability grade, the state board will weigh oversight options. Those grades are expected to be released this fall and will reflect performance during the 2014-15 school year.

So far, the state board has allowed two EVSC schools that already fell under its oversight to remain with the school district. The board decided to allow more time for EVSC's partnership with Mass Insight Education to work at Glenwood Leadership Academy and Lincoln School. The district partnered with the not-for-profit to build its Transformation Zone, which offers additional supports to five Evansville schools. Caze is within the zone, but Washington isn't — though the district has implemented strategies used in the zone to support the school. Both schools also are under new principals and school district officials say they're being proactive to help raise achievement.

"We always act with the greatest sense of urgency for all of our schools, in particular with schools at this level of priority," said Carrie Hillyard, EVSC's director of transformation.

Wednesday marked the first time the board met following a reconstitution required under state law.

Changes to the board passed by the Indiana General Assembly this year required Gov. Mike Pence to reconsider current gubernatorial appointments on the board and name eight members and for top legislative leaders to make two appointments. The state schools chief remains an automatic member of the board.

As for board members with Southwestern Indiana ties, Pence named Bertram to the board and retained current board member B.J. Watts, an Evansville schoolteacher.

In introducing himself on Wednesday, Bertram described Indiana's education system as the "most critical aspect" of the state's economy.

He now heads Indianapolis-based Project Lead the Way that focuses on science, technology, engineering and math education.

From: Cleveland, Bridget
Sent: Thu 4/02/2015 8:31 AM (GMT-04:00)
To: "Gilson, Katie" <KGilson@gov.IN.gov>, "Quyle, Lindsay" <LQuyle@gov.IN.gov>, "Anderson, Christopher M" <CAnderson@gov.in.gov>, "Hodgin, Stephanie" <SHodgin@gov.in.gov>, "#All Governor's Office" <allgovoffice@gov.IN.gov>, "Bailey, Brian (OMB)" <bbailey@gov.in.gov>, "Pitcock, Josh" <jpitcock@sso.org>, "Baker, Lou Ann (DWD)" <lbaker@dwd.IN.gov>, "Rosebrough, Dennis (LG)" <DRosebrough@lg.IN.gov>, "Rossler, Sarah (SBOE)" <SRossler@sboe.IN.gov>, "McKinney, Ted" <TMcKinney@isda.IN.gov>, "Bausman, David" <DBausman@isda.IN.gov>, "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "#All Lieutenant Governor's Office" <#AllLieutenantGovernor'sOffice@gov.IN.gov>, "smith@ [REDACTED]" <smith@[REDACTED]>, "tomrose [REDACTED]" <tomrose@[REDACTED]>, "Karns, Allison" <AKarns@gov.IN.gov>, "Brookes, Brady" <BBrookes@gov.IN.gov>, "Triol, Shelley" <STriol@idba.IN.gov>, "Wall, Kathryn E" <KWall@gov.IN.gov>, "Marty Obst" <martyobst@mikepence.com>, "Read, Katie" <KRead@gov.IN.gov>, "Griffis, Andrew D (IER)" <AGriffis@ier.IN.gov>, "Wickham, Michelle N" <MWickham1@iot.IN.gov>, "Betley, James" <JBetley@gov.IN.gov>, "Schlake, Josh" <JSchlake@gov.IN.gov>, "McCleery, William" <WMcCleery@iot.IN.gov>, "Aycock, Hailey" <HAycock@gov.IN.gov>, "Braun, Steven J" <SBraun@dwd.IN.gov>, "Lubsen, Graig" <GLubsen@iot.IN.gov>, "Myers, Janille (ISDH)" <JanMyers@isdh.IN.gov>, "Timmerman, Chad E (GOV)" <ctimmerman@gov.in.gov>, "Dowd, Jaclyn (DWD)" <jcdowd@dwd.IN.gov>

Cc:

Bcc:

Subject: Morning Clips - April 2, 2015

GOVERNOR:

Pence talks with legislators on RFRA clarification

AP

Republican legislative leaders are still working on a proposed clarification of Indiana's new religious objections law following a meeting with Gov. Mike Pence. House Speaker Brian Bosma and Senate President Pro Tem David Long spent more than 30 minutes in the governor's office Wednesday morning.

Indiana's Mike Pence takes blows, burnishes credentials in religious freedom fight

Time

Becoming a liberal pariah can be good politics for a conservative.

1. Christie breaks with possible 2016 rivals, defends Indiana governor on religious objection law

AP

Gov. Chris Christie has broken with some other potential 2016 Republican presidential contenders over an Indiana law that gives heightened protections to businesses or people objecting to providing certain services on religious grounds. "We should not have a situation where people perceive that anybody will be denied service," Christie said Wednesday.

SB 101:

Exclusive: 'Religious freedom' deal sets new protections

Indy Star – Tony Cook and TLo

Indiana Republican leaders are set to announce a deal Thursday morning that alters Indiana's controversial "religious freedom" law to ensure it does not discriminate against gay and lesbian customers of Indiana businesses.

Indiana lawmakers strike deal to fix religious freedom law

The Hill

Republican Indiana legislators have reportedly struck a deal to fix the state's controversial religious freedom law in order to protect gays and lesbians from discrimination.

In Indianapolis, concern that religious freedom law will harm local economy

Washington Post

With Indianapolis preparing for one of its biggest events of the year, the national uproar over the religious freedom act, which is to take effect in July, could not come at a worse time. The local economy is built on tourism, particularly sports events and conferences. Businesses across the city say they are scrambling to salvage both the Hoosier reputation and their bottom lines.

RFRA: Boycotts, bans and a growing backlash

Indy Star

The opposition to Indiana's Religious Freedom Restoration Act includes a growing number of canceled conventions, speeches and concerts. It includes Indiana travel bans from cities and states. It includes statements from corporate leaders inside and outside Indiana. And it includes sports organizations and state universities. Here's a look at some of the backlash Indiana has already felt.

Lawmakers suggest deal close on religious-objections law

AP

Indiana's Republican legislative leaders moved toward a possible agreement Wednesday on how to clarify the state's new religious-objections law in hopes of quashing concerns that it could allow discrimination against gays and lesbians.

GOP brass near deal on religion law

FW Journal Gazette – Niki Kelly

Republican lawmakers appeared to reach a tentative deal late Wednesday night to clarify a controversial religious freedom law that has led to a flurry of negative coverage and economic damage.

RFRA 'clarification' coming Thursday

Evansville Courier & Press – Chelsea Schneider

Lawmakers closed in on language to fix the state's controversial "religious freedom" law on Wednesday amid continued national uproar over fears it could be used to discriminate against gays and lesbians.

House Republicans "very close" to deal on RFRA

The Statehouse File

House Republicans say they've almost reached an agreement on language that would clarify the controversial Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

*Subscription required. Full story at end of email.

Silicon Valley leaders, new to social issues, come together over Indiana law

New York Times

The technology industry's leaders have found their collective voice on a social issue in the last week, rallying with great intensity against a new Indiana law that will allow businesses, they predict, to discriminate against gay couples. The heads of [Apple](#), [Salesforce.com](#), [Yelp](#) and [Square](#) have all publicly criticized the law, as have some leaders from other industries.

Bangert: Daniels laments RFRA damage to Indiana

Lafayette Journal & Courier

Purdue University President Mitch Daniels won't come right out and say what he thinks about the state's new [religious freedom bill](#) and the accompanying taint of gay/lesbian discrimination that has sent Indiana spiraling into a second week of boycott threats and national ridicule.

Valpo mayor, university students rally against religious freedom act

NWI Times

Nearly 200 Valparaiso University students and area residents marched to City Hall Wednesday to protest Indiana's Religious Freedom Restoration Act. Earlier in the day, Mayor Jon Costas called for a full repeal of the law.

Muncie mayor says city could approve resolution against RFRA

FW Journal Gazette

The mayor of the city of Muncie says he's working on a resolution in opposition to Indiana's new religious-objections law.

NWI officials believe Indiana tourism still has a prayer

NWI Times

Two local officials whose jobs include attracting out-of-staters to Northwest Indiana said this week they're confident the region's hospitality will prevail over the state's Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

Will Indiana law force 2016 women's Final Four to relocate?

AP

As pressure builds for the repeal or revision of Indiana's new religious objection law, the NCAA faces a decision about whether to look for a new venue for next year's women's Final Four.

Indiana Catholic bishop: No one should face discrimination

AP

Indiana's five Catholic bishops are reacting to the state's religious objections law with a statement saying no Hoosiers should face discrimination, whether it's over their sexual orientation or for living their religious beliefs.

LEGISLATURE:

Senate committee guts state takeover bill

Chalkbeat

The Senate Education Committee amended and passed House Bill 1638, 9-2, at its meeting today. It originally was written to establish “transformation zones” that would have allowed schools or groups of schools to try out innovative plans at schools with students consistently getting low test scores as an alternative to state takeover. The bill last month passed the House 66-31

AGENCIES:

State board to lawmakers: Pay up for new ISTEP

Chalkbeat

The Indiana State Board of Education is calling on the legislature to find the money to fund a pricier future state testing program — whatever the cost.

State board rules IPS can manage Arlington, share Donnan

Chalkbeat

It's going too far to say that IPS gets the schools back. The Indiana State Board of Education made clear in its meeting today that it considers Arlington High School and Emma Donnan Middle School still technically separate from the district and under state takeover even while approving the district's proposals to help run them.

Politicians need to get over their squeamishness about needle exchange

Washington Post

A drug-related HIV outbreak in rural Indiana has prompted Indiana Gov. Mike Pence to declare a public health emergency and take the unusual step of instituting a 30-day needle exchange program in the hardest-hit area. Needle exchanges allow intravenous drug users to trade in used needles for sterile ones. There's widespread evidence going back decades that such programs are effective at preventing the spread of HIV and other blood-borne diseases, that they encourage drug users to seek treatment for their addictions, and that they do not promote or encourage drug use overall.

Suspension sought for Gary funeral director

AP

The Indiana attorney general has filed a petition asking a state agency to suspend the license of a Gary funeral home director accused of hiding the remains of two babies in boxes above ceiling tiles during an inspection.

Final Four, spring break to bring heavy traffic to Indiana

AP

The Indiana Department of Transportation is warning motorists that college basketball fans headed to Indianapolis and spring break travelers will both be hitting the state's roads this weekend.

AROUND THE STATE:

Assistant fire chief demoted for fire station noose incident

AP

An assistant fire chief in north-central Indiana has accepted a demotion after tying a rope into a noose in the presence of a black firefighter whose wife belongs to the family of a lynching victim.

Dunes State Park Among Nation's Best

Inside Indiana Business

Indiana Dunes State Park is on a national publication's list of the best in the country. Winners of the *USA Today* honor were selected by a web vote featuring 20 state parks.

JOBS/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

Steel tubing manufacturer relocating to Gary from Illinois

NWI Times

A steel tube manufacturer plans to be operating in Gary by the end of the year, and hopes to create as many as 100 new jobs over the next two years. With the assistance of an incentive package from the city, state and NIPSCO, T&B Tube Co., currently based in South Holland, will move to a 196,000-square-foot building at 4000 E. 7th St.

Out-of-State Company Acquires Apparatus

Inside Indiana Business

Massachusetts-based Virtusa Corporation has acquired Apparatus in a more than \$34 million cash deal. The Indianapolis company provides consulting, service design and I-T infrastructure management services and has more than 200 employees. Apparatus founder and Chief Executive Officer Kelly Pfledderer says the deal is a "tremendous opportunity" to globalize its business, and adds Virtusa is committed to the company's presence in Indianapolis. The Indiana company celebrated its fifteenth anniversary in October.

USDA Loan Could Lead to Whitley County Jobs

Inside Indiana Business

Two northeast Indiana businesses have received federal rural economic development loans totaling nearly \$1.4 million. The money will support expansion and around 90 new jobs in Whitley County.

Indy to host video game tournament

Inside Indiana Business

More than 60 teams of competitive video gamers will take part in a major tournament this summer in Indianapolis. Organizers of the Pro Gaming League's Halo Championship Series estimate the event will have an economic impact of nearly \$1 million.

EDITORIALS:

Dunes will be an even bigger lure

NWI Times

The Indiana Dunes is a top tourist draw, not to mention a favorite spot for locals. It's a treasure that should be enjoyed throughout the year.

RFRA law puts Indiana back in 19th century

NWI Times

The bad news is Indiana's governor and legislative leaders are scurrying like scolded children, attempting to fix a freshly minted law that smacks of discrimination and alienates people, harms businesses big and small and potentially stymies revenue flowing into Indiana.

*House Republicans "very close" to deal on RFRA

The Statehouse File

House Republicans say they've almost reached an agreement on language that would clarify the controversial Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

House Speaker Brian Bosma, R-Indianapolis, said his party is "very close" to reaching an agreement on the new bill.

Republicans in both the House and Senate first met in caucus to discuss the bill Wednesday afternoon. Bosma then met with Senate President Pro Tem David Long, R-Fort Wayne, and both chambers returned to caucus at 5 p.m.

"We had a very productive discussion in the House Republican caucus, and it's my hope that we meet our goal tomorrow of coming to a successful conclusion," Bosma said.

Bosma said there are "still some discussions to take place," and that he needs to meet with Long again before the language of the bill is finalized.

Tuesday, state Democrats called for a total repeal of RFRA, an action Bosma said is not likely.

"I think repeal is a mistake," Bosma said. "It infers that there's something wrong with the RFRA law, and I don't think there is."

Bosma also said he thinks the language in the new bill will appease businesses that have threatened to take their work out of the state because of the law.

Despite objections from Democrats, Bosma said he's confident the Republican Party will stand behind the new legislation.

"My goal here was to make sure the House Republican caucus was very closely united, and we are," Bosma said.

From: Gilson, Katie
Sent: Tue 4/07/2015 8:48 AM (GMT-04:00)
To: "Quyle, Lindsay" <LQuyle@gov.IN.gov>, "Anderson, Christopher M" <CAnderson@gov.in.gov>, "Hodgin, Stephanie" <SHodgin@gov.in.gov>, "#All Governor's Office" <allgovoffice@gov.IN.gov>, "Bailey, Brian (OMB)" <bbailey@gov.in.gov>, "Pitcock, Josh" <jpitcock@ssso.org>, "Baker, Lou Ann (DWD)" <lbaker@dwd.IN.gov>, "Rosebrough, Dennis (LG)" <DRosebrough@g.IN.gov>, "Rossier, Sarah (SBOE)" <SRossier@sboe.IN.gov>, "McKinney, Ted" <TMckinney@isda.IN.gov>, "Bausman, David" <DBausman@isda.IN.gov>, "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "#All Lieutenant Governor's Office" <#AllLieutenantGovernor'sOffice@gov.IN.gov>, "smith@ [REDACTED]" <smith@[REDACTED]>, "tomrose [REDACTED]" <tomrose@[REDACTED]>, "Kams, Allison" <AKams@gov.IN.gov>, "Brookes, Brady" <BBrookes@gov.IN.gov>, "Triol, Shelley" <STriol@isda.IN.gov>, "Wall, Kathryn E" <KWall@gov.IN.gov>, "Marty Obst" <martyobst@mikepence.com>, "Reed, Katie" <KReed@gov.IN.gov>, "Griffis, Andrew D (IER)" <AGriffis@ier.IN.gov>, "Wickham, Michelle N" <MWickham1@iot.IN.gov>, "Betley, James" <JBetley@gov.IN.gov>, "Schlake, Josh" <JSchlake@gov.IN.gov>, "McCleery, William" <WMcCleery@iot.IN.gov>, "Aycock, Hailey" <HAycock@gov.IN.gov>, "Braun, Steven J" <SBraun@dwd.IN.gov>, "Lubsen, Graig" <GLubsen@iot.IN.gov>, "Myers, Janille (ISDH)" <JanMyers@isdh.IN.gov>, "Timmerman, Chad E (GOV)" <ctimmerman@gov.in.gov>, "Dowd, Jaclyn (DWD)" <jcadowd@dwd.IN.gov>, "jcardwell@ [REDACTED]" <jcardwell@[REDACTED]>

Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: Morning Clips- April 7, 2015

GOVERNOR

Tentative step toward safer drug policy

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

There is currently an HIV epidemic in Scott County, Indiana. Instead of the typical handful of new HIV cases per year, there have been about 80 new cases reported since December. A majority of the new cases have been in the last month. The immediate cause of this epidemic is clear since all these new cases have been linked to drug use involving needles. Gov. Mike Pence has responded with a tentative step toward a practical, real-world approach to solving the health problem. He has allowed a 30-day needle-exchange program. Unfortunately, if the program ends after only a month, it is unlikely to actually solve the problem.

House passes SB 309; Pence expected to sign

Newsbug

The Indiana House has passed a bill that would make it more difficult for city-owned electricity providers to take customers within newly annexed areas.

WaPo dumps Mike Pence from Top 10 GOP candidates for 2016

NewsMax

Indiana Gov. Mike Pence has been removed by *The Washington Post* from its list of the top 10 potential Republican candidates for the presidency because of his botched handling of the state's religious freedom law.

LEGISLATURE

General Assembly in final weeks

Inside Indiana Business

The common wage in the construction industry has been on the books since the 1930s. It will go before the Senate Tax & Fiscal Policy Committee. You can read HB 1019 by [clicking here](#).

Testing, standards up for vote

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Lawmakers will hear testimony and vote on a bill today that could mean a major shift in Indiana's K-12 testing system, toward a national focus and away from Indiana-based standards.

Adoption records proposal dies

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

A proposal to expand Indiana adoptees' access to more than 50 years of sealed records appears to be dead this session, to the disappointment of some advocates.

Senate panel set to vote on repeal of construction wage law

NWI Times

An Indiana Senate panel is set to vote on a Republican-led push to repeal the state law that sets wages for public construction projects.

SB101

Pence 'fixes' religious freedom bill

Agrinews

Gov. Mike Pence signed an antidiscrimination safeguards bill on April 2 in response to growing concerns from the public about the recently passed Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

Top Indiana businesses promise LGBT advocacy efforts

Indy Star

Some of the top business names in Indiana have a collective message about the amendment to Indiana's embattled "religious freedom" law:

A Majority of Americans really do support gay marriage

Politics & City Life

Last month, Indiana governor Mike Pence took a quiet moment for an off-the-record signing of the relatively innocuous-sounding Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

STATE AGENCIES

Indiana port commissioner quits over common wage law flap

Wish TV 8

A Republican member of the Indiana Ports Commission says he's resigning in protest of Gov. Mike Pence's support for a GOP-backed effort to repeal the law that sets wages for public construction projects.

Rail service to Indianapolis gets reprieve

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Indiana state and federal agencies announced Monday a short-term deal to keep Amtrak service between Indianapolis and Chicago going and are working on a long-term agreement.

Indiana supreme court awards seed money for family courts

NWI Times

The Indiana Supreme Court has awarded \$243,000 in grant money to 19 counties in support of local family court projects.

AROUND INDIANA

Southern Indiana planning meetings set

Inside Indiana Business

The Southern Indiana Regional Cities Initiative announced today the implementation of a new brand for the complete "World-Class Communities" plan for this region and the proposal, which will be submitted to the State of Indiana in July should the Indiana Regional Cities Initiative be funded. The new logo, "Our Southern Indiana," references the ownership of each citizen who chooses to be involved regardless of where he or she works or resides. The use a simple, modern font and action words to encapsulate the goals of the process illustrates the drive of the process moving forward.

Rare bird turns Indiana teacher into birding celebrity

Indy Star

Ross had spotted a black-tailed godwit, a gull-sized shorebird native to Europe and Asia. Ross' find has made the middle and high school arts teacher a celebrity of sorts among birdwatchers. After all, they might spend a lifetime tallying birds and never find one so rare.

Voter registration ends today for local primaries

Indy Star

Even with no state offices on the ballot, the controversy over the Religious Freedom Restoration Act could have ripple effects at the polls in 2015.

Overstock.com Founder to speak in Indiana

Inside Indiana Business

Anita Sarkeesian, a feminist video game blogger and media critic, and Patrick Byrne, the founder and CEO of Overstock.com, will visit the DePauw University campus this week to speak at the Eighth Annual Undergraduate Ethics Symposium. Presented by DePauw's Prindle Institute for Ethics, the April 9-11 event will bring together more than 20 undergraduates from around the country to workshop papers and creative works that speak to issues of ethical concern.

JOBS/ECONOMY

Press Ganey plans hiring event

Inside Indiana Business

WorkOne teams with Specialized Staffing Solutions to schedule a HIRING EVENT for Press Ganey on April 9 in South Bend.

EDITORIAL

Griffin: Indiana fight opens door to wider LGBT rights

USA Today

Headlines last week captured the genuine shock of the moment. "The political war over gay culture is over, and the gays won," read one *The Washington Post* blog post. "How Gay Rights Won in Indiana," screamed another piece in *TIME*. For reporters and pundits, it was a great story. The civil rights equivalent of Howard Cosell shouting, "Down goes Frazier. Down goes Frazier!" when George Foreman knocked him to the mat.

150 years ago, the Confederate Constitution used Mike Pence's view of religious freedom to justify slavery

The Huffington Post

April 9, 2015 will be the 150th anniversary of Robert E. Lee's surrender at Appomattox Courthouse to Ulysses S. Grant, marking not only the end of the Civil War, but also the end of slavery. When Jim DeMint last year stated that faith did more to end slavery than the federal government, his viewpoint was obviously "mostly false" and a whitewashing of history. As I stated in my *Roanoke Times* article after DeMint's comments, the Confederate Constitution and other Southern documents from this era utilized God and religion to justify slavery, not end the practice. Only a Union victory ended the forced bondage of 4 million human beings.

From: Gilson, Katie
Sent: Wed 4/08/2015 8:43 AM (GMT-04:00)
To: "Quyle, Lindsey" <LQuyle@gov.IN.gov>, "Anderson, Christopher M" <CAnderson@gov.in.gov>, "Hodgin, Stephanie" <SHodgin@gov.in.gov>, "#All Governor's Office" <allgovoffice@gov.IN.gov>, "Bailey, Brian (OMB)" <bbailey@gov.in.gov>, "Pitcock, Josh" <jpitcock@ssso.org>, "Baker, Lou Ann (DWD)" <lbaker@dwd.IN.gov>, "Rosebrough, Dennis (LG)" <DRosebrough@g.IN.gov>, "Rossier, Sarah (SBOE)" <SRossier@sboe.IN.gov>, "McKinney, Ted" <TMckinney@isda.IN.gov>, "Bausman, David" <DBausman@isda.IN.gov>, "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "#All Lieutenant Governor's Office" <#AllLieutenantGovernor'sOffice@gov.IN.gov>, "smith@s[REDACTED]" <smith@s[REDACTED]>, "tomrose[REDACTED]" <tomrose[REDACTED]>, "Kams, Allison" <AKams@gov.IN.gov>, "Brookes, Brady" <BBrookes@gov.IN.gov>, "Triol, Shelley" <STriol@idba.IN.gov>, "Wall, Kathryn E" <KWall@gov.IN.gov>, "Marty Obst" <martyobst@mikepence.com>, "Reed, Katie" <KReed@gov.IN.gov>, "Griffis, Andrew D (IER)" <AGriffis@ier.IN.gov>, "Wickham, Michelle N" <MWickham1@iot.IN.gov>, "Betley, James" <JBetley@gov.IN.gov>, "Schlake, Josh" <JSchlake@gov.IN.gov>, "McCleery, William" <WMcCleery@iot.IN.gov>, "Aycock, Hailey" <HAycock@gov.IN.gov>, "Braun, Steven J" <SBraun@dwd.IN.gov>, "Lubsen, Graig" <GLubsen@iot.IN.gov>, "Myers, Janille (ISDH)" <JanMyers@isdh.IN.gov>, "Timmerman, Chad E (GOV)" <ctimmerman@gov.in.gov>, "Dowd, Jaclyn (DWD)" <jcowa@dwd.IN.gov>, "jcardwell@[REDACTED]" <jcardwell@[REDACTED]>
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: Morning Clips- April 8, 2015

GOVERNOR

State reveals 'Stellar' finalists

Inside Indiana Business

Lt. Governor Sue Ellspermann announced today the finalists for the 2015 Stellar Communities designation program.

Governor's balanced budget amendment heads to full House

The Statehouse File

Gov. Mike Pence's proposed balanced budget amendment passed a House committee on Tuesday after two members were allowed to vote after arriving late.

*Subscription required, full text below

House panel approves Pence's balanced budget amendment

South Bend Tribune

Republican Gov. Mike Pence's request for a proposed balanced budget constitutional amendment cleared a legislative committee on Tuesday following a couple hours in a Statehouse rut.

Illinois has long way to go to reach Indiana's 'business climate

WISH TV 8

Illinois Gov. Bruce Rauner says he wants "rip the economic guts out of Indiana" Kara Brooks, a spokeswoman for Indiana Gov. Mike Pence, says Indiana will put up its low corporate taxes, triple A credit rating and business climate against those of any other state. She says, "Illinois will find tough competition here in Indiana."

LEGISLATURE

Senate committee passes common construction repeal

The Statehouse File

A Senate committee revamped and then passed a common construction wage bill Tuesday that critics say will drive down worker pay and supporters argue will create more competition within the industry.

*Subscription required, full text below

Indiana Senate approves study of 'baby boxes' proposal

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

The Indiana Senate has approved a bill calling for additional study on the possibility of setting up "baby boxes" for women to anonymously surrender their newborns.

Effort to repeal old I-69 law moves to full Senate for consideration

Evansville Courier & Press

An effort to remove a nearly decade-old state law that bars the Interstate 69 extension from entering a suburban Indianapolis township is now headed to the full Senate for consideration.

*Subscription required, full text below

Energy efficient bill headed to Pence for signature

The Statehouse File

The Senate sent a bill to the governor Tuesday that would change the energy efficiency landscape in the state.

*Subscription required, full text below

Senate sends e-liquids bill back to House legislation is just steps from law

The Statehouse File

The Senate passed a bill on Tuesday that places new security requirements on e-liquid producers and bans retailers from selling them to minors.

*Subscription required, full text below

House committee saves ISTEP, calls for study of replacement options

A proposal to replace ISTEP with an off-the-shelf national test was derailed today as a House committee sent the idea to a summer committee for further study. A proposal to replace ISTEP with an off-the-shelf national test was derailed today as a House committee sent the idea to a summer committee for further study.

STATE AGENCIES

Rolls Royce considering major investment

Inside Indiana Business

HB 1472, which would give the Indiana Economic Development Corp. more flexibility in providing tax credits, passed unanimously out of the committee. Supporters say the measure would help the state attract major investments and strengthen its position as an advanced manufacturing leader.

AROUND INDIANA

Muncie City Council passes resolution opposing RFRA

Ball State Daily

The amendment to Muncie's human rights statutes in the city ordinance that passed at Monday night's monthly City Council meeting will go into law Tuesday, something Muncie Mayor Dennis Tyler said is "unprecedented."

Salesforce lifts travel restrictions to Indiana

Inside Indiana Business

Last month, Salesforce CEO Marc Benioff tweeted, "Today we are canceling all programs that require our customers/employees to travel to Indiana to face discrimination."

Honda hits a million

Inside Indiana Business

Associates at Honda Manufacturing of Indiana, LLC (HMIN) today celebrated a production milestone of the 1 millionth car built at the plant.

Comlux breaks ground on expansion

Inside Indiana Business

Comlux America, the Completion and Services center of the Comlux Group based in Indianapolis IN, is officially breaking ground on the expansion of the current V P completion hangar to have the capability to house both narrow body and wide body aircraft simultaneously.

The real religious freedom fight is about to begin in Louisiana

The Washington Post

Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal (R), a possible 2016 contender, is a relative unknown among voters; only 1 percent of Republicans and Republican-leaning independents prefer him, according to the most recent Washington Post-ABC News poll.

JOBS/ECONOMY

Vet Job Fair Set for Indy

Inside Indiana Business

Senator Dan Coats (R-Ind.) today encouraged Hoosier veterans to attend the ninth annual "Operation Hire a Hoosier Veteran" Job Fair on Wednesday, April 15 at the Indiana State Fairgrounds. Nearly 200 employers will be in attendance and looking to hire qualified applicants. Last year's event resulted in at least one job offer for 25% of participants.

EDITORIAL

Expand needle exchange program

South Bend Tribune

A needle exchange program that began last weekend to help end the HIV epidemic linked to intravenous drug use in southeastern Indiana was the right call.

What America thinks: Does the media make the news or just report it?

Rasmussen reports

A so-called religious freedom law in Indiana has prompted the latest media firestorm. Although laws like this have been on the books for several years in nearly 20 other states, many worry it can lead to potential discrimination toward gays and lesbians, though Indiana Governor Mike Pence has now called for further clarification. Is this kind of coverage really called for or is this just media business as usual? We decided to find out what America thinks.

Religious Freedom Restoration Act revisions and Pence's actions

Indiana Daily Student

After the recent heat Gov. Mike Pence was under due to signing the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, many people are relieved these new revisions were implemented.

Hoosier State reviving its reputation for intolerance

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

It took Indiana generations to rid itself of the Ku Klux Klan image indelibly etched in the 1920s and '30s by a murderous bed sheet salesman who declared "I am the law" in the state. Even now a residue of that bigotry unfairly clings to the Hoosier reputation.

Religious freedom act is an act of intolerance

The Herald

INDIANA has come a long way in understanding and correcting discrimination. Now, when it is least expected, a setback creeps into state law that has significant legal and economic consequences.

Governor's balanced budget amendment heads to full House

April 7, 2015 | Filed under: Taxes & budget, Top stories | Posted by: Lesley Weidenbener

By Alec Gray

TheStatehouseFile.com

INDIANAPOLIS — Gov. Mike Pence's proposed balanced budget amendment passed a House committee on Tuesday after two members were allowed to vote after arriving late.

The House Judiciary Committee initially voted 5-5, which would have kept the bill from passing. Because the vote tied, the bill did not fail, but instead did not pass, meaning that other committee members could be allowed to vote.

The committee chairman, Rep. Greg Steuerwald, R-Avon, allowed Reps. Casey Cox, R-Fort Wayne, and Jud McMillin, R-Brookville, to vote after missing the discussion. They both voted yes.

Democrats objected to the chair's decision and said that the debate was crucial and members who missed it should not be given a vote.

But Steuerwald said he has always let committee members who missed parts of the meeting to come back in and vote.

"This committee has always allowed people to come in and vote," Steuerwald said. "I've been consistent over the years allowing people to vote. I don't think anybody can say I've not done that."

Senate Joint Resolution 9 would prohibit state budget appropriations from exceeding state revenues.

However, the restriction could be lifted with a two-thirds vote of the House and Senate.

Pence made the amendment a part of his legislative agenda, although Indiana lawmakers have generally passed balanced budgets, except during economic downturns or when trying to cut taxes to reduce a big state surplus.

The amendment has already passed the Senate.

Steuerwald said both McMillin and Cox were confused about what time the meeting was supposed to start. The committee typically takes place later in the morning.

If approved by the General Assembly this year, the balanced budget legislation would need to be approved by the legislature again in either 2017 or 2018 before it could go on the ballot for ratification. After the additional votes, the bill passed the committee 7-5.

Energy efficient bill headed to Pence for signature

April 7, 2015 | Filed under: Environment, Top stories | Posted by: Lesley Weidenbener

By Adam Lee

TheStatehouseFile.com

INDIANAPOLIS — The Senate sent a bill to the governor Tuesday that would change the energy efficiency landscape in the state.

Senate Bill 412, authored by Sen. Jim Merritt, R-Indianapolis, is meant to replace the Energizing Indiana program, which the General Assembly canceled last year over the objections of environmental groups. Energizing Indiana imposed a fee on the electric bills of all Hoosier households and businesses to pay for conservation efforts that included weatherization and other programs. Critics – including Merritt – said the program had become too expensive to administer.

The new proposal gives companies the authority to create and submit at least one energy efficiency plan to the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission every three years. The bill also allows for large energy customers to opt out of the energy efficiency plan.

Merritt said changes passed by the House give the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission “more teeth” in the process by allowing them to determine whether a plan is reasonable. Previously, the bill had the commission assess if the proposed plan stacked up against the utility’s consumption in the previous year and could be continued for following years.

Sen. Jean Breaux, D-Indianapolis, said the bill still was a move in the wrong direction. Breaux said that eliminating statewide goals and allowing large customers to opt out is a step back from the previous Energizing Indiana program.

The Senate passed the bill 38-10 and it now moves to Gov. Mike Pence, who is expected to sign it into law.

Senate sends e-liquids bill back to House, legislation is just steps from law

April 7, 2015 | Filed under: [Health, Social Issues, Top stories](#) | Posted by: [Lesley Weidenhener](#)

By Adam Lee

[TheStatehouseFile.com](#)

INDIANAPOLIS – The Senate passed a bill on Tuesday that places new security requirements on e-liquid producers and bans retailers from selling them to minors.

House Bill 1432, authored by Rep. Kevin Michan, R-Hartford City, defines e-liquid as a substance that is vaporized and inhaled by vapor pens.

The bill would require manufacturers to get a permit from the Indiana Alcohol and Tobacco Commission before bottling or selling the liquid. The fee for applying for a permit would be \$1,000, which would be good for five years until the manufacturer would need to pay a \$500 renewal fee.

HB 1432 also requires manufactures to use specified safety equipment and use such as childproof caps and extra security where the e-liquid is manufactured so that no one can get into.

Sen. Carlin Yoder, R-Middlebury, said the bill is fair and balanced and brings security and legitimacy into the e-liquid field.

But Sen. Vaneta Becker, R-Evansville, spoke out against the bill saying that e-liquid manufacturers in Evansville have concerns. Becker said the people are worried the bill is a way for big companies to eliminate the competition because the requirements and permits cost a significant amount of money, something the smaller businesses may not have.

Becker also said that she contacted the ATC and said officials there do not yet know how they will enforce the law if it is passed.

However, Yoder said that he is confident the licensing fees that the bill requires will be sufficient for the commission to find a way and that he is confident in their ability to enforce the law.

The Senate passed the bill 33-15 and now moves back to the House where legislators will consider the changes in the bill.

Effort to repeal old I-69 route law moves to full Senate for consideration

Chelsea Schneider

An effort to remove a nearly decade-old state law that bars the Interstate 69 extension from entering a suburban Indianapolis township is now headed to the full Senate for consideration.

A Senate committee passed the proposal, 5-3, on Tuesday amid Perry Township business owners and school officials sharing concerns about the road following Indiana 37 north into Indianapolis. The proposal doesn't make a recommendation on the route for the sixth and final section of the project that will take I-69 from Martinsville north to Indianapolis. But it does seek to remove a restriction placed into state law in 2006 that prohibits the road from entering Perry Township, which is just north of Johnson County.

Proponents say all routes should have an even playing field as state and federal highway officials determine the location for the sixth section.

Opponents say business decisions were made based off the law — facilitated by a group of state lawmakers whose districts cover portions of Perry Township and Marion County — and that the law needs to be honored.

State Sen. Carlin Yoder, who chairs the Senate Homeland Security and Transportation Committee, said the proposal was difficult for him to consider, arguing the General Assembly shouldn't have placed the restriction into law in the first place. Yoder, a Middlebury Republican, and the bill's author, state Rep. John Price, pointed to a section of the Indiana Constitution that bars the General Assembly from passing local or special laws regarding the location of highways.

"Because we did horrible policy in 2006, we are left to deal with it," Yoder said.

Representatives of Hoosier Voices for I-69 and the Southwest Indiana Chamber said removing the restriction allows for the consideration of all potential routes.

"Every route should be studied and considered solely on their environmental and economic merits," said Justin Groenert, director of government relations and public policy for the Southwest Indiana Chamber. Yet, state Sen. Patricia Miller, who advocated for the restriction in 2006, said people have made business decisions based on the law.

"We didn't do this because people just didn't want it. We did it because we had substantial evidence of the negative impact on our schools and public safety in Perry Township," said Miller, an Indianapolis Republican.

The bill passed the House earlier in the session, and now moves to the Senate floor.

Price, a Greenwood Republican, said the General Assembly needs to adhere to the state Constitution.

"How can we make a promise or commitment as a Legislature or (as) the governor for a decade down the road? I don't think we can do that," Price said. "I think that's bad policy."

The Indiana Department of Transportation is analyzing comments and suggestions provided by the public earlier this year, with plans to have public meetings again in May, said Will Wingfield, a spokesman for the department.

The state has not identified a cost estimate for funding for the sixth section. The fourth section, which extends the road from Crane to Bloomington, is expected to be completely open to traffic by the end of this year.

The fifth section, which is being paid through a public-private partnership, is set to open by the end of 2015.

From: Gilson, Katie
Sent: Thu 6/18/2015 8:51 AM (GMT-04:00)
To: "Quyle, Lindsay" <LQuyle@gov.IN.gov>, "Anderson, Christopher M" <CAnderson@gov.in.gov>, "Hodgin, Stephanie" <SHodgin@gov.in.gov>, "#All Governor's Office" <allgovoffice@gov.IN.gov>, "Bailey, Brian (OMB)" <bbailey@gov.in.gov>, "Pitcock, Josh" <jpitcock@sso.org>, "Baker, Lou Ann (DWD)" <lbaker@dwd.IN.gov>, "Rosebrough, Dennis (LG)" <DRosebrough@lg.IN.gov>, "Rossier, Sarah (SBOE)" <SRossier@sboe.IN.gov>, "McKinney, Ted" <TMckinney@lsda.IN.gov>, "Bausman, David" <DBausman@lsda.IN.gov>, "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "#All Lieutenant Governor's Office" <#AllLieutenantGovernorsOffice@gov.IN.gov>, "sm [REDACTED]" <smith@[REDACTED]>, "tomrose [REDACTED]" <tomrose@[REDACTED]>, "Kams, Allison" <AKams@gov.IN.gov>, "Brookes, Brady" <BBrookes@gov.IN.gov>, "Triol, Sholloy" <STriol@gov.IN.gov>, "Wall, Kathryn E" <KWall@gov.IN.gov>, "Reed, Katie" <KReed@gov.IN.gov>, "Griffis, Andrew D (IER)" <AGriffis@ier.IN.gov>, "Betley, James" <JBetley@gov.IN.gov>, "Schlake, Josh" <JSchlake@gov.IN.gov>, "McCleery, William" <WMcCleery@iot.IN.gov>, "Aycock, Hailey" <HAycock@gov.IN.gov>, "Braun, Steven J" <SBraun@dwd.IN.gov>, "Lubsen, Graig" <GLubsen@iot.IN.gov>, "Myers, Janille (ISDH)" <jmyers@isdh.in.gov>, "Timmerman, Chad E (GOV)" <ctimmerman@gov.in.gov>, "Dowd, Jaclyn (DWD)" <jdowd@dwd.IN.gov>, "Stephen.simcox [REDACTED]" <Stephen.simcox@[REDACTED]>, "Jeff Cardwell" <jcardwell@[REDACTED]>, "mobst [REDACTED]" <mobst@[REDACTED]>, "emreeca [REDACTED]" <emreeca@[REDACTED]>, "Johnson, David" <DJohnson@gov.IN.gov>, "Lloyd, Matthew" <MLloyd@gov.IN.gov>, "Knab, Monica" <MKnab@sboe.in.gov>

Cc:
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Subject: Morning Clips- June 18, 2015
Attachments: image00100001.png; image00200002.png

GOVERNOR/LT. GOVERNOR

Governor Pence visits the RV Hall of Fame

WNDU

Governor Pence was touting a measure that allows individuals without a commercial drivers license, or CDL, to transport an RV or towing vehicle to the dealership for sale. The governor ceremonially signed SEA 197, which amended Indianacodes. Governor Mike Pence stated, "We're a right-to-work state and we make a commitment to education in particularly the area of work force that supports a growing industry like this one. So we're going to continue those broader policies but wherever possible we're going to eliminate those barriers and obstacles to businesses. Just like this legislation does today we'll continue to do that."

Governor Pence visits Elkhart to sign bill, responds to Mayor Buttigieg essay

Fox 28

Governor Mike Pence was in Elkhart County on Wednesday to ceremonially sign a bill at the R-V Hall of Fame. Today he took the time to respond to South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg's coming out essay. "I hold Mayor Buttigieg in the highest personal regard," he said. "We have a great working relationship and I see him as a dedicated public servant and a patriot."

Pence set to announce 2016 re-election campaign

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Indiana Gov. Mike Pence is set to formally announce his bid for a second term in the state's top office.

Governor Pence re-election: Mike Pence to announce governor re-election bid tonight

RTV 6

After one term as Indiana's governor, Mike Pence will announce he's seeking another for the 2016 election. The announcement will come tonight at the Republican Party's annual spring dinner at the Primo Banquet Hall on National Avenue.

Counties teaming up to win \$42M in grants

South Bend Tribune

Counties around Indiana are starting to form coalitions in an effort to win potentially millions of dollars in new state grants for regional development projects. Indiana Gov. Mike Pence signed legislation in May creating the Regional Cities Initiative. The new program will allow the Indiana Economic Development Corp. to award grants or loans to regional groups for infrastructure or amenity projects that could help attract businesses and people to those areas.

How will Pence respond to poll showing ongoing RFRA fallout?

Indy Star

When Gov. Mike Pence formally launches his re-election bid Thursday night before a sold-out crowd of Republican stalwarts, a single question will loom over the event.

Poll finds majority of Hoosiers want Pence out of office

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

A majority of Hoosiers want a new governor, according to a poll released Wednesday by a reputable Republican pollster.

Most religious freedom bills defeated in legislatures

Washington Blade

Now that most state legislative sessions have come to a close for this year, observers have differing assessments on the efforts aimed at stopping a series of religious freedom bills seen to enable anti-LGBT discrimination, although the vast majority were defeated. The biggest blowback for one of these measures came after Gov. Mike Pence signed into law a sweeping religious freedom bill, SB 101, which prohibited government action against individuals for acting on a religious belief, including the purposes of discrimination against LGBT people. After a media firestorm and condemnation from the business community, Pence signed into law a "fix" that clarifies the law doesn't allow discrimination against LGBT people (although churches, ministers and non-profit religious organizations were exempt from the change).

Mike Pence is clinging to political life: "Religious freedom" backlash could spell doom for Indiana's right wing governor

Salon

Indiana Republican Governor Mike Pence is expected to announce his bid for reelection this week, but the erstwhile rumored presidential hopeful has seen his popularity in the state erode following widespread backlash to his failed attempt to enshrine discrimination into law under the guise of religious freedom.

Poll shows Hoosiers support protections against LGBT discrimination

Indy Star

Poll results released Wednesday showing a majority of Hoosier voters support adding sexual orientation and gender identity to Indiana civil rights laws are setting the stage for what's likely to become a

meaningful legislative debate over banning LGBT discrimination. The poll numbers particularly raise the stakes for Republican Gov. Mike Pence, historically a staunch social conservative. Scheduled to announce his re-election campaign Thursday, Pence faces backlash within his own party for championing the controversial Religious Freedom Restoration Act, which some feared would allow discrimination against gays and lesbians.

LEGISLATURE

Donnelly defends export bank<http://www.journalgazette.net/news/local/indiana/Donnelly-defends-export-bank-7244659>

Fort Wayne Journal

Sen. Joe Donnelly, D-Ind., said Wednesday he cannot understand conservative opposition to renewing the federal Export-Import Bank, which could lose its charter at the end of June.

Hoosiers in Congress blast medical device tax

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

The U.S. House is expected to vote today to repeal the medical device tax, which helps fund the federal Affordable Care Act. The Protect Medical Innovation Act should pass easily – it has 282 co sponsors, and identical legislation was approved 270-146 in the House in 2012.

Good Samaritan law aims to help kids stuck in cars

The Statehouse File

A new law will protect a person who breaks into a locked vehicle to save a child in danger.

*Subscription required, full text below

STATE WIDES

Indiana to keep HIV outbreak response center open for 1 year

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

With the largest HIV outbreak in Indiana history on the wane, a state-run community outreach center that's been in operation since late March will close next week and reopen at another location, state health officials said Wednesday. State Health Commissioner Dr. Jerome Adams said the three-days-a-week response center in the Scott County city of Austin will close June 25 but HIV testing, a needle exchange and its other services will continue at a to-be-determined site that will remain open for at least one year.

Bogus loan emails sent after county clerk hacked

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

The Decatur County clerk says hackers gained access to her office email account and sent out thousands of bogus emails about forgiving student loans.

Ritz checks on children during tour

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Glenda Ritz may be the Indiana superintendent of public instruction and a Democratic candidate for governor, but a young boy knew nothing of that when he invited her to jump around and smack the musical buttons Wednesday at Kreager Park.

AROUND INDIANA

Virtual charter school shuttered over financial, management issues

Evansville Courier & Press

A Trine University board will shut down the online-only school it chartered three years ago due to management and academic problems, leaving more than 1,100 Hoosier students from across Indiana to find a new place to attend classes.

*Subscription required, full text below

Companies seek to change state regulation of utility rates

Evansville Courier & Press

More than two dozen companies with operations in Indiana have formed a consortium and are preparing to argue for changes in the way the state regulates utility rates.

*Subscription required, full text below

JOBS/ECONOMY

Holiday World seeks more workers

Inside IN Business

The 100 open positions span departments including rides, cleaning staff and food and beverage workers. Eckert says the park needs workers for both early and late shifts. The attraction is currently accepting online applications, and says those received by June 22 will be considered for an upcoming job fair.

EDITORIAL

Swarens: Here's how Mike Pence can save himself

Indy Star

The numbers and the news could not be much worse for Gov. Mike Pence, and by extension for Republicans in Indiana.

Indiana wrong to offer low-interest loans to charter schools?

NWI Times

Indiana Senate Appropriations Chairman Luke Kenley is worried that giving the state's charter schools access to \$50 million in low-interest state loans could backfire. Many of the schools already have significant debt.

When the wedgies no longer work

The Statehouse File

Many years ago, when Newt Gingrich still was scrambling to become speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, I sat with him in his Washington office.

*Subscription required, full text below

Bangert: This, too, shall pass? Not for Pence

Lafayette Journal & Courier

Even as Gov. Mike Pence watched his stock fall so hard this spring after he signed the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, Statehouse Republicans and allies kept the faith, muttering under their breath: This, too, shall pass.

Virtual charter school shuttered over financial, management issues

Max Bomber

A Trine University board will shut down the online-only school it chartered three years ago due to management and academic problems, leaving more than 1,100 Hoosier students from across Indiana to find a new place to attend classes.

The parents of Indiana Cyber Charter School students were notified Wednesday that the school will close June 30.

The school and Trine's Education One – the university's nonprofit board that oversees charter authorizations and revocations – are implementing a transition plan meant to help families understand their options, which include transferring to traditional public schools or other charters.

"In the coming weeks we will be reaching out to the families with our transition plan, to help make the process more smooth" said Lindsay Omlor, the managing director of Education One.

In addition, the Education One board has voted to close the Indiana Achievement Academy in Indianapolis, which served 84 students in its first year. The school, which uses a combination of online and onsite instruction, also has had some financial and management issues, Omlor said.

Charter schools are publicly funded schools that operate largely outside a traditional district structure. They must be "chartered" by an organization – which can include some mayors, public and private universities, and a state board – that have been authorized in state law.

Trine University created Education One to be its chartering organization.

The Indiana Cyber closure comes less than two years after Trine officials boasted that its test results ranked it among the Top 10 charter schools in the state.

Enrollment ballooned over the next two years – from less than 100 in the first year to about 235 in 2013 and then more than quadrupled to about 1,100 in 2014. At the same time, the school parted ways with its curriculum partner and financial problems began to emerge, Omlor said.

Meanwhile, academic achievement plummeted. During the 2012-2013 school year, 72 percent of Indiana Cyber students passed both the math and language arts sections of the ISTEP exam. In 2013-2014, the passing rate dropped to 54 percent. Results are not yet available for the 2014-2015 school year.

In addition, some of the school's vendors had not been paid causing parents to complain to Education One that online services and the help desk were sometimes unavailable – which Omlor said are absolute necessities for a virtual school that uses a largely self-directed model.

Omlor came to Education One last summer and the board assigned her with launching examinations of all the schools it had chartered. She zeroed in on problems with Indiana Cyber, in part out of concern that its split with a partner – Pennsylvania-based National Network of Digital Schools – had left it on the hook for some \$600,000.

Don Williams, then the CEO of Indiana Cyber, assured her and the school's board members last fall that the financial picture would clear once the state distributed a \$750,000 tuition allotment in November and again in December.

It was a pattern of questions and reassurances that would repeat over several months as Education One officials raised concerns about debt and financing and Williams would provide documentation indicating the school was on a path to recovery, Omlor said. At one point, the Education One board notified Indiana Cyber it wouldn't renew its charter but a review panel recommended a continued partnership – under probationary terms that included new accountability and a revamped board.

But problems persisted, Omlor said. During the first few months of 2015, a new board president resigned, as did a school business manager, reportedly saying she didn't want to be responsible for signing any more checks. Then a key administrator at the school provided Education One with further documentation of additional financial problems.

In March, the Indiana Cyber board voted to fire Williams as its CEO. And in April, Education One hired an auditor to further investigate problems at the school.

Matt Fabina of Investigation, Inc. interviewed Indiana Cyber vendors, reviewed financial records, and met with the school's business manager and bankers. In Fabina's final audit to Education One he reinforced their concerns about the management of public funds, Omlor said.

The audit "showed the school could be viable," she said. But "it confirmed a lack of transparency about the flow of data" and key financial information.

The final report led Education One to vote to terminate the Indiana Cyber charter. Meanwhile, Williams was also serving as CEO of Indiana Achievement Academy, something the Education One board saw as a problem. In addition, the Indiana Achievement Academy operated under a three-member board – and all three members resigned within a short amount of time, Omlor said. “Knowing the connection between the CEO with both entities and similar concerns on a much smaller scale was what drove everyone to vote closure,” Omlor said. The closure of both schools is effective June 30, which is intended to give the students and their families’ time to finish up the classroom units they are working on. The affected students have several educational options. They can attend public school, try a brick-and-mortar charter school, or try one of the state’s two other virtual charter schools.

Companies seek to change state regulation of utility rates

More than two dozen companies with operations in Indiana have formed a consortium and are preparing to argue for changes in the way the state regulates utility rates.

Members comprising the Indiana Industrial Energy Consumers Inc. are making the effort to try to restore the state’s economic competitiveness, the consortium said. The state’s electric rates have gone from being the fifth lowest in the nation in 2003 to the 26th lowest in 2014, it said, citing data from the U.S. Energy Information Agency.

“We’ve lost that really nice economic competitiveness advantage we use to have,” said Jennifer Wheeler Terry, an Indianapolis-based energy sector lawyer and legislative liaison for Indiana Industrial Energy Consumers.

And neighboring states like Illinois and Ohio, which once had higher industrial electric rates than Indiana, now have lower average rates, she said. In recent years, Illinois and Ohio have instituted reforms that have controlled, and in some cases lowered, their electric rates.

“We feel like surrounding states are really engaged with their energy policy and Indiana could really benefit as well if we got in the game,” Terry said.

Companies included in the consortium include Alcoa, BP, Marathon Petroleum, Chrysler, Honda and Toyota, The (Munster) Times reported.

Terry recently represented several northwest Indiana companies in a Court of Appeals case challenging bill surcharges for NIPSCO’s \$1.2 billion electric modernization plan. A settlement has been proposed that would require the utility to file a rate case by the end of the year.

NIPSCO remains committed to competitive electric rates, which are important to both customers and the state, according to company spokesman Nick Meyer. Recent increases in electric rates have been caused by factors beyond utilities’ control, including environmental regulations, he pointed out.

Investor-owned utilities NIPSCO, Vectren, Indianapolis Power & Light, Duke and AEP dominate the state’s market for electricity.

Indiana Industrial Energy Consumers plans to begin lobbying a joint Indiana Senate/House committee this summer on energy matters to expand opportunities for co-generation plants producing both heat and electricity at their facilities, Terry said.

The consortium also is discussing the possibility of broader reforms to increase competition in the marketplace for both industrial and residential customers.

New law: Good Samaritan law aims to help kids stuck in cars

June 18, 2015 | Filed under: [Courts & crime](#), [Top stories](#) | Posted by: [Lesley Weidenbener](#)

By Katie Stancombe

[TheStatehouseFile.com](#)

IND ANAPOLIS — A new law will protect a person who breaks into a locked vehicle to save a child in danger.

"You shouldn't be afraid of liability if a child's life is at stake," said Amber Rollins, director of KidsandCars.org.

House Bill 1161 provides that a "child" is any individual under the age of 18 who is unable to exit a motor vehicle on his or her own.

The bill will grant immunity to an individual who:

- Determines the car is locked and that there is no other way of getting the child out.
- Has a good faith belief that the child is in serious danger of suffering harm if not immediately removed.
- Contacts law enforcement before or as soon as they are able.
- Uses no more force than necessary.
- Remains with the child near the vehicle until law enforcements arrive at the scene.

The bill's author, Rep. Philip GiaQuinta D-Fort Wayne, said that after hearing a story of a rescue case from another state, he thought that creating the immunity was a "good idea."

"Someone had helped somebody else break into the car window and while the mother was grateful for the help, she tried to sue the person for damages to the window," GiaQuinta said. But he said there was no Indiana case that sparked his interest.

GiaQuinta said that the law will now become part of a list of "Good Samaritan laws" already on the books and will take some education on the public's behalf.

Rollins said that KidsandCars feels it is "very important" to have a law like this in any state.

"I think in a lot of situations people think that they shouldn't get involved and it's none of their business," Rollins said. "This type of legislation sends a clear message that the public should get involved."

Rollins said that it's "critically important" that parents or other adults don't leave children in the car alone — for any amount of time.

"There is no safe amount of time for a child to be left alone in a vehicle," Rollins said. "Not for one minute, not for thirty seconds — never."

Some of the greenhouse effects in vehicles:

- The inside of a vehicle heats up very quickly. Even with the windows cracked, the temperature inside a car can reach 125 degrees in minutes.
- Cracking the windows does not help slow the heating process or decrease the maximum temperature.
- 80 percent of the increase in temperature happens in the first 10 minutes.
- Children have died from heatstroke in cars in temps as low as 60 degrees.

Commentary: When the wedges no longer work

June 17, 2015 | Filed under: [Commentary, Top stories](#) | Posted by: [jkrull59](#)

By John Krull

[TheStatehouseFile.com](#)

IND ANAPOLIS — Many years ago, when Newt Gingrich still was scrambling to become speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, I sat with him in his Washington office.

Gingrich was telling me about the way the Republican Party not only could gain control of Congress but also dominate the national debate.

With his feet propped up on a coffee table in front of him and his chair tilted back, like a naughty kid trying to get away with something, Gingrich smiled and said the trick was to drive wedges into the public like an ax chopping wood. If the GOP could split the country apart by using abortion, gay rights and other divisive issues as the ax blade and then pick up the bigger slice, he said, conservatives could run things for a long time.

That was 25 years ago.

Gingrich couldn't – or didn't – contemplate a time when those wedge issues might cut the other way. He didn't imagine there might be a time when (often self-proclaimed) conservatives wouldn't pick up the larger piece of the split public.

But that's what seems to be happening.

Indiana is a red state. We Hoosiers don't vote for Democratic presidential candidates unless, as was the case in 2008, the Republican nominee all but ignores us and the Democratic challenger woos us with all the ardor of a smitten teenage boy.

Even then we make the outcome close.

But here in quiet, staid Indiana two events have given the political landscape an earthquake-level shake.

The first involved the mayor of Indiana's fourth-largest city, Democrat Pete Buttigieg of South Bend.

Buttigieg is a former Rhodes Scholar and a Navy reservist who was deployed to Afghanistan for seven months last year.

He's also gay.

Buttigieg came out in a newspaper column in which he called Indiana's battles over same-sex marriage and an equally divisive so-called religious freedom restoration act "disastrous." He said Hoosiers – and Americans – need to find a civilized way to resolve difficult issues.

South Bend is home to perhaps the most prominent Catholic institution of higher education in the world, Notre Dame University. The Catholic Church often hasn't been supportive in regard to questions of equal rights for gays.

But there was Notre Dame's president offering words of measured support for Buttigieg's announcement.

Then, hours later, a poll conducted by a respected GOP pollster – and paid for by Republican Gov. Mitch Daniels' first campaign manager, Republican Bill Oesterle – showed that Indiana Gov. Mike Pence (also a Republican) is in real political trouble.

More than half the people surveyed – 54 percent – said they want someone else to be governor after next year's election, largely because Pence has embraced wedge issues like gay rights and supposed education reform.

Pence partisans poopooed the poll. They pointed out that the 2016 election was still 17 months away and a lot could change between now and then.

That's true, but it's also beside the point.

Oesterle is a savvy political operator. He was upset – an understatement – with Pence's repeated dalliances with divisiveness when the state needed to be coming together to meet common challenges.

My guess is he commissioned and paid for the poll for at least two reasons.

The first is that its findings confirm what Oesterle said about the damage the same-sex marriage and RFRA debates did to his state and his party.

The second is that he knows a poll like this will make it a lot harder for Mike Pence to raise money as he gets ready to run for re-election.

Last time around, Pence barely beat his Democratic opponent, John Gregg, even though he raised and spent more than twice as much as money as Gregg did. If the fundraising race is closer to even this time around, that improves Democrats' chances.

Why would a Republican like Oesterle want to see that happen?

Well, maybe, it's because he knows that the ground has shifted – that the strategy that Newt Gingrich devised and Mike Pence embraced has done lasting damage to Indiana and the Republican Party.

When the mayor of South Bend can come out of the closet and the president of Notre Dame can applaud him for it, we're saying we're done with wedges and division.

That we want to bind wounds, not create them.

From: Hodgkin, Stephanie
Sent: Fri 6/19/2015 8:39 AM (GMT-04:00)
To: "Quyle, Lindsay" <LQuyle@gov.IN.gov>, "Anderson, Christopher M" <CAnderson@gov.in.gov>, "Hodgin, Stephanie" <SHodgin@gov.in.gov>, "#All Governor's Office" <allgovoffice@gov.IN.gov>, "Bailey, Brian (OMB)" <bbailey@gov.in.gov>, "Fitzcock, Josh" <jpfitzcock@sso.org>, "Baker, Lou Ann (DWD)" <baker@dwd.IN.gov>, "Rosebrough, Dennis (LG)" <DRosebrough@lg.IN.gov>, "Rossier, Sarah (SBOE)" <SRossier@sboe.IN.gov>, "McKinney, Ted" <TMckinney@isda.IN.gov>, "Bausman, David" <DBausman@isda.IN.gov>, "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "#All Lieutenant Governor's Office" <#ALLieutenantGovernorsOffice@gov.IN.gov>, "smith@ [REDACTED]" <smith@[REDACTED]>, "tomrose [REDACTED]" <tomrose@[REDACTED]>, "Karns, Allison" <AKarns@gov.IN.gov>, "Brookes, Brady" <BBrookes@gov.IN.gov>, "Triol, Shelley" <STriol@gov.IN.gov>, "Wall, Kathryn E" <KWall@gov.IN.gov>, "Reed, Katie" <KReed@gov.IN.gov>, "Griffis, Andrew D (IER)" <AGriffis@ier.IN.gov>, "Betley, James" <JBetley@gov.IN.gov>, "Schlake, Josh" <JSchlake@gov.IN.gov>, "McCleery, William" <WMcCleery@iot.IN.gov>, "Aycock, Hailey" <HAycock@gov.IN.gov>, "Braun, Steven J" <SBraun@dwd.IN.gov>, "Lubsen, Graig" <GLubsen@iot.IN.gov>, "Myers, Janille (ISDH)" <jmyers@isch.in.gov>, "Timmerman, Chad E (GOV)" <ctimmerman@gov.in.gov>, "Dowd, Jaclyn (DWD)" <jcdowd@dwd.IN.gov>, "Stephen.simcox [REDACTED]" <Stephen.simcox@[REDACTED]>, "Jeff Cardwell" <jcardwell@[REDACTED]>, "mobst [REDACTED]" <mobst@[REDACTED]>, "emreece [REDACTED]" <emreece@[REDACTED]>, "Johnson, David" <DJohnson@gov.IN.gov>, "Lloyd, Matthew" <MLloyd@gov.IN.gov>, "Knab, Monica" <MKnab@sboe.in.gov>
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: Morning Clips - June 19, 2015

GOVERNOR/LT. GOVERNOR

'Jenny's Law' signed, extends rape statute of limitations

RTV6 – Kara Kenney

INDIANAPOLIS — Gov. Mike Pence ceremoniously signed a bill Thursday nicknamed "Jenny's Law" aimed at lengthening the statute of limitations for rape in Indiana.

Pence signs 'Jenny's Law'

WISH

INDIANAPOLIS (WISH) — Governor Mike Pence signed a new bill into law today to protect victims of sexual assault. The bill's called Jenny's law after Jenny Wendt.

Students hike around Lake Delaware for "Mile with Mike"

The Statehouse File — Staff

INDIANAPOLIS — Gov. Mike Pence and First Lady Karen Pence hosted a Mile with Mike at the Department of Natural Resources' Capital Campout at Fort Harrison State Park on Thursday.

*Subscription required. Full story below.

Defiant Pence vows to be tough campaigner in re-election bid

IndyStar — Tony Cook

A defiant Gov. Mike Pence pledged, despite poor poll numbers after a high-profile controversy over the state's new religious freedom law, to fight his political opponents — even if it means running a less positive campaign than the one he ran in 2012.

At GOP gathering, Pence comes out swinging

FW Journal Gazette – Niki Kelly

INDIANAPOLIS — Gov. Mike Pence didn't shy away from the controversy that has shaken his chances of re-election in a speech Thursday night. Instead, he practically spoiled for a fight.

Video & story: Pence says he's ready for election fight, says faith must coexist with changing culture

The Statehouse File – Max Bomber

INDIANAPOLIS — Republican Gov. Mike Pence said in a speech to launch his reelection bid Thursday that Hoosiers won't "tolerate discrimination against anyone."

*Subscription required. Full text below.

Pence launches re-election campaign at GOP fundraiser

NWI Times – Dan Carden

INDIANAPOLIS | Despite a recent poll finding a majority of Hoosiers want him gone, Gov. Mike Pence is confident his record on job growth, education reform, workforce training and health policy will help him win a second term.

House ignores veto threat, backs repeal of medical device tax

IndyStar – Maureen Groppe

WASHINGTON — The House on Thursday easily backed repeal of a tax on the medical device industry, which has a strong presence in Indiana.

AGENCIES/STATEWIDES

Artists needed for Bicentennial public art

Inside Indiana Business

State officials say the budget for the project is \$150,000-\$500,000 for each sculpture. IDOA will announce the final budget in August.

Supreme Court: States can reject specialty license plates

USA Today via IndyStar

WASHINGTON — States that sell specialty license plates promoting everything from "Choose Life" to "Conserve Water" can prohibit images like the Confederate flag, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled Thursday.

Indiana BMV license plate case to proceed despite federal ruling

IndyStar – Maureen Groppe

WASHINGTON — A U.S. Supreme Court decision confirming a state's right to decide which groups can be honored with specialty license plates means Indiana can continue to promote Purdue University, the National Rifle Association, the Indianapolis Colts and dozens of other organizations.

AROUND THE STATE

Indiana Chamber discusses state's report card

The Statehouse File – Katie Stancombe

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indiana Chamber presented its 2015 national rankings report, more specifically known as the Indiana Vision 2025 Report Card, on Thursday.

*Subscription required. Full text below.

Report card grades state's ups and downs

Inside Indiana Business

The Indiana Chamber of Commerce says improvements in the state's business and education climates are driving an "overall positive" economic development report card. The results are part of the chamber's two-year review of progress in its long-term Indiana Vision 2025 strategic plan. President Kevin Brinegar says the report suggests the state is still "mired" in low levels of post-secondary education attainment.

RDA funds could help spur \$160M in development

Inside Indiana Business

The approvals include a nearly \$7.5 million matching grant for the city of Gary to improve an access road near the Gary/Chicago International Airport. The RDA says the project is designed to separate traffic heading to industrial sites from visitors going to the Majestic Star Casino.

Former prosecutor Corne will seek Warrick judicial appointment

Evansville Courier & Press – Mark Wilson

Boonville, Ind. Former Warrick County prosecutor Todd Corne said he will seek appointment to finish the term of Warrick Superior Court Judge Keith Meier, who will retire Aug. 31.

Purdue's Indianapolis charter a pipeline to university

IndyStar – Kris Turner

Purdue University said Thursday it is launching a new charter high school in Indianapolis to narrow the opportunity and tech skills gaps by directly admitting low-income and minority students to the university upon graduation.

Indy church leaders mourn victims of Charleston massacre

IndyStar – Jill Disis

There were tears Thursday night at St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church, where many in various Indianapolis religious communities gathered to remember the nine victims of a fatal church shooting a day earlier in Charleston, S.C.

USI, Crane to re-ignite partnership

Inside Indiana Business

The event will offer networking opportunities and showcase student projects from the Technology Commercialization Academy that harnessed Crane technology. Other USI-sponsored programs related to commercialization include the Eagle Innovation Accelerator and Tech on Tap.

LEGISLATURE

New law: Good Samaritan law aims to help kids stuck in cars

TheStatehouseFile.com – Katie Stancombe

House Bill 1161 provides that a "child" is any individual under the age of 18 who is unable to exit a motor vehicle on his or her own.

*Subscription required. Full text below.

EDITORIALS

No 1,000-percent markups at Indy's hospitals. Just 450 percent, 440 percent...

IBJ – J.K. Wall

Finally, there's a ranking that shows Indiana's hospitals on the good side of the national average when it comes to the price of their services.

*Subscription required. Full text below.

Business Insider: Power of partnership can help Indiana

IndyStar – John Ketzenberger

Juan Pablo Montoya had barely finished his victory lap after this year's Indianapolis 500 when the news from Indiana's Department of Labor hit. Unemployment for April was just 5.4 percent, and the state was nearing its historic peak in the number of employed Hoosiers.

Tully: Dear America, this is the real Indiana

IndyStar

I hope you're watching, America. I hope Californians, New Yorkers and all the rest — all of those who tossed understandable criticism Indiana's way three months back — are paying attention to what's been going since in the land of Hoosiers. Because what's been going on since the religious freedom spotlight faded, after the cable news networks and everyone else turned away, paints a more accurate picture of who we are in Indiana.

GUEST COMMENTARY: New partnership is good for Gary schools, Indiana

NWI Times – State Sen. Earline Rogers

There's no doubt that Gary schools and the students they serve face enormous challenges. Gary's once robust economy has given way to a period of declining property tax collections from major corporations like U.S. Steel, a halt in revenues from property tax caps and declining residential and student populations.

Students hike around Lake Delaware for "Mile with Mike"

The Statehouse File – Staff

INDIANAPOLIS — Gov. Mike Pence and First Lady Karen Pence hosted a Mile with Mike at the Department of Natural Resources' Capital Campout at Fort Harrison State Park on Thursday. The Capital Campout is one of more than a dozen outdoor experiences hosted by governors across the United States. It promotes outdoor recreation as part of Great Outdoors Month. Governor Pence declared June as Great Outdoors Month in Indiana. He also read the proclamation attached at Thursday's event.

"Great Outdoors Month is a perfect opportunity for our Mile with Mike effort and to share with young Hoosiers the importance of being healthy, getting exercise, and enjoying Indiana's many outdoor recreational activities," said Pence in a statement. "I'm thankful to the organizations, public agencies, and businesses that work every day to create exceptional experiences for Hoosiers at the many state parks and trails Indiana offers."

Participants came from the LeGore Boys and Girls Club, Christel House Academy, Boy Scout Troop 123 and Girl Scout Troop 7538. They first took part in traditional state park activities such as fishing and horseback riding and then hiked around Delaware Lake with the state's leader.

"Being outside today for Capital Campout reminded me of my own youth, camping and having fun at state parks all over Indiana," said the First Lady in a statement. "We had a great time today sharing with these young people how much fun they can have enjoying outdoor activities all over our state."

"Indiana's Capital Campout is one of several tools that the Indiana Department of Natural Resources is using to encourage youngsters to get outdoors," said DNR Director Cam Clark in a statement.

Clark said other efforts include the Indiana Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights, which is Indiana State Parks' new curriculum that includes opportunities for free visits for students.

For more information about Indiana State Parks programs for youth and schools can be found at stateparks.IN.gov/2419.htm and dnr.IN.gov/kids.

Video & story: Pence says he's ready for election fight, says faith must coexist with changing culture

The Statehouse File – Max Bomber

INDIANAPOLIS – Republican Gov. Mike Pence said in a speech to launch his reelection bid Thursday that Hoosiers won't "tolerate discrimination against anyone."

But Pence said the state's gay rights debate can't be about "winners and losers."
"We should protect freedom," Pence said. "Period."

Pence was speaking to an uproar over the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, even though he never mentioned it by name. Pence signed the legislation into law last spring, saying it protected Hoosiers' rights to practice their religious beliefs. But critics claimed that would lead to discrimination against people who are gay, bisexual and transgender.

The state is still dealing with the backlash – and Pence acknowledged Thursday that "as governor, I bear some responsibility for that." But he has resisted calls to back legislation to add sexual orientation to the state's civil rights law, which bans discrimination based on gender, race, religion and disability.

Speaking to more than 800 Republicans gathered for a party dinner, Pence said that "in the changing tides of popular culture, there must be room for faith."

"We will find our way forward as a state that respects the dignity and worth of every individual," Pence said. "And we will ensure that no government intervention, no government coercion will interfere with the freedom of conscience and freedom of religion enshrined in our state and federal Constitution." The governor's reelection announcement comes against a backdrop of poor approval numbers that show Hoosiers are frustrated about his handling of gay rights and education.

A survey conducted this month by Republican pollster Christine Matthews shows Pence is in a statistical dead heat in head to head matchups with the leading Democratic candidates. And more than half of the respondents said they support adding sexual orientation to the state's Civil Rights law.

Earlier Thursday, Pence dismissed the poll, saying the only numbers that matter will come on Election Day in 2016. But he acknowledged that he will be judged by the actions in his first term.

"When you're an incumbent in reelection your results in office are all fair game," Pence said.

And Democrats say those results won't satisfy voters – particularly when it comes to gay rights.

"Now Republicans say things are fixed. Is our reputation fixed? Why has the governor had to engage the services of a PR agency possibly at the expense of maybe \$2 million to try and restore their reputation" said Senate Minority Leader Tim Lanane D-Anderson, on Thursday.

Protestors outside the Primo Banquet Hall on the south side of Indianapolis chanted and waved "Fire Mike Pence" signs.

But inside the hall, Republicans – who paid \$150 per ticket – gave Pence warm a welcome. And he promised them he'd fight to win reelection – despite past promises never to run a negative campaign. "For those expecting a campaign like 2012, they will be disappointed," Pence said of an effort that included only positive television messages. "I have long believed that negative personal attacks have no place in public life and I hope our opponents feel the same way.

"But elections are about choices and Hoosiers deserve to know the records of those who would lead our state," he said. "If our opponents choose to talk about our record, we will return the favor. And we will make sure that the choice in this election is clear."

Pence said Indiana's economy was among the best in the nation. "With General Motors announcing a \$1.2 billion investment in their Fort Wayne plant just few weeks ago, our policies represent three years in a row of record investment and more than \$3 billion this year alone," he said.

But Democrats argued earlier Thursday that Pence's record on economic growth, education reform, and providing health care for low-income Hoosiers doesn't match the governor's rhetoric.

"The problem is that we have a leader that doesn't even recognize we have a problem," said House Minority Leader Scott Pelath, D-Michigan City, "We need to have the type of state where our kids want to stay and prosper along side of us."

Indiana Chamber discusses state's report card

The Statehouse File – Katie Stancombe

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indiana Chamber presented its 2015 national rankings report, more specifically known as the Indiana Vision 2025 Report Card, on Thursday.

The progress plan was put into place in 2012 and includes 33 goals to achieve in four main areas:

- Outstanding Talent
- Attractive Business Climate
- Superior Infrastructure
- Dynamic and Creative Culture

Current results follow a previous report conducted in 2013 that established benchmarks in 59 statistical metrics. The metrics help measure nearly all of the goals included in Indiana Vision 2025.

According to the Indiana Chamber Foundation, "Indiana Vision 2025 is comprehensive effort, coordinated by the Indiana Chamber of Commerce, to provide leadership, direction and a long-range economic development strategy for the state of Indiana." The effort launched in 2012 and was a collaboration by a 24-member committee.

Of these 59 metrics, Indiana has improved its national ranking in 28 areas, declined in 19 areas, and remained the same or had no updated data available in 12.

"This plan and this effort has produced results and we believe it will continue to produce results," said Chamber CEO Kevin Brinegar. "Because it helps sharpen the focus on what we need to do across the street for Indiana to be in the best competitive position and for Hoosiers to have the best chance to prosper."

Some of the highlighted areas of advancement include:

- Number one national ranking of Regulatory Freedom Index Tax
- Improved math and reading scores of fourth and eighth grade Hoosiers, ranking in the top ten across the nation
- Poverty rates soared from a rank of 35 to a rank of 16 nationwide in just two years.

However, from the report, it is evident that Indiana's entrepreneurial activity has been in decline for more than a decade.

"We need more entrepreneurs and they need more money to develop their ideas," Brinegar said. "Many efforts are going on, but they're not yielding enough results, at least as indicated in the reports of this report card."

In response to concerns about potential negative economic impact as a result of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act and the recent HIV breakout in Scott County, Vice President of Economic Development Cameron Carter said that these issues are "not helpful, but not stopping us."

"You cannot keep good ideas and good people down," Carter said. "We will get past this. We can't measure the economic impact just yet."

He also said that the negative headlines across the state and nation are not "the face of Indiana."

New law: Good Samaritan law aims to help kids stuck in cars

TheStatehouseFile.com — Katie Stancombe

INDIANAPOLIS — A new law will protect a person who breaks into a locked vehicle to save a child in danger.

"You shouldn't be afraid of liability if a child's life is at stake," said Amber Rollins, director of KidsandCars.org.

House Bill 1161 provides that a "child" is any individual under the age of 18 who is unable to exit a motor vehicle on his or her own.

The bill will grant immunity to an individual who:

- Determines the car is locked and that there is no other way of getting the child out.
- Has a good faith belief that the child is in serious danger of suffering harm if not immediately removed.
- Contacts law enforcement before or as soon as they are able.
- Uses no more force than necessary.

- Remains with the child near the vehicle until law enforcements arrive at the scene.

The bill's author, Rep. Philip GiaQuinta D-Fort Wayne, said that after hearing a story of a rescue case from another state, he thought that creating the immunity was a "good idea."

"Someone had helped somebody else break into the car window and while the mother was grateful for the help, she tried to sue the person for damages to the window," GiaQuinta said. But he said there was no Indiana case that sparked his interest.

GiaQuinta said that the law will now become part of a list of "Good Samaritan laws" already on the books and will take some education on the public's behalf.

Rollins said that KidsandCars feel it is "very important" to have a law like this in any state. "I think in a lot of situations people think that they shouldn't get involved and it's none of their business," Rollins said. "This type of legislation sends a clear message that the public should get involved."

Rollins said that it's "critically important" that parents or other adults don't leave children in the car alone – for any amount of time.

"There is no safe amount of time for a child to be left alone in a vehicle," Rollins said. "Not for one minute, not for thirty seconds – never."

Some of the greenhouse effects in vehicles:

The inside of a vehicle heats up very quickly. Even with the windows cracked, the temperature inside a car can reach 125 degrees in minutes.

Cracking the windows does not help slow the heating process or decrease the maximum temperature. 80 percent of the increase in temperature happens in the first 10 minutes.

Children have died from heatstroke in cars in temps as low as 60 degrees.

No 1,000-percent markups at Indy's hospitals. Just 450 percent, 440 percent...

IBJ – J.K. Wall

Finally, there's a ranking that shows Indiana's hospitals on the good side of the national average when it comes to the price of their services.

Indiana hospitals' list prices, or charges, are a mere 320 percent of what the federal Medicare program pays, according to data collected for an article on "extreme markups" by hospitals, published this month in the journal Health Affairs.

Said another way, the list prices for Indiana hospital services are more than three times what the federal Medicare program determines is the cost of providing that service.

That's actually lower than the national average markup of 340 percent, according to an analysis of 2012 hospital reports conducted by Ge Bai, an accounting professor at Washington and Lee University and Gerard Anderson, a well-known health policy expert at Johns Hopkins University.

Bai and Anderson's study got the world of health wonks more than a little excited and generated headlines like these:

"The Hospitals that Overcharge Patients by 1,000 Percent" (The Atlantic)

"50 Hospitals with Extreme Markups Revealed" (HealthLeaders Media)

"Hospital Greed Frenzy; The American Norm" (Ring of Fire Radio)

Before folks get into too much of a tizzy, it's worth noting that the practice of high markups followed by discounts is hardly unique to hospitals. In fact, according to this article, hospital markups are in roughly the same range as that used for boutique designer jeans, high-end shoes and hot-selling eyeglass frames. And they don't hold a candle to the markups on prescription drugs.

The good news for Indiana is that the state is not home to any of the 50 hospitals whose markups range from 920 percent to 1,260 percent of Medicare's prices. (If you want to read the list of the 50 hospitals with the highest markups, go [here](#).)

Few if any people actually pay hospitals' listed charges. However, Bai and Anderson's study makes clear the standard practice of aggressive markups at hospitals is harmful in more ways than people usually think.

High markups have no impact on the prices the Medicare and Medicaid programs set. Nor are the charges used much any more, as they once were, as starting points in price negotiations between hospitals and private health insurers, such as Anthem Inc.

But charges are used to calculate bills for uninsured patients. Obamacare mandates that those discounts be about 40 percent, but that discount off a 320-percent markup is still astronomical.

Also, patients who receive care at an out-of-network hospital (which is a growing possibility with narrow-network plans offered on the Obamacare exchanges) would be subject to the list prices.

In addition, casualty insurers (think of medical expenses paid by your auto insurance carrier) or worker's comp insurers typically pay out-of-network charges. That's because their policies promise coverage at any provider, making it difficult for those carriers to negotiate discounts in advance.

And these high charges can even trickle down to privately insured health plans, note Bai and Anderson.

"Hospitals with substantial market power can use the high markups as leverage with private insurers in price negotiations," Bai and Anderson wrote in their Health Affairs article. "High markups and the possibility for high revenues from out-of-network patients make the option of joining a network less attractive to these hospitals, so they are less willing to negotiate with private insurers."

(I would add that insurers with the market power to negotiate with hospitals in the Indianapolis and Indiana markets (read: Anthem) have traditionally opted to keep providers in their networks rather than going to the mat with them on prices. After all, employers and even individual customers in Indiana have consistently demanded it.)

Researchers have found that private health insurers are paying markups in the Indianapolis area of 364

percent of Medicare rates for outpatient services and 188 percent of Medicare rates for inpatient services.

Medicare's pre-set prices do not reflect hospitals' actual costs in all or even most cases (in fact, hospitals have become quite good at growing services for which Medicare prices are profitable and minimizing money-losing services). But recent research has shown have shown that hospitals with costs higher than Medicare's prices are usually those able to charge higher prices to private insurers.

As you can see below, the markups at 30 hospitals in central Indiana (for which Bai and Anderson had data in their study) included plenty that were at or above the national average:

Stephanie Hodgkin
Communications Specialist
Office of Governor Michael R. Pence
shodgin@gov.in.gov
Office: 317-234-8926



From: Gilson, Katie
Sent: Thu 6/25/2015 8:45 AM (GMT-04:00)
To: "Quyle, Lindsay" <LQuyle@gov.IN.gov>, "Anderson, Christopher M" <CAnderson@gov.in.gov>, "Hodgin, Stephanie" <SHodgin@gov.in.gov>, "#All Governor's Office" <al.govoffice@gov.IN.gov>, "Bailey, Brian (OMB)" <bbailey@gov.in.gov>, "Plitcock, Josh" <jplitcock@sso.org>, "Baker, Lou Ann (DWD)" <baker@dwd.IN.gov>, "Rosebrough, Dennis (LG)" <DRosebrough@lg.IN.gov>, "Rossier, Sarah (SBOE)" <SRossier@sboe.IN.gov>, "McKinney, Ted" <TMckinney@lsda.IN.gov>, "Bausman, David" <DBausman@lsda.IN.gov>, "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "#All Lieutenant Governor's Office" <#AllLieutenantGovernorsOffice@gov.IN.gov>, "Smith, Tom" <tomsmith@gov.IN.gov>, "Karns, Allison" <AKarns@gov.IN.gov>, "Brookes, Brady" <BBrookes@gov.IN.gov>, "Triol, Shelley" <STriol@gov.IN.gov>, "Wall, Kathryn E" <KWall@gov.IN.gov>, "Rood, Katie" <KRood@gov.IN.gov>, "Griffis, Andrew D (IER)" <AGriffis@ier.IN.gov>, "Betley, James" <JBetley@gov.IN.gov>, "Schlake, Josh" <JSchlake@gov.IN.gov>, "McCleery, William" <WMcCleery@iot.IN.gov>, "Aycok, Hailey" <HAycok@gov.IN.gov>, "Braun, Steven J" <SBraun@dwd.IN.gov>, "Lubsen, Craig" <GLubsen@iot.IN.gov>, "Myers, Janille (ISDH)" <jmyers@isdh.in.gov>, "Timmerman, Chad E (GOV)" <ctimmerman@gov.in.gov>, "Dowd, Jaclyn (DWD)" <jcdowd@dwd.IN.gov>, "Stephen.simcox" <simcox@gov.IN.gov>, "Jeff Cardwell" <jcardwell@gov.IN.gov>, "mobst" <mobst@gov.IN.gov>, "emreese" <emreese@gov.IN.gov>, "Johnson, David" <DJohnson@gov.IN.gov>, "Lloyd, Matthew" <MLloyd@gov.IN.gov>, "Knab, Monica" <MKnab@sboe.in.gov>

Cc:

Bcc:

Subject: Morning Clips- June 25, 2015

GOVERNOR/LT. GOVERNOR

Pence makes P-47 fighter Indiana's official airplane

Evansville Courier & Press

Indiana Gov. Mike Pence on Wednesday signed into law a bill making the Evansville-made P-47 Thunderbolt fighter the state's official airplane.

*Subscription required, full text below

Indiana delegation visits Alibaba

Inside IN Business

Alibaba founder Jack Ma recently emphasized the company's expansion plans do not include major entry into the United States. Rather, he says the focus will be on getting more American businesses to use the Alibaba platform to do business in China. Lieutenant Governor Sue Ellspermann is leading the 18-member Hoosier delegation. Day one activities included meetings with government and business groups and a luncheon, featuring duck from Kosciusko County-based Maple Leaf Farms. China is by far the world's largest market for duck and an important destination for Maple Leaf exports. The company entered into a joint venture with Shandong Yonghui Foods in the Shandong Province of China in 2010.

Pence: Indiana won't comply with EPA plan in current form

Evansville Courier & Press

Gov. Mike Pence announced on Wednesday the state will not comply with an impending federal plan to reduce carbon emissions from power plants unless the proposal is "significantly improved" before being finalized.

*Subscription required, full text below

Pence: Indiana won't comply with Clean Power Act unless significant changes are made

The Statehouse File

Gov. Mike Pence sent a letter Wednesday to President Barack Obama that said Indiana couldn't afford to comply with the Clean Power Act.

*Subscription required, full text below

Pence Rejects EPA Rule in Current Form

Inside IN Business

The Clean Power Plan calls for the state to cut carbon dioxide emissions by 20 percent from 2005 levels by 2030. Indiana is one of fourteen petitioners in *State of West Virginia et al v. Environmental Protection Agency*. Earlier this month, the U.S. Court of Appeals ruled it does not have the authority to review proposed EPA rules. The EPA is expected to release the final rule later this summer.

Indiana says it won't follow EPA climate rule without changes

The Hill

Indiana is prepared to ignore the Obama administration's climate rule for power plants unless the regulation is changed considerably from last year's proposal, according to the state's governor. "If your administration proceeds to finalize the Clean Power Plan, and the final rule has not demonstrably and significantly improved from the proposed rule, Indiana will not comply," Pence wrote. "I believe the Clean Power Plan as proposed is a vast overreach of federal power that exceeds the EPA's proper legal authority and fails to strike the proper balance between the health of the environment and the health of the economy," he continued.

Mike Pence says Indiana will buck Obama's EPA Climate Plan

The National Journal

Indiana Gov. Mike Pence says his state won't comply with the Environmental Protection Agency's effort to curb carbon dioxide from power plants—unless the administration dramatically overhauls its regulation.

House passes bill to let states ignore Obama's climate change rule

National Journal

Indiana Gov. Mike Pence said on Wednesday that, barring massive changes in the final rule, his state would opt out of the plan. Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker, a presidential contender, has indicated he would do the same, while Oklahoma Gov. Mary Fallin has officially promised to opt out.

Pence: EPA must change emissions rules or Indiana won't comply

Indy Star

Indiana will refuse to comply with pending federal rules restricting greenhouse gas emissions from power plants unless major revisions are made, Gov. Mike Pence wrote in a letter to President Barack Obama on Wednesday.

Mike Pence, Indiana governor, says he'll defy Obama's carbon regulations

The Washington Times

In a letter to President Obama, Mr. Pence demanded that major changes be made to the plan. If those changes are not made, the governor said his state will defy the Environmental Protection Agency regulations, formally known as the Clean Power Plan.

Pence threatens to refuse to comply with pending EPA rules

Lafayette Journal & Courier

Indiana will refuse to comply with pending rules restricting greenhouse gas emissions from power plants without major changes, Gov. Mike Pence wrote in a letter to President Barack Obama today.

Report Underscores Career, Technical Ed Focus

Inside IN Business

Chalkbeat Indiana Staff Reporter Shaina Cavazos says she thinks the state is poised to continue focusing on aligning education with the needs of business. She says an example of the emphasis is Governor Mike Pence's appointment of Project Lead The Way President and Chief Executive Officer Vince Bertram to the Indiana State Board of Education.

Governor appoints student trustee for USI

USI EDU

Indiana Governor Mike Pence has appointed Evan Stieler of Newburgh, Indiana, to the University of Southern Indiana Board of Trustees. Effective July 1, he will serve as a student trustee for two years.

LEGISLATURE

Indiana kids just say no to school lunches

Indy Star

"From firsthand experience, I can verify that despite the increased federal involvement in the school meals program, many students are still going to class hungry," said Rep. Todd Rokita, the Indianapolis Republican who called the hearing as head of a panel on the House Education and Workforce Committee.

Tallian touts work with Legislature in gubernatorial bid

NWI Times

State Sen. Karen Tallian says she's the only candidate aiming to unseat Gov. Mike Pence that has a current working relationship with the Legislature.

STATE WIDES

Indiana awaits decision on waiver from federal education law

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Indiana education officials expect to know in the coming months whether the state will have continued flexibility from the requirements of federal No Child Left Behind law.

Indy Public Safety Director takes new job

Inside IN Business

Riggs will lead public safety projects for the institute. He has been with the city since 2012, and begins his new role in August. He previously held public safety positions at police departments in Corpus Christi and Louisville.

Daniels to Testify in Washington

Inside IN Business

The Daniels Administration launched the Major Moves initiative early in his first term. The effort was boosted by leasing the Indiana Toll Road to a private consortium for \$3.8 billion. The deal helped fund projects around the state including extending I-69 from south of Indianapolis to Evansville and improvements to U.S. 31 between South Bend and Indianapolis.

Appeal's court throws out smoking ban exemption

ABC 6

The Indiana Court of Appeals has thrown out one of the exemptions in the Indianapolis smoking ban.

AROUND INDIANA

How would this hypothetical RFRA case play out?

Indy Star

A panel will discuss the constitutional and philosophical questions raised by the Religious Freedom Restoration Act at a free event at 6 p.m. today at the Indiana University McKinney School of Law's Wynne Courtroom and Atrium, Inlow Hall, 530 W. New York St.

4 arrested in connection with southern Indiana HIV outbreak

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Authorities say four men have been arrested after allegedly distributing drugs that have fueled the largest HIV outbreak in Indiana history.

Chuck Brewer to Joe Hogsett: Let's debate, a lot

Indy Star

Indianapolis mayoral candidate Chuck Brewer this week challenged Joe Hogsett to a slew of debates — nine in all, one for every township in the city.

Chamber continues vision 2025 Forums

Inside IN Business

Chamber President Kevin Brinegar calls the report card, released earlier this month, "overall positive," but says the state is still struggling with low post-secondary education attainment levels.

EDITORIAL

Cornerstone laid for redevelopment in Gary

NWI Times

A new structure being erected in Gary is building ties between Indiana University Northwest and Ivy Tech Community College Northwest, and an entire neighborhood.

Pence makes P-47 fighter Indiana's official airplane

Mark Wilson

Indiana Gov. Mike Pence on Wednesday signed into law a bill making the Evansville-made P-47 Thunderbolt fighter the state's official airplane.

Republic Aviation made 6,670 of the airplanes in a facility built in a cornfield at what is now the site of the former Whirlpool plant on U.S. 41 from 1942 to 1945.

"The first aircraft flew out of Republic Aviation five months after work on its building started in 1942, before the building was even finished," said Richard Litov, president of Freedom Heritage Museum.

The museum hosted the signing ceremony in a hangar near Evansville Regional Airport serving as the museum's temporary home while it raises money to construct a permanent building memorializing the city's contributions to the World War II effort.

"It is clear this Hoosier-made aircraft played a vital role in protecting our freedoms," Pence said.

Also attending the ceremony were state Sen. Vaneta Becker and state representatives Ron Bacon, Wendy McNamara and Gail Riecken, who all helped move the bill through the General Assembly, and Mayor Lloyd Winnecke.

"I was thrilled to sponsor it. The reason is my mother was an employee of Republic Aviation," Bacon said.

Allen Sanderson was among several veterans and residents who participated in the city's war effort invited to the ceremony.

"It was a great airplane. You could tell the minute you got in it that it was a real quality product made in Evansville, Indiana," Sanderson said.

He said he was impressed when he first encountered P-47s during flight school.

"I took one look at it and I thought that's too much plane for one man," he said. "It weighed seven tons empty. Fully loaded with eight machine guns, six rockets and a 500-pound bomb it was a real formidable thing to have. It had good speed. It was durable."

Sanderson went on to fly the planes with the 57th Fighter Group in North Africa and Italy during the war. A Virginia native, in 1958 his job relocated him to Evansville — where P-47s were made.

"It was dependable. It had lots of power, lots of power. I saw people get pretty banged up in it and still make it back," he said.

Pence: Indiana won't comply with EPA plan in current form

Chelsea Schneider

Gov. Mike Pence announced on Wednesday the state will not comply with an impending federal plan to reduce carbon emissions from power plants unless the proposal is "significantly improved" before being finalized.

The announcement comes the same day as Pence is visiting Vanderburgh County. Pence has repeatedly expressed his opposition to the proposed Clean Power Plan by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. In a letter Pence wrote to President Barack Obama released on Wednesday, he said the state will "reserve the right to use any legal means available to block the rule from being implemented."

"Our nation needs an 'all of the above' energy strategy that relies on a variety of different energy sources," Pence wrote in the letter. "Energy policy should promote the safe, environmentally responsible stewardship of our natural resources with the goal of reliable, affordable energy. Your approach to energy policy places environmental concerns above all others."

According to the state, the plan requires Indiana to reduce carbon emissions 20 percent by 2030. That reduction for the coal-reliant state is based on 2005 levels. Pence believes the plan will increase electricity costs for Hoosiers and hurt economic growth in the state.

The final rule is set for release in August.

In drafting the rule, the EPA is taking into account "unprecedented input," including more than 4 million comments submitted on the proposal, according to a spokesperson for the agency.

"This vital input is giving the agency the opportunity to address a wide range of issues in the draft final rule that will deliver a clean, affordable and reliable electricity supply, drive American innovation and American jobs, and that will demonstrate U.S. leadership within the international community," according to the agency in response to Pence's letter.

Meanwhile, the Sierra Club decried the latest move in Pence's ongoing protest over the federal plan.

"Hoosier families want and deserve clean air for our kids and clean energy jobs for our communities," said Jodi Perras, a state representative for the Sierra Club's Beyond Coal campaign. "Gov. Pence has shown repeatedly that his allegiance lies not with protecting our families, but with protecting the profits of Big Coal and dirty fossil fuels. We deserve better."

Pence: Indiana won't comply with Clean Power Act unless significant changes are made

June 24, 2015 | Filed under: [Environment](#), [Top stories](#) | Posted by: [Aubrey Helm's](#)

By Max Bomber

[TheStatehouseFile.com](#)

INDIANAPOLIS— Gov. Mike Pence sent a letter Wednesday to President Barack Obama that said Indiana couldn't afford to comply with the Clean Power Act.

Pence said the act was "ill-conceived and poorly constructed." Pence also said unless the final rule significantly changes the act, the state will not comply. He said the state would use any legal means necessary to counter the rule.

The Environment Protection Agency's Clean Power Plan calls for a 20 percent reduction in carbon dioxide emissions from 2005 levels in Indiana by 2030. Pence said Indiana has already taken strides to diversify its energy portfolio by pulling energy from wind, solar and nuclear power from reactors in Michigan. Along with those alternative energies, the state has a natural gas market that is "on the verge of a breakthrough," Pence said in the letter.

The rules do not provide a plan on how states are to achieve the mandated reduction, but for Hoosiers' Pence said in the letter "Indiana will have to fundamentally change the way electricity is dispatched." The policy will increase the cost of electricity and run the risk of closing coal-fired power plants.

More than 26,000 Hoosiers are employed in the coal industry. "I am deeply concerned about the impacts of the Clean Power Plan on our state, especially our job creators, the poor, and the elderly who cannot afford more expensive, less reliable energy," Pence said in his letter.

Jodi Perras, Indiana representative for the Sierra Club's Beyond Coal campaign, said in a statement, "Gov. Pence has shown repeatedly that his allegiance lies not with protecting our families, but with protecting the profits of Big Coal and dirty fossil fuels. We deserve better."

Perras calls the goal of reducing Indiana's output by 20 percent by 2030 "modest."

"If the Indiana General Assembly had not repealed the state-wide energy efficiency program known as Energizing Indiana last year, Indiana would be on track to surpass the 2020 goals outlined in the Clean Power Plan," Perras said in a statement.

In 2014, the National Climate Assessment was published at the White House by a group of agriculture, climate science, and commerce and disaster relief experts. The report shows that 11 of the 14 most expensive U.S. weather related disasters were in the Midwest. And Indiana can expect more, in addition to heat waves, storms and poor air and water quality.

"We urge Gov. Pence to put an end to this charade and develop a common-sense plan for our state built on energy efficiency, clean energy and 21st century jobs for working families and communities," Perras said in the statement.

From: Gilson, Katie
Sent: Mon 4/20/2015 8:49 AM (GMT-04:00)
To: "Quyle, Lindsay" <LQuyle@gov.IN.gov>, "Anderson, Christopher M" <CAnderson@gov.in.gov>, "Hodgin, Stephanie" <SHodgin@gov.in.gov>, "#All Governor's Office" <al.govoffice@gov.IN.gov>, "Bailey, Brian (OMB)" <bbailey@gov.in.gov>, "Pitcock, Josh" <jpitcock@sso.org>, "Baker, Lou Ann (DWD)" <baker@dwd.IN.gov>, "Rosebrough, Dennis (LG)" <DRosebrough@lg.IN.gov>, "Rossier, Sarah (SBOE)" <SRossier@sboe.IN.gov>, "McKinney, Ted" <TMckinney@isda.IN.gov>, "Bausman, David" <DBausman@isda.IN.gov>, "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "#All Lieutenant Governor's Office" <#AllLieutenantGovernorsOffice@gov.IN.gov>, "smith@ [REDACTED]" <smith@[REDACTED]>, "tomrose [REDACTED]" <tomrose@[REDACTED]>, "Karns, Allison" <AKarns@gov.IN.gov>, "Brookes, Brady" <BBrookes@gov.IN.gov>, "Triol, Shelley" <STriol@isda.IN.gov>, "Wall, Kathryn E" <KWall@gov.IN.gov>, "Marty Obst" <martyobst@mikepence.com>, "Reed, Katie" <KReed@gov.IN.gov>, "Griffis, Andrew D (IER)" <AGriffis@ier.IN.gov>, "Betley, James" <JBetley@gov.IN.gov>, "Schlake, Josh" <JSchlake@gov.IN.gov>, "McCleery, William" <WMcCleery@iot.IN.gov>, "Aycock, Hailey" <HAycock@gov.IN.gov>, "Braun, Steven J" <SBraun@dwd.IN.gov>, "Lubsen, Graig" <GLubsen@iot.IN.gov>, "Myers, Janille (ISDH)" <JanMyers@isdh.IN.gov>, "Timmerman, Chad E (GOV)" <ctimmerman@gov.in.gov>, "Dowd, Jaclyn (DWD)" <jdowd@dwd.IN.gov>, "Stephen.simcox [REDACTED]" <Stephen.simcox@[REDACTED]>, "Jeff Cardwell" <jcardwell@[REDACTED]>, "mobst [REDACTED]" <mobst@[REDACTED]>
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: Morning Clips- April 20, 2015

GOVERNOR/FIRST LADY

WISH Honors 'I love read' challenge participants

TVNEWSCHECK

For a quarter century, Media General's CW affiliate WISH Indianapolis (DMA 27) has challenged Central Indiana students to read more through the "I Love to Read" challenge. The 2015 winners and participants will be recognized Tuesday, April 21, at The Children's Museum at 10:30 a.m. WISH anchors Eric Halvorson and Lori Wilson will emcee the ceremony with special guest, Indiana First Lady Karen Pence.

Pence signs bill to expand use of heroin overdose antidote

The Statehouse File

Gov. Mike Pence has signed a bill that's meant to help save drug users who've overdosed on heroin or other narcotic.

*Subscription require, full text below

Pence inks signature on new laws

NWI Times

With the Indiana General Assembly set to complete its work for the year April 29, the legislative process has begun shifting to the final step — Gov. Mike Pence signing measures approved by the House and Senate into law, or vetoing them.

LEGISLATURE

Legislators explain votes on RFRA

Goshen News

Questions regarding the state's contentious Religious Freedom Restoration Act had local legislators defending their votes during Saturday's third House session in downtown Goshen.

State lawmakers have differing visions on ISTEP's future

NWI Times

The Indiana House and Senate are at odds over a proposal to scrap the much-maligned statewide standardized test that more than 400,000 students take each year.

Money for local corrections comes with strings

Goshen News

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

Indiana Legislature nearing deadline with unsettled issues

Evansville Courier & Press

Indiana lawmakers face decisions on the new state budget and some other contentious issues with less than two weeks remaining in this year's legislative session.

*Subscription required, full text below

Fallout over 'religious freedom' law mounting

Evansville Courier & Press

Some of the after effects of Indiana's time in the national spotlight are financial: The Indiana Economic Development Corp. last week hired Porter Novelli, an international public relations firm, to prop up the state's image. The Indiana Senate included \$1 million in additional money for tourism in its budget, in part, because of the "religious freedom" law.

*Subscription required, full text below

STATE AGENCIES

Indiana consults with NY on HIV crisis

Capital New York

Indiana officials called New York State's health department for advice on how to deal with an H.I.V. epidemic currently plaguing Scott County, in the southeast corner of the state.

AROUND INDIANA

Indy pastor launches local 'Black Men Matter' campaign

Indy Star

In a quiet room filled with mahogany-, brown- and almond-colored faces, the men and boys — most younger than 18 — discussed their worth.

Business owners concerned over E-Cigarette regulations bill

Tristate Home Page

First of its kind legislation to regulate electronic cigarettes in Indiana is now on the desk of Governor Mike Pence. And that has some local business owners concerned.

Footwear maker wins business plan competition

Inside Indiana Business

The winning venture of the 15th annual McCloskey Business Plan Competition addressed a nearly universal need, comfortable shoes.

Joe Hogsett has \$2.1 million for mayor's race. Ballard gave \$400,000 to Brewer

Indy Star

Democratic mayoral candidate Joe Hogsett has a war chest of more than \$2.1 million entering the May primary, dwarfing his Republican counterpart despite an injection of \$400,000 from the campaign of outgoing Mayor Greg Ballard.

South Bend Cubs set attendance record

Inside Indiana Business

A franchise record crowd of 7,575 fans packed Four Winds Field to see the South Bend Cubs play the Great Lake Loons on Saturday evening, April 18 at Four Winds Field in South Bend.

EDITORIAL

Lo3'anco: Beneath RFRA politics, an 'unknown' challenge

Indy Star

The focus on Gov. Mike Pence's deep wounds after the state's Religious Freedom Restoration Act debate has been the clear, and properly dominant, storyline of Indiana politics the past few weeks. But whether his potential opponents (of either party) have any recognition among voters (and an ability to strike successfully next year) also bears some consideration.

People's voice on education dwindling

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

The General Assembly seems determined to keep public input in check on education policy. In addition to diluting the authority of the elected superintendent of public instruction on the State Board of Education, the Senate version of the budget eliminates the once-effective Education Roundtable. Each measure diminishes the public's voice at the very time more input is needed.

Helping Indy's young black males required city- wide effort

Indy Star

Big community-wide problems require big community-wide solutions. Half measures just won't do.

Tell Pence no new building at state park

NWI Times

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources wants to put a brand new, three-story conference/banquet facility on the Indiana Dunes State Park beach right next to the iconic old pavilion building.

Rich James: 'Honest to goodness' doesn't work for Indiana

NWI Times

I knew it was a mistake a year or so ago when Indiana adopted the slogan: "Honest to Goodness, Indiana."

Pence signs bill to expand use of heroin overdose antidote

April 18, 2015 Filed under: [Health, Top stories](#) | Posted by: [Lesley Weidenbener](#)

By Lesley Weidenbener

[TheStatehouseFile.com](#)

INDIANAPOLIS Gov. Mike Pence has signed a bill that's meant to help save drug users who've overdosed on heroin or other narcotic.

Senate Bill 406 allows individuals to obtain and administer an overdose antidote known as Naloxone or Narcan to have on hand in case a friend or family member overdoses.

Previously, the law only allowed health professional, police and emergency workers to administer the drug.

"With the rise of heroin addiction across our state, this important legislation will make available overdose intervention treatments and will save lives in Indiana," Pence said in a statement.

"Families, friends and loved ones struggling with the scourge of opioid addiction will now have access to life-saving medications that work immediately when administered and will help prevent the heartbreaking loss of life we hear about too often in the case of drug overdoses," he said.

The antidote comes in a filled syringe that doesn't have a needle and can be shot up a user's nose after an overdose.

Rep. Dan Forrester, an Indianapolis firefighter who has seen the antidote used by first responders, has called it "nothing short of a miracle."

The drug has no known effects on someone who has not used heroin.

"The signing of this bill will save Hoosier lives," said Dr. Jerome Adams, commissioner of the Indiana State Department of Health. "Many overdoses happen in the presence of others and readily available naloxone is a proven method for bystanders and loved ones provide rescue assistance."

Data suggests that individuals whose lives are spared by overdose intervention drugs are more likely to seek treatment for their addiction, the governor's office said.

Indiana Legislature nearing deadline with unsettled issues

Indiana lawmakers face decisions on the new state budget and some other contentious issues with less than two weeks remaining in this year's legislative session.

Legislators return to the Statehouse on Monday still looking for agreements on topics such as whether to allow needle exchange programs in more counties in response to an HIV outbreak in southern Indiana.

Other unsettled issues include a proposal allowing the removal of Democratic state schools Superintendent Glenda Ritz as leader of the State Board of Education and whether to allow live dealers for table games at two horse track casinos near Indianapolis.

Fiscal leaders also are working on changes to school funding that could shift money from many urban and rural districts with shrinking enrollments to those in growing suburban communities.

Fallout over 'religious freedom' law mounting

Chelsea Schneider

Some of the after effects of Indiana's time in the national spotlight are financial: The Indiana Economic Development Corp. last week hired Porter Novelli, an international public relations firm, to prop up the state's image. The Indiana Senate included \$1 million in additional money for tourism in its budget, in part, because of the "religious freedom" law.

State Sen. Luke Kenney, the chamber's lead budget writer, said he thought the money was important in making sure the state doesn't lose its "good, strong and aggressive" image of being the right place to be.

"We thought that money would be helpful in making sure we address that issue," said Kenney, a Noblesville Republican, as he unveiled the Senate's budget plan.

While the price tag for mending the state's reputation following passage of the law is mounting, the political fallout is still a relative unknown for members of the Indiana General Assembly. However, a new poll released last week by Howey Politics Indiana begins to outline the impact for Gov. Mike Pence.

The poll by Howey Politics Indiana found 46 percent of respondents disapprove of the job Pence is doing as governor. The poll surveyed 607 registered voters in Indiana last week, following lawmakers clarifying that the law couldn't be used to discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.

Comparatively, a poll released in the fall had Pence at a 62 percent approval rating.

But the long-term impact of the law may be too early to gauge, and could ride on lawmakers considering statewide protections for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Hoosiers during the next General Assembly session.

House Speaker Brian Bosma, an Indianapolis Republican, said he hasn't assessed the political fallout, saying his focus remains on the remaining days of the legislative session.

"We are also quite a ways away from any election in the near future," Bosma said. "So the next crisis will occur. The next solution will be presented."

Senate President Pro Tem David Long, a Fort Wayne Republican, noted Senate Republicans have dealt with tough issues in the past and actually grew their numbers. But Long admitted he's never seen anything quite like what occurred over the "religious freedom" law.

"It's just an unfortunate circumstance that occurred," Long said. "We'll rebound from that, no problem. The whole state will. We certainly don't want to see anything like that happen again."

From: Gilson, Katie
Sent: Tue 4/21/2015 8:48 AM (GMT-04:00)
To: "Quyle, Lindsay" <LQuyle@gov.IN.gov>, "Anderson, Christopher M" <CAnderson@gov.in.gov>, "Hodgin, Stephanie" <SHodgin@gov.in.gov>, "#All Governor's Office" <allgovoffice@gov.IN.gov>, "Bailey, Brian (OMB)" <bbailey@gov.in.gov>, "Pitcock, Josh" <jpitcock@sso.org>, "Baker, Lou Ann (DWD)" <lbaker@dwd.IN.gov>, "Rosebrough, Dennis (LG)" <DRosebrough@g.IN.gov>, "Rossler, Sarah (SBOE)" <SRossler@sboe.IN.gov>, "McKinney, Ted" <TMckinney@isda.IN.gov>, "Bausman, David" <DBausman@isda.IN.gov>, "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "#All Lieutenant Governor's Office" <#AllLieutenantGovernorsOffice@gov.IN.gov>, "smith@ [REDACTED]" <smith@[REDACTED]>, "tomrose [REDACTED]" <tomrose@[REDACTED]>, "Kams, Allison" <AKams@gov.IN.gov>, "Brookes, Brady" <BBrookes@gov.IN.gov>, "Triol, Shelley" <STriol@isda.IN.gov>, "Wall, Kathryn E" <KWall@gov.IN.gov>, "Marty Obst" <martyobst@mikepence.com>, "Reed, Katie" <KReed@gov.IN.gov>, "Griffis, Andrew D (IER)" <AGriffis@ier.IN.gov>, "Betley, James" <JBetley@gov.IN.gov>, "Schlake, Josh" <JSchlake@gov.IN.gov>, "McCleery, William" <WMccleery@iol.IN.gov>, "Aycock, Hailey" <HAycock@gov.IN.gov>, "Braun, Steven J" <SBraun@dwd.IN.gov>, "Lubsen, Graig" <GLubsen@iol.IN.gov>, "Myers, Janille (ISDH)" <JanMyers@isdh.IN.gov>, "Timmerman, Chad E (GOV)" <ctimmerman@gov.in.gov>, "Dowd, Jaclyn (DWD)" <jdowd@dwd.IN.gov>, "Stephen.simcox [REDACTED]" <Stephen.simcox@[REDACTED]>, "Jeff Cardwell" <jcardwell@[REDACTED]>, "mobst [REDACTED]" <mobst@[REDACTED]>
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: Morning Clips- April 21, 2015

GOVERNOR/LT. GOVERNOR

Indiana First Lady Karen Pence to highlight agriculture, feed the hungry in fundraiser
CBS

Indiana First Lady Karen Pence spoke for the first time with CBS4's Debby Knox about her role she's played while her husband has been roundly criticized for several legislative bungles.

Campaign targets work force 'Surprises'

Inside Indiana Business

Indiana Commissioner for Higher Education Teresa Lubbers and Lt. Gov. Sue Ellspermann gathered with representatives from business, higher education and the non-profit community to kick off Indiana's inaugural Career Ready campaign at the Indiana Statehouse Monday.

H.I.V. cases lead IN to extend needle exchanges

NY Times

Gov. Mike Pence of Indiana extended a needle exchange program for another 30 days on Monday as the number of H.I.V. cases linked to intravenous drug use in a rural county continued to grow, with new cases being reported almost daily.

Conservative Gov. Pence extends needle exchange in rural Indiana county with HIV outbreak

The Star Tribune

Indiana Gov. Mike Pence on Monday extended a needle exchange program in a rural, southern Indiana county to help combat an HIV outbreak, even though he generally opposes such programs.

New law allows for slower school speed zones

ABC

Drivers may soon have to hit the brakes a little harder in certain parts of the state. Governor Mike Pence signed a new law that will allow local governments to lower the speed limit in school zones.

LEGISLATURE

Miller says she's open to needle exchange legislation as So. Indiana HIV epidemic worsens

The Statehouse File

A key Republican senator says she's open to needle exchange legislation but needs the go-ahead from her GOP caucus to sign on.

*Subscription required, full text below

Veterans, lawmakers clash over bills- many, many bills

The Statehouse File

At the Indiana Statehouse there are bills to give property tax breaks and hunting permits to veterans.

*Subscription required, full text below

Harris succeeds late husband in House

Inside Indiana Business

Donna Harris won approval of district precinct committee members this weekend.

Indiana legislature nearing deadline with unsettled issues

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Indiana lawmakers face decisions on the new state budget and some other contentious issues with less than two weeks remaining in this year's legislative session.

Lawmakers still unsettled over more live casino dealers

Herald Times

The question of whether the two horse track casinos in central Indiana will be allowed to add live dealers for their current electronic table games remained unsettled Monday with little more than a week left in this year's legislative session.

Lawmaker renews efforts to require schools to teach cursive

IBJ

Sen. Jean Leising, R-Oldenburg, added the measure to an education bill moving through the General Assembly last week after a cursive writing bill she sponsored earlier in the session failed.

*Subscription required, full text below

Students help raise awareness

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

A safe-sex campaign targeting young people in Allen County comes when an HIV outbreak in Scott County is getting national attention.

STATE AGENCIES

A small railroad with big stakes in coal weighs in on Harding Street power plant

Indy Star

When Indianapolis Power & Light Co. announced plans last summer to stop burning coal at its huge Harding Street power plant, it won praise from neighbors, consumer groups and environmentalists.

Federal funds to help homeless veterans in area

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

A state housing agency will receive nearly \$272,000 in federal funds to find permanent homes for 55 homeless military veterans in northeast Indiana.

Plans for deadly Spencer County intersection to be unveiled

Evansville Courier & Press

Indiana Department of Transportation officials plan to unveil their recommendations on how to improve a deadly Spencer County intersection during a meeting at Heritage Hills High School on April 30.

*Subscription required, full text below

National Guard faces lawsuit over handling of domestic abuse allegation

Indy Star

The woman who says a former top legal adviser to the Indiana National Guard broke her foot in a domestic dispute is now suing the Guard and its top commander, alleging they failed to adequately respond to her complaints.

AROUND INDIANA

Indiana donates for Afghanistan to honor boy treated in US

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

The legacy of a 16-month-old Afghan boy who died a decade ago after returning home following heart surgery in Indianapolis is continuing to grow through the efforts of those who cared for him.

Firefighters convention begins in Indy

Inside IN Business

The convention is celebrating 20 years in Indianapolis. The organization first met in the city in 1995.

Program sweetens lemonade day

Inside IN Business

Ten lucky lemonade stand owners will have the opportunity to do business on Pagoda Plaza during Indianapolis 500 Qualifications Day on May 16, 2015. In partnership with the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, Lemonade Day Greater Indianapolis is sweetening the deal by pairing selected participants with Verizon IndyCar Series drivers, including three at the top of the current points standings.

Manchester launches women's impact project

Inside IN Business

Manchester University is offering opportunities to educate and empower women of northeast Indiana about ways to utilize their passions and leadership skills to make a difference in their businesses and communities in a speakers' series designed to fit today's busy lifestyle.

Rolls-Royce opens new facility

Inside IN Business

Rolls-Royce has opened its new advanced LiftWorks repair facility for fighter jet propulsion components in Plainfield, IN, near the company's facilities in Indianapolis, US.

Carly Fiorina visits Indy, seeks traction in crowded GOP presidential field

The Statehouse File

Possible presidential contender Carly Fiorina wouldn't say Monday how she thinks the GOP should choose which candidates will get to participate in the party's 2016 presidential debates.

*Subscription required, full text below

JOBS/ECONOMY

Anderson to host major job fair

Inside Indiana Business

Anderson Indiana will host the first major job fair in Madison County since 2013. The April 30th job fair will be held at Madison Park Church of God located at 6607 Providence Drive on Anderson's south side.

Bluffton Factory sells for over \$20M

Inside Indiana Business

Stan Johnson Company, one of the nation's premier net lease brokerage firms, has completed the sale of a 100 percent fee simple interest in an industrial facility leased to Alexin LLC located at 1390 South Adams Street in Bluffton, Indiana to a private investment group for \$20,500,000.

EDITORIAL

Howey: RFRA storm rains historic damage on Pence brand

Kokomo Tribune

Over the past several years, we have witnessed a dramatic change in polling on social issues. It has happened nationally on gay marriage, with a recent NBC/Wall Street Journal Poll showing 59 percent now approve of gay marriage.

Miller says she's open to needle exchange legislation as So. Indiana HIV epidemic worsens

April 20, 2015 | Filed under: Health, Top stories | Posted by: Lesley Weidenbener

By Lesley Weidenbener

TheStatehouseFile.com

IND ANAPOLIS — A key Republican senator says she's open to needle exchange legislation but needs the go-ahead from her GOP caucus to sign on.

Public Health Chairman Pat Miller, R-Indianapolis, said after two hours of sometimes-emotional testimony on the proposal that she wants to add a sunset to the bill, meaning that lawmakers would have to reapprove the legislation in 2017 to keep the programs in place.

But Miller — who previously opposed needle exchange programs — said the state is facing an emergency in Scott County, where roughly 130 intravenous drug users have been diagnosed with HIV. She said something needs to be done now.

"Indiana is in a terrible position. I'm heart sick about the disease and the epidemic we have in Scott County," Miller said. "I'm just sorry we have that here in Indiana. But we need to address it."

On Monday, Gov. Mike Pence extended a public health emergency for Scott County for an additional 30 days. That move allows the state to continue operating a temporary needle exchange program in the county, something the Indiana State Department of Health has said is otherwise illegal.

But Dr. Share Avery, a physician in Scottsburg, near the epicenter of the HIV outbreak, told lawmakers Monday that a temporary program isn't enough. He said a short-term program encourages drug users to hoard clean needles rather than exchange them while a longer-term program could build trust that leads addicts to be safer.

"This HIV epidemic is not something that will go away in a few months," he said. "It's here to stay."

Avery called on the state to do more to extend health, testing and needle exchange services beyond Scott County, saying there's plenty of evidence that infected residents have left the area to use drugs in other counties or had sex with people traveling through the region.

"If Gov. Pence and the Indiana General Assembly fail to act, then God have mercy on us," Avery said.

Pence has opposed an ongoing needle exchange and has said he's only approved the targeted, temporary program to address an emergency. Avery said local health officials are grateful for the help they've received but desperate for more.

"It is the governor's refusal to address this situation that will result in Indiana's most historic failure in public health," he said.

Miller said the proposed legislation is important because Pence can only act every 30 days to extend several programs, including the current needle exchange. But she said the legislative needle proposal — crafted by Rep. Ed Clere, R-New Albany — needs work. She wants to change the way counties qualify to participate and let medical providers weigh in on the process.

Miller said she also has to consult the other GOP members of the Senate. Republican senators can't sign on to a legislative compromise without permission from their caucus.

"We have not had one word in my caucus yet about needle exchange," Miller said.

On Monday, at least two members of that caucus — Sens. Erin Houchin, R-Salem, and Liz Brown, R-Fort Wayne — expressed concerns about the needle exchange provision.

Houchin said she's worried the legislature is "putting the cart before the horse" by creating a needle exchange program without the drug treatment services necessary to help addicts get clean. And Brown said she's concerned that a needle program might increase drug use.

But Brenda Patterson of Indianapolis said that when her daughter was battling a heroin addiction, she decided to let her have the clean needles she'd purchased for her diabetic son.

After her daughter's multiple failed rehab attempts, Patterson said it was more important that she prevent her daughter, who was also suffering from cystic fibrosis, from contracting an illness from a dirty needle.

"I'm still not past worrying about what people think of me with a daughter who has heroin and a mother who would provide the needle," Patterson acknowledged. "What I do know is this: Giving her clean needles didn't stop or not stop her from using heroin at all. Without a needle, she used dirty needles." Patterson said her daughter is now four years sober — but it's not because she took away her needles. She urged the committee to pass a needle exchange program to help people like her daughter be safer until they can get treatment and get off drugs.

Plans for deadly Spencer County intersection to be unveiled

Richard Goette

Indiana Department of Transportation officials plan to unveil their recommendations on how to improve a deadly Spencer County intersection during a meeting at Heritage Hills High School on April 30.

The intersection of U.S. 231 and Indiana 62 has been the site of four fatal wrecks since 2011, when U.S. 231 was widened to four lanes. Local officials have expressed concerns about the intersection since shortly after the four-lane improvements were made. The intersection is west of Dale.

Improvements were made to the intersection in 2012 to try to make the area safer, according to Will Wingfield, an INDOT spokesman.

Transportation officials had a meeting at Heritage Hills in January after 60-year Susan D. Grundhoefer, a former Heritage Hills Middle School principal, died in a crash at the intersection. Shortly after that crash, members of Grundhoefer's family contacted INDOT and urged them to take another look at improving the intersection.

During that January meeting, Grundhoefer's son, Seth Grundhoefer, said it is still difficult for motorists going east and west there to see at the intersection, despite the 2012 improvements. The highway going west from the intersection in question is actually Indiana 61 because Indiana 62 follows the same route as U.S. 231 for a short time starting at that junction.

Currently, east and westbound traffic at that intersection have stop signs, while U.S. 231 traffic does not stop. There are rumble strips and oversized stop signs at the intersection for approaching Indiana 62 traffic.

Wingfield declined to disclose what transportation officials have recommended for the intersection. Testimony from the January meeting, as well as public comment taken by INDOT online, was taken into consideration, he said.

The meeting is scheduled to start at 6 p.m., and will take place in the high school's auditorium. INDOT officials will be available for questioning after the plans are unveiled, according to the department news release.

Video & story: Veterans, lawmakers clash over bills--many, many bills

April 20, 2015 | Filed under: [Social issues](#), [Top stories](#), [Video](#) | Posted by: [Lesley Weidenbener](#)

By Alec Gray

[TheStatehouseFile.com](#)

IND ANAPOLIS – At the Indiana Statehouse there are bills to give property tax breaks and hunting permits to veterans.

There's legislation to pay for specialized treatment for soldiers who come home suffering from post traumatic stress.

And there are proposals to help the children of disabled veterans go to college.

"All of them are important," said Jim Bauerle, a volunteer lobbyist for the Military Veterans Coalition of Indiana.

In all, there were some four dozen bills related to veterans introduced during the 2015 session of the Indiana General Assembly. Today, with just more than a week left until lawmakers go home for the year, there are just a handful still alive.

The disparity has created a clash between veteran advocates and key legislators – with veterans going on the offense to try to get their priority bills passed.

TOO MANY BILLS

Rep. Randy Frye, R-Greensburg, said legislators are doing the best they can to help veterans, but said they need to decide which pieces of legislation are most important, especially if the bills have a fiscal impact. It's a message he's shared before. Frye said he met with veterans' organizations throughout the summer and urged them to pair some bills together and be detailed about what they wanted to accomplish.

"I suggested they concentrate on four or five" bills, Frye said. "They filed 48."

A veteran fights to get therapy for fellow Hoosiers

That's important, Frye said, because every year, more than 1,000 bills are filed and the majority are killed during the legislative process. Frye said it is difficult to consider and pass so many bills from one special interest group.

"I don't think there's anyway we can hear 48 bills for one organization. That's just not realistic," Frye said.

"There are just too many bills."

He also said that many of the veteran-specific bills were killed due to their fiscal impact.

"Sometimes there simply just isn't enough money to go around for everything that folks want," Frye said.

But Jason Emery, an Iraq veteran, said lawmakers should focus on the individuals who need help, not the money.

"How do you put a price on leaving a man behind in battle or leaving a man behind back here. It's the same thing," Emery said. "When they put money into it that just really hurts us."

Veterans' advocates have said lawmakers have forgotten or don't care about veterans, but Frye said legislators want to do everything they can for them.

"All of us, every legislator that I know, wants to do everything humanly possible to help our veterans, to recognize their service to our country, and to reward that," Frye said. "But we do have constraints and those constraints include funding."

WORKING THE SYSTEM

While the Statehouse hallways are filled with highly paid, highly experienced lobbyists, the men and women who advocate for former soldiers tend to be volunteers – veterans who learn the legislative and political system as they struggle through it.

Consider a Ways and Means Committee meeting in which those volunteers were trying to convince skeptical lawmakers to spend money on a controversial therapy for veterans with PTSD.

They wanted lawmakers to amend funding for hyperbaric oxygen therapy into a bill, sponsored by Rep. David Frizzell, R-Indianapolis, that dealt with a spinal cord and brain injury fund unrelated to veterans. At issue was how much the hyperbaric therapy would cost – and how much it would take from the \$4 million in the bill.

Bauerle went to the podium and began presenting his prepared remarks. After listening for a few minutes, Ways & Means Chairman Tim Brown interrupted.

"Can you bring it around to the fiscal impact of this bill please," Brown said.

"Yes sir," Bauerle replied. He then shuffled through his notes and explained that as veterans, not lobbyists, they needed the legislators help to amend the bill to provide veterans with programs that will help them.

He explained that the Department of Veterans Affairs was not helping with the problem and that the federal government would likely reimburse the state for the funds because of the state's standing. Bauerle proposed some suggestions for a pilot program. After several minutes, he finally got around to the fiscal impact.

"It would prove once and for all that veterans can be helped in our state," Bauerle said. "That would be the fiscal impact and the reason why we bring this to this assembled body."

Brown tried again: "How much do you think the fiscal impact would be?" he asked.

"Sir, the cost of currently using Medicare rates in Indiana. I've checked with three hospitals in Indiana," Bauerle responded.

"I'm not asking about Medicare rates," Brown said. "How much do you think the fiscal will be?"

"The fiscal impact for a trial that we're asking for would be \$2 million."

So, Brown said, that's all the money the bill would be available under the bill.

"I'm very sympathetic and obviously, Mr. Chairman, we welcome, once we get this started, we would welcome veterans to come," Frizzell said. "Now, their part of it, yes it would wipe out the fund unless we add more money through appropriation."

Brown turned back to Bauerle. "Is there no medical based research that shows this is effective long term?" Brown asked. Bauerle began to talk, but was cut off by Brown who asked his question again.

The disagreements continued until Brown said, "Also, didn't you come to my office and state this was an issue you weren't going to bring forward this year because the Indiana State Department of Health was not going to support it?"

"That is a true statement and afterwards I recanted that request," Bauerle said.

Brown then thanked Bauerle and the discussion was done. So was the proposed amendment.

WHAT'S WORKED

What the volunteer lobbyists lack in experience, they try to make up for in organization and energy. Leaders of the veterans groups say they've been working together with a unified voice to try to convince lawmakers to do more than just what they call "whoop-de-do" legislation, which includes things that veterans say are common sense, such as veteran employment preference and National Guard financial aid.

But leaders say while those issues are important, there are other bills that really matter and can change lives.

The Military Veteran Coalition of Indiana is a group that meets to discuss strategies on how to deal with situations at the legislative level and promote veteran issues.

At a meeting in March, the coalition discussed how veterans have become a group that lawmakers like to be seen with, but don't actually want to support.

Ron Martin, who advocates at the Statehouse for the coalition alongside Bauerle, said veterans are sick of just being in pictures.

Politicians "stand along the highway to wave the flags, but that's all," Martin said.

HIGH PRIORITY BILLS KILLED

The veterans proposed a bill earlier in the session dealing with a Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy pilot program. House Bill 1615 would have allowed the veterans' recovery program and fund to provide treatment to veterans with PTSD and other severe brain injuries.

Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy would be one of the treatments used. HBOT has not been FDA approved for treating brain injuries and is therefore not covered by a soldier's federal health plan.

However, many veterans who have been through the program say it has changed their lives.

Emery, a Greenfield resident, was wounded during his time serving in Iraq. Upon returning home, he developed PTSD, which he said he didn't realize was a problem initially and led to changes in his behavior. He then learned the Rocky Mountain Hyperbaric Association for Brain Injuries in Colorado had a program that allows veterans to come to their facilities and houses and feeds them during the time of their treatment. Nothing like that is available in Indiana.

"I should not have to be that hard for any family to get the treatment they need for these soldiers.

They're our first line of defense and we're not taking care of them," said his mother, Brenda Berry.

Julie Stapleton is the medical director for the Rocky Mountain Hyperbaric Association for Brain Injuries and she believes the treatment is better than taking pills alone.

"We've seen a lot of treatments come and go and I think overall this is the one treatment that I've seen that actually is therapeutic. It actually treats the symptoms. Medications manage the symptoms, they do not cure," Stapleton said in a video posted on the association's website.

The association's president, Eddie Gomez, said in the video, that the therapy should be accompanied by other treatments as well.

"Hyperbaric oxygen therapy is definitely a treatment you want to do with other therapies. It's not the end all. The psychological counseling definitely has to be in there," Gomez said.

Emery wants veterans in Indiana to receive similar treatment – without making the trip to Colorado.

That's why he testified in favor of HB 1615 earlier. But the bill never made it out of committee and the later attempt to amend similar language into another bill failed too.

That wasn't the only high-priority veterans' bill that died this year.

SB 424 would make the state women's veteran coordinator a permanent position that must be filled. The law currently makes the position optional.

Lisa Wilken, who volunteers as an advocate for female veterans, said lawmakers don't understand that the position is needed by women veterans who want someone to fight for their gender-specific issues.

"Unfortunately the losers in this situation could be the women veterans in the state of Indiana," Wilken said.

This year, Frye, who chairs the committee decided not to hear the bill after hearing and supporting it last year.

"The reason that we're not hearing the bill is because I don't think it's necessary," Frye said.

Frye said lawmakers have dealt with the issue and the position is filled, so there is no need to hear it again, but Wilken said the issue is about whether or not the position is permanent.

"If you support the legislation and you support the position always being there, then why not go ahead and complete the legislation and make this a truly permanent position here in Indiana," Wilken said. She said veterans do not want special treatment, they just want the opportunity to have their bills heard and to be voted on based on their merit.

THE BOTTOM LINE

Throughout the process, the majority of veterans bills have been killed, especially those that had money attached to them.

Senate Appropriations Chairman Luke Kenley, R-Noblesville, killed several of them in his committee early in the session. And so when he was pushed later about including the provisions in the state budget, he pointed back to those bills. "I think that shows my intention and their persistence."

Veteran advocates said that the lawmakers have forgotten about veterans and don't care about their issues. Lawmakers said they care about veterans, but sometimes they simply ask for too much and that there is not enough money to go around.

At the end of the day, both groups continue to disagree about how high on the priority list veterans issues should be.

"We want our list to be shorter," Martin said. "You gotta pass a few bills and it will be shorter."

Lawmaker renews efforts to require schools to teach cursive

April 20, 2015

Associated Press

A longtime supporter of requiring Indiana schools to teach cursive writing is making her fifth attempt to restore the skill to Indiana's curriculum.

Sen. Jean Leising, R-Oldenburg, added the measure to an education bill moving through the General Assembly last week after a cursive writing bill she sponsored earlier in the session failed.

Leising said she expects the bill, which also would replace the ISTEP+ exam, to go to a conference committee, The Indianapolis Star reported. Tory Flynn, a spokeswoman for House Republicans, said no decision had been made on a conference committee.

The Indiana State Board of Education voted in 2011 to eliminate cursive as a requirement for student instruction and told school districts that it expected students to become proficient in keyboard use. Many districts nationally did the same when they adopted the national Common Core educational standards, which omitted penmanship classes for a variety of reasons, including increasing use of keyboarding and evidence that even most adults use some hybrid of classic cursive and print.

Leising has been trying to reinstate the requirement and sponsored cursive writing bills in 2012, 2013 and 2014 that failed.

The state Senate approved a cursive measure in 2012, but it didn't advance in the House.

Adding the measure to the House bill was a last-minute effort to get it passed this year, said Leising, who worries that younger generations won't be able to write cursive or read documents like the original version of the U.S. Constitution if the requirement isn't restored.

"I still have a pad of yellow Sticky Notes, and if I write out something neatly in cursive, I expect an intern at the Senate to be able to read that," she said.

Carly Fiorina visits Indy, seeks traction in crowded GOP presidential field

By Andi TenBarge

TheStatehouseFile.com

INDIANAPOLIS — Possible presidential contender Carly Fiorina wouldn't say Monday how she thinks the GOP should choose which candidates will get to participate in the party's 2016 presidential debates.

Fiorina — in Indianapolis to speak at a GOP women's event — sidestepped the question, even though the debates could be her best shot at getting the attention she'd need to stand out among a growing Republican field.

"I am reasonably confident that if I decide to jump in the race that I will be on that debate stage," Fiorina said. "I wouldn't do this if I didn't think I would have a lot of encouragement and I wouldn't do it if I wasn't prepared."

The former CEO of Hewlett-Packard is one of more than a dozen Republicans who are running or considering a bid for the party's nomination in 2016.

But Fiorina trails some of those other candidates significantly. National polls show her support among GOP primary voters is less than 1 percent. That's important because those polls could determine who gets into debates that are controlled in part by the Republican National Committee.

Fiorina said after her speech to 900 people at the 25th Anniversary Lugar Series Annual Event that her business experience makes her "uniquely qualified" for the position.

"I think what people are looking for is both authentic, empathetic, and will solve problems with the good of everyone in mind," she said.

But it's her ability to criticize presumptive Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton without concern about gender that could make her especially valuable within the party.

Fiorina said during an event last week that "there are a whole set of things" that Clinton won't be able to talk about if she's facing a female opponent. CNN.com reported that Fiorina said that Clinton would instead be forced to talk about "her track record, her accomplishments, her candor and trustworthiness and her policies."

"And I think that's what elections should be run on — not identity politics, not what you look like, but who you are, and what you believe, and what you've done, and what you will do," the CNN story quoted her saying.

Fiorina focused Monday in Indianapolis on foreign policy issues and her experience as a business leader, explaining how that translates to government.

"You have customers who really are very important. You have investors who are very important. You have communities who are very important. And you have employees," she said. "So in truth, a successful business leader is balancing constituencies all the time."

Fiorina said she expects to make a decision and formal announcement about running for office in the coming weeks.

From: Gilson, Katio
Sent: Wed 4/22/2015 8:36 AM (GMT-04:00)
To: "Quyle, Lindsay" <LQuyle@gov.IN.gov>, "Anderson, Christopher M" <CAnderson@gov.in.gov>, "Hodgin, Stephanie" <SHodgin@gov.in.gov>, "#All Governor's Office" <allgovoffice@gov.IN.gov>, "Bailey, Brian (OMB)" <bbailey@gov.in.gov>, "Pitcock, Josh" <jpitcock@ssso.org>, "Baker, Lou Ann (DWD)" <lbaker@dwd.IN.gov>, "Rosebrough, Dennis (LG)" <DRosebrough@g.IN.gov>, "Rossler, Sarah (SBOE)" <SRossler@sboe.IN.gov>, "McKinney, Ted" <TMckinney@lsda.IN.gov>, "Bausman, David" <DBausman@lsda.IN.gov>, "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "#All Lieutenant Governor's Office" <#AllLieutenantGovernor'sOffice@gov.IN.gov>, "smith@s[REDACTED]" <smith@s[REDACTED]>, "tomrose[REDACTED]" <tomros[REDACTED]>, "Kams, Allison" <AKarns@gov.IN.gov>, "Brookes, Brady" <BBrookes@gov.IN.gov>, "Triol, Shelley" <STriol@lsda.IN.gov>, "Wall, Kathryn E" <KWall@gov.IN.gov>, "Marty Obst" <martyobst@mikepence.com>, "Reed, Katie" <KReed@gov.IN.gov>, "Griffis, Andrew D (IER)" <AGriffis@ier.IN.gov>, "Betley, James" <JBetley@gov.IN.gov>, "Schlake, Josh" <JSchlake@gov.IN.gov>, "McCleery, William" <WMcCleery@lot.IN.gov>, "Aycok, Hailey" <HAycok@gov.IN.gov>, "Braun, Steven J" <SBraun@dwd.IN.gov>, "Lubsen, Graig" <GLubsen@lot.IN.gov>, "Myers, Janille (ISDH)" <JanMyers@isdh.IN.gov>, "Timmerman, Chad E (GOV)" <ctimmerman@gov.in.gov>, "Dowd, Jaclyn (DWD)" <jdowd@dwd.IN.gov>, "Stephen.simcox[REDACTED]" <Stephen.simcox[REDACTED]>, "Jeff Cardwell" <jcardwell@[REDACTED]>, "mobst[REDACTED]" <mobst[REDACTED]>

Cc:

Bcc:

Subject: Morning Clips- April 22, 2015

GOVERNOR/FIRST LADY

Purdue to buy Lafayette Aviation, establish Technology Park

WTHR

We all know about Purdue's proud aviation history, but President Mitch Daniels Tuesday announced plans to help continue that proud tradition long into the future.

Pence: Indiana 'Tailor-Made' for Aerospace

Inside IN Business

Pence says it's not just about higher education, citing interactions with industry leaders that lauded a renewed state focus on vocational training at the high school level.

First Lady Pence to highlight feeding Indiana's hungry at luncheon

Evansville Courier & Press

A statewide non-profit supporting food banks and food pantries will be showcased Thursday at first lady Karen Pence's annual luncheon.

*Subscription required, full text below

State to celebrate business longevity

Inside IN Business

Governor Mike Pence will honor seven Indiana companies for longevity and community service today by awarding them the Governor's Century or Half Century Business Awards during a ceremony at the Indiana Statehouse.

Fate of Gary gun lawsuit in Pence's hands

NWI Times

Gary Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson is urging Gov. Mike Pence to veto legislation that retroactively terminates the city's 1999 lawsuit against gun manufacturers and retailers who allegedly sold handguns illegally.

Indiana governor extends public health emergency due to HIV epidemic

WRTV

Indiana Gov. Mike Pence issued an executive order Monday to extend a public health emergency in his state in response to a rampant HIV outbreak that first began in mid-December.

Whitestown passes inclusive resolution, Zionsville considering ordinances

Current Zionsville

The Whitestown Town Council passed a resolution promoting diversity and inclusion and updated the town's existing non-discrimination policy in the employee manual to include sexual orientation at its April 14 meeting. Both measures received applause from the audience after passing unanimously...Whitestown drafted the resolution and ordinances in response to the state's Religious Freedom Restoration Act, which Gov. Mike Pence signed into law March 26. After the state received national criticism and boycott threats, Pence signed an amendment designed to reduce concerns that the new law could be used by businesses to discriminate based on sexual orientation.

LEGISLATURE

Lawmaker seek to drop drug testing for welfare recipients

Evansville Courier & Press

The lawmaker behind a proposal to drug test certain welfare recipients backed away from the idea Tuesday, instead calling for further study on the issue.

*Subscription required, full text below

Drug testing welfare recipients put on hold

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Efforts to drug test welfare recipients likely won't move forward this session after a lawmaker who sponsored the amendment asked Tuesday that it be removed.

Legislature looks to overhaul school intervention rules; mulls EVSC-style transformation zones

Evansville Courier & Press

A plan to move up the process of the state intervening in a failing school is in final negotiations at this year's Indiana General Assembly session.

Colts quarterback gathers support for child health program

Evansville Courier & Press

Indianapolis Colts quarterback Andrew Luck threw and caught a pass Tuesday during a visit to the Indiana Statehouse during which he promoted a health and fitness initiative for children...Luck caught a pass in front of the Senate thrown by DJ Morton, a third grader from Fishers Elementary. Luck later tossed a football from the House floor that House Speaker Brian Bosma caught from behind his podium.

STATE AGENCIES

Companies growing in Central IN

Inside IN Business

Two companies today announced plans to expand their operations and create 40 new jobs in central Indiana. "When you build a business climate like Indiana's, you'll soon discover that a wide array of

industries start thriving," said Eric Doden, president of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation. "From professional service firms to natural resource processors, our low taxes, reduced regulation and climate for skyrocketing success help all companies grow and thrive here."

Unemployment drops slightly in March

The Statehouse File

Indiana's unemployment rate dropped by 0.1 percent down to 5.8 percent in March.

*Subscription required, full text below

State jobless rate slips

Inside IN Business

Indiana's unemployment rate declined by 0.1 percent to 5.8 percent in March. The unemployment rate in the Hoosier State is now down by 2.4 percentage points over the past two years, and the labor force has grown by roughly 72,000 individuals. Although Indiana's labor force participation rate declined by 0.2 percent to 63.6 percent in March, it continues to be nearly a full percent higher than the national average, and has exceeded the national rate for 12 months in a row.

BMV to extend hours for IN's primary election in May

Evansville Courier & Press

The Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles announced that it will extend the operating hours of license branches on May 4 and 5 to allow state residents to obtain identification so they can vote in the primary election.

*Subscription required, full text below

Police cite Megabus driver for speeding in IN crash

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Indiana State Police have cited the driver of a Megabus that crashed with a semitrailer on Interstate 65 in central Indiana last week for speeding.

ISP: Burglars targeting victims through obituaries

Indy Star

Indiana State Police Sgt. Kim Riley said troopers across the state have seen cases in which burglars apparently targeted victims based on obituary information.

AROUND INDIANA

University Expands to Indiana

Inside IN Business

Olivet Nazarene University's School of Graduate and Continuing Studies recently opened a new regional center in Indianapolis and began accepting enrollment for classes there in summer and fall 2015.

WISH TV Names news director

Inside IN Business

Les Vann, President and General Manager for WISH-TV and MyINDY-TV, today announced Elbert Tucker as News Director for 24 Hour News 8.

From Burma to Southport: Finding your way in an unfamiliar world

Chalk Beat

It never occurred to Elly Mawi that there were places where a plastic card guaranteed you unlimited access to books. For the two years she spent in a Malaysian refugee camp, school meant a dirt floor without desks or chairs. She fled there from Burma, a country wracked with civil war, after her father and grandmother were killed in a car accident. They had gone for medical care, which wasn't available in their village.

TEDx coming to Evansville Inside IN Business

Local volunteer organizers of TEDxEvansville have announced the October 13, 2015, event held at the Evansville Museum's Koch Immersive Theater, will be built around the idea of "renaissance," a fitting topic as the Evansville community currently experiences a rebirth, revival, and amplification of energy and excitement, in many ways. Organizers seek dynamic speakers to use the concept of renaissance to inform, inspire, surprise and delight.

JOBS/ECONOMY

Indy sees long future with Firefighter Conference Inside IN Business

Gahl says the ability to use the entire Indiana Convention Center and the floor of Lucas Oil Stadium has been a major attraction for the annual event. He says organizers also like the city's central location, walkability and the opportunity to "own the town" during the convention.

EDITORIAL

Smith: saving 211 hotline is right call for IN

Indy Star

For years, employees at Indiana's 211 hotline have been there to help Hoosiers in need. Day and night. Seven days a week, 24 hours a day.

Tully: Bill Oesterle's plan to remake the IN GOP Indy Star

Bill Oesterle was filling a to-go cup of coffee at the Cornerstone Coffee Shop on the Northside Monday morning when a worker there recognized him.

First lady Pence to highlight Feeding Indiana's Hungry at luncheon

Chelsea Schneider

A statewide non-profit supporting food banks and food pantries will be showcased Thursday at first lady Karen Pence's annual luncheon.

The Indiana First Lady's Charitable Foundation chose Feeding Indiana's Hungry, which locally helps to support Tri-State Food Bank in Evansville, as the major grant recipient for this year's luncheon.

Pence, who led the creation of the non-profit in 2013, announced in November the selection of Feeding Indiana's Hungry. The grant amount for Feeding Indiana's Hungry will be unveiled Thursday.

This year the foundation is focusing on agriculture in Indiana with the theme of "Hoosier Home Grown," so Pence said Feeding Indiana's Hungry was a natural choice.

"Indiana is such a fabulous (agricultural) state, and we have so many amazing farmers in our state that we decided that would be our focus," Pence said in a sit-down interview with the Courier & Press.

The luncheon serves as a fundraiser to allow the foundation to distribute grants to charities across the state.

Inspiration for the event came from the Congressional Spouse Club's First Lady's Luncheon that takes place in Washington, D.C.

The foundation also awards smaller grants throughout the year. Most recently in March, the foundation awarded \$30,500 in grants to 35 organizations across the state. At the first luncheon held in 2014, the foundation gave \$100,000 to the art therapy program at Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis. Pence said when she became first lady, she began to hear from organizations from across the state — some she had never heard of before. Hearing from those organizations fostered the idea for the foundation.

"This foundation is a way for me to leverage the position of first lady and the fact so many groups come to me and to my office and say can you come observe ... and now I can say not only will I come and see what you are doing but you need to apply for a grant," Pence said.

"It's been a great way to applaud and encourage all the wonderful things going on in Indiana."

Unemployment drops slightly in March

April 21, 2015 | Filed under: [Jobs, economy & labor](#) | Posted by: [Lesley Weidenbener](#)

By Alec Gray

[TheStatehouseFile.com](#)

IND ANAPOLIS — Indiana's unemployment rate dropped by 0.1 percent down to 5.8 percent in March.

The national average still remains lower than Indiana at 5.5 percent.

Over the past two years, the unemployment rate in the state has gone down by 2.4 percentage points.

Meanwhile, the labor force has grown by about 72,000 people over that two-year period.

Steven Braun, the commissioner of the Indiana Department of Workforce Development, said Indiana's economic indicators are still positive.

"Continued claims for unemployment insurance remain at their lowest levels in 15 years, which is also an encouraging trend as we enter the spring and summer months," Braun said.

Lawmaker seeks to drop drug testing for welfare recipients

Lauryn Schroeder

11:41 AM, Apr 21, 2015

54 mins ago

[state](#)

IND ANAPOLIS — The lawmaker behind a proposal to drug test certain welfare recipients backed away from the idea Tuesday, instead calling for further study on the issue.

Democratic Rep. Terry Goodin, of Crothersville, proposed the testing requirement in a last-minute amendment on the House floor last week, claiming it would help fight a recent HIV outbreak in Southern Indiana. He asked conference committee members Tuesday to remove the provision and require a study into Indiana's drug abuse problems this summer.

Goodin said he began to reconsider the idea after learning last week that its impact on drug use could be minimal, but said he still felt the proposal spurred serious conversations about the issue, which has been considered several times in recent years.

"Mission accomplished. We declare victory," he said. "We're going to get these folks who need the help, the help they need."

Indiana's proposal would apply only to those who receive cash benefits through the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program, specifically people who have been identified as high risk for drug abuse or have been charged with a drug-related crime. If recipients fail a drug test, they would have an opportunity to receive counseling, but several failed tests after counseling would make them ineligible for welfare benefits for at least three months.

More than a dozen other states, including Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi, have either passed or are considering similar legislation, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures.

Indiana Family and Social Services Administration officials report that only about 3,800 adults receive TANF payments. In Scott County, where the HIV outbreak is centered, only nine adults receive TANF payments. Another 60 more receive benefits on behalf of 93 children.

Senate health committee chairwoman Patricia Miller, R-Indianapolis, said she will discuss the issue with Republican caucus members before making a decision, but said she had serious concerns about its cost: about \$1.8 million to implement testing.

House Health Committee Chairman Ed Clere, R-New Albany, said he supports further study, especially if the measure could be seen as discriminatory or punitive against a certain group. He also expressed concerns about "potential unintended consequences" that could negatively impact children receiving benefits through an adult.

"We all want accountability from people who are receiving benefits but I'm not sure this is the right approach," he said. "In fact I'm pretty sure it's not the right approach."

Committee members face an April 29 deadline to reach an agreement.

Legislature looks to overhaul school intervention rules; mulls EVSC-style Transformation Zones

Chelsea Schneider

A plan to move up the process of the state intervening in a failing school is in final negotiations at this year's Indiana General Assembly session.

The bill moves up the timeline for Indiana State Board of Education intervention in a school from six to four years of consecutive "F" accountability grades. The proposal also implements the Transformation Zone — a model for improving a school's achievement that gained statewide recognition after use by the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corp. — as an official strategy schools can use.

Some public education groups told a panel of state legislators on Tuesday that they oppose moving up the timeline for state intervention over concerns about the current metrics used to determine school A-F accountability grades. But state Sen. Earline Rogers, a Gary Democrat, said she supported the change.

Earlier interventions, Rogers said, means earlier prospects for students to begin to achieve.

"I do think four years is a long time for a student to be in a failing school," Rogers said.

The shortened timeline would affect schools receiving an initial "F" letter grade after June 30, 2016.

Schools currently ranked as "F" would continue with the original six-year timeline, according to the bill.

Intervention options range from following the Department of Education's recommendations to closing a school.

The bill also allows school districts with a school rated "D" or "F" to immediately ask the State Board of Education for authority to turn into a Transformation Zone.

State Rep. Bob Behning, who leads education issues for the House, said the bill ultimately aims for less state intervention.

"We're giving schools the ability to turn themselves around, and Evansville was a good example where they had schools scheduled to be taken over but because they had the whole community come together, they went ahead and were able to turn around," Behning said.

In 2012, EVSC decided to contract on its own accord with a nationally recognized non-profit in school turnaround — Mass Insight Education — to build the Transformation Zone as some schools in the district came closer to a potential state takeover.

When Glenwood Leadership Academy received its sixth consecutive "F," the school became the first in the zone to trigger talks of state oversight. Lincoln School hit the same trigger in 2014. But the State Board of Education agreed to let Glenwood and Lincoln stay under EVSC control.

A few years earlier, those schools faced a greater likelihood of being assigned to an outside operator — a more drastic turnaround effort that's been marred with problems in the five schools in Gary and Indianapolis taken over under the administration of former Indiana schools chief Tony Bennett.

Some state board members regard the Transformation Zone as the answer to state oversight. Gov. Mike Pence even mentioned EVSC's efforts in rolling out his education priorities for the 2015 legislative session.

A representative of the Indiana State Teachers Association said at the legislative hearing Tuesday that she hoped lawmakers would see the union as a partner in changes they are considering for schools.

"I'm standing here asking you to give one of these or all of these school governance changes the chance to include the local association in a true partnership," said Gail Zeheralis, with the teachers union. Lawmakers are working to finalize language for the proposal before the General Assembly adjourns by April 29.

BMV to extend hours for Indiana's primary election in May

The Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles announced that it will extend the operating hours of license branches on May 4 and 5 to allow state residents to obtain identification so they can vote in the primary election.

BMV Commissioner Kent Abernathy announced Tuesday that branches in counties that have May 5 elections will have extended hours. The branches will be open Monday, May 4 from 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. and on Tuesday, May 5, from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

These license branches will process only new, amended or replacement ID cards, and renewed, amended or replacement driver's licenses and learner permits.

Indiana law requires residents to show either a driver's license or a state-issued identification card at polling places before they can vote.

From: Gilson, Katie
Sent: Thu 4/23/2015 8:29 AM (GMT-04:00)
To: "Quyle, Lindsay" <LQuyle@gov.IN.gov>, "Anderson, Christopher M" <CAnderson@gov.in.gov>, "Hodgin, Stephanie" <SHodgin@gov.in.gov>, "#All Governor's Office" <allgovoffice@gov.IN.gov>, "Bailey, Brian (OMB)" <bbailey@gov.in.gov>, "Pitcock, Josh" <jpitcock@ssso.org>, "Baker, Lou Ann (DWD)" <lbaker@dwd.IN.gov>, "Rosebrough, Dennis (LG)" <DRosebrough@g.IN.gov>, "Rossler, Sarah (SBOE)" <SRossler@sboe.IN.gov>, "McKinney, Ted" <TMckinney@isda.IN.gov>, "Bausman, David" <DBausman@isda.IN.gov>, "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "#All Lieutenant Governor's Office" <#AllLieutenantGovernor'sOffice@gov.IN.gov>, "smith@" <smith@>, "tomros" <tomrose>, "Kams, Allison" <AKarns@gov.IN.gov>, "Brookes, Brady" <BBrookes@gov.IN.gov>, "Triol, Shelley" <STriol@isda.IN.gov>, "Wall, Kathryn E" <KWall@gov.IN.gov>, "Marty Obst" <martyobst@mikepence.com>, "Reed, Katie" <KReed@gov.IN.gov>, "Griffis, Andrew D (IER)" <AGriffis@ier.IN.gov>, "Betley, James" <JBetley@gov.IN.gov>, "Schlake, Josh" <JSchlake@gov.IN.gov>, "McCleery, William" <WMccleery@iol.IN.gov>, "Aycok, Hailey" <HAycok@gov.IN.gov>, "Braun, Steven J" <SBraun@dwd.IN.gov>, "Lubsen, Graig" <GLubsen@iol.IN.gov>, "Myers, Janille (ISDH)" <JanMyers@isdh.IN.gov>, "Timmerman, Chad E (GOV)" <ctimmerman@gov.in.gov>, "Dowd, Jaclyn (DWD)" <jdowd@dwd.IN.gov>, "Stephen, Simon" <Stephen.simon>, "Jeff Cardwell" <jcardwell@>, "mobst" <mobst>

Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: Morning Clips- April 23, 2015

GOVERNOR/FIRST LADY

Food organization will be First Lady's major grant recipient this year
The Statehouse File
Feeding Indiana's Hungry will be the second major grant recipient from first lady Karen Pence as part of her annual fundraising luncheon on Thursday.
*Subscription required, full text below

INDOT leadership shuffles

Inside IN Business
Governor Mike Pence today named Brandye Hendrickson as Commissioner of the Indiana Department of Transportation, effective immediately. Governor Pence earlier today accepted Commissioner Carl Browning's resignation.

Trinkets, website part of Gov. Pence's unique lobbying effort
Indy Star

Promotional gift bags. A slick, campaign-style website. Undisclosed corporate donors. Gov. Mike Pence has employed each of those strategies in a last-ditch effort to save one of his top legislative priorities: a new \$84 million "regional cities" initiative intended to boost economic development across the state.

LEGISLATURE

Lawmakers still looking for deal on gambling bill
The Statehouse File
An always-evolving gambling bill at the Indiana Statehouse could undergo more changes after a conference committee met Wednesday and then recessed to come up with a deal behind closed doors.
*Subscription required, full text below

Lawmakers try to finalize gambling overhauls as session nears end

Evansville Courier & Press

Lawmakers are working to finalize a plan aimed at boosting the competitiveness of the state's gambling industry with a week remaining in this year's Indiana General Assembly session.

*Subscription required, full text below

Assisted living facility plan hinges on moratorium bill

The Chicago Tribune

A second developer is looking to build a skilled nursing and assisted living facility on almost 11 acres on East 93rd Avenue, provided a bill calling for a moratorium on new nursing homes in the state doesn't pass.

Push to help legalize hemp production dies in Legislature

NWI Times

Efforts to help Indiana gain federal approval to grow and sell industrial hemp have died this legislative session.

STATE AGENCIES

Artist needed for State's Bicentennial

Inside Indiana Business

The Indiana Arts Commission (IAC) announced today that it will partner with the Indiana Bicentennial Commission to select an artist to create a commemorative medal recognizing the state's 200th anniversary.

HIV spreads beyond Scott county, officials say it's isolated

Indiana Public Media

The HIV epidemic in Southeastern Indiana has spread to a second county, but health officials say those cases are isolated and they have no plans for changing their strategy.

Mooresville could ban semis from Ind. 267 downtown

Indy Star

Mooresville is poised to ban semitrailer trucks downtown in a deal with the state.

INDOT commissioner resigns without explanation

IBJ

Karl Browning resigned his post Wednesday as commissioner of the Indiana Department of Transportation through an e-mail to the governor.

*Subscription required, full text below

Purdue creating 9780 acre aerospace district

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Purdue University plans to create a 980-acre aerospace district in West Lafayette. The Indiana Economic Development Corp. has named the site an Indiana Certified Technology Park.

2 inmates walk away from trash pickup

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Two inmates walked away from an Indiana Department of Correction work crew in Columbus, the department said today.

AROUND INDIANA

Breakfast at the Brickyard speakers announced

Inside IN Business

The 500 Festival, a nonprofit organization providing life-enriching events for Indiana and celebrating the legacy of the Indianapolis 500, will host three of the Indianapolis 500's most prolific female figures at this year's 500 Festival Breakfast at the Brickyard, presented by Midwestern Engineers, Inc. The event, open to the public, will be held on Saturday, May 16th at 8:30 a.m. at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

Louisville council to vote on needle exchange program

WHAS 11

The sudden outbreak of HIV in Scott County, Indiana has garnered attention both locally and nationally. To combat the spread of the disease, Governor Mike Pence signed an emergency order allowing Scott County to create a needle exchange program.

Rolls Royce names next CEO

Inside IN Business

Rolls-Royce announces today that John Rishton has decided to retire as Chief Executive on 2 July 2015. He will be succeeded by Warren East, whose appointment follows an extensive international search.

Historic Tobacco Plant for Sale

Inside Indiana Business

A unique piece of southern Indiana history in a charming river town could be yours on May 8, the deadline for the sealed bid auction of Madison's Tobacco Prizing House. Historic Madison, Inc. owns the warehouse at 106 Elm Street, which it has used for storage of architectural salvage. The organization decided to sell the landmark as part of an effort to reduce its property holdings and focus on its museums. Historic Madison operates the Schroeder Saddletree Factory and Jeremiah Sullivan House, among others. It will use the sale proceeds for the restoration of the c.1846 Shrewsbury-Windle House, a National Historic Landmark.

Transit announcement set for Indianapolis

Inside IN Business

U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx will join Mayor Greg Ballard and community leaders today in Indianapolis to make a transit program announcement.

LSDOT to announce boost for Indy's rapid transit system

Indy Star

U.S. Department of Transportation Sec. Anthony Foxx will announce today that Indianapolis' planned bus rapid transportation system will receive technical assistance from several non profit organizations.

JOBS/ECONOMY

Manufacturer growing in northeast Indiana

Inside IN Business

A suspension manufacturer has received approval from Kendallville City Council for tax abatement totaling more than \$11 million. KPC News reports Hendrickson USA LLC is planning to add more than 40 jobs as part of the expansion.

EDITORIAL

State presses long term solution to HIV outbreak

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

The Indiana legislature seems to be giving the HIV outbreak in Scott County the very serious attention it deserves. We will soon find out what solutions the lawmakers are willing to endorse, and what kind of emergency legislation Gov. Mike Pence is willing to sign. Dealing with the crisis adequately will require more than extending the limited needle exchanges Pence has already approved. But it must start with that.

Food organization will be first lady's major grant recipient this year

April 22, 2015 | Filed under: [Quick reads](#) | Posted by: [Lesley Weidenbener](#)

By Erika Brock

[TheStatehouseFile.com](#)

INDIANAPOLIS — Feeding Indiana's Hungry will be the second major grant recipient from first lady Karen Pence as part of her annual fundraising luncheon on Thursday.

The Indiana First Lady's Charitable Foundation's second annual fundraiser is modeled after the U.S. First Lady's Luncheon. The event will have similar features, including a surprise guest entertainer, linens and bags made specifically for the event, and bi-partisan support.

The foundation's mission is to support and recognize communities and organizations that promote the well being of Hoosier children and their families.

In its first year, the foundation awarded grants to 83 additional charities helping 68 counties.

Feeding Indiana's Hungry includes 11 member food banks serving all 92 counties across the state. Pence said the group's mission and service to Indiana makes it the perfect 2015 major grant recipient.

Pence will also donate 100 potted flowers to Keep Indianapolis Beautiful.

Lawmakers still looking for deal on gambling bill

April 22, 2015 | Filed under: [Social issues](#), [Top stories](#) | Posted by: [Lesley Weidenbener](#)

By Alec Gray

[TheStatehouseFile.com](#)

INDIANAPOLIS — An always-evolving gambling bill at the Indiana Statehouse could undergo more changes after a conference committee met Wednesday and then recessed to come up with a deal behind closed doors.

Lawmakers are still trying to decide whether to authorize live dealers at the state's two horse track casinos — and if they do, how to mitigate the impact on other gambling operations. It's a sticky question because Gov. Mike Pence has said he opposes a gambling expansion and key lawmakers say his definition includes live dealers.

Rep. Tom Dermody, R-LaPorte, said lawmakers have been trying since the summer to find language that will benefit all of Indiana's casinos.

"Hopefully we can bring something that will help the industry compete with the surrounding states," Dermody said.

Rep. Terri Austin, D-Anderson, and Sen. Tim Lanane, D-Anderson, said they favored the language in the original House version of the bill that allowed racinos to have live dealers at 24 table games immediately — and let them petition for more after five years.

The Senate version of the bill bans live dealers for five more years to give other gambling operations the opportunity to adjust to the future change. But then the number of games wouldn't be capped.

The live dealers provision in the bill is among the most controversial issues left for lawmakers to settle. Casino industry officials disagree about the impact, saying it would benefit some operations while taking advantages away from others.

"The House sent a very strong message when we sent this bill out 76-22, that we want to address the industry as a whole," Austin said. "We do not want to pick winners and losers."

Austin said lawmakers want to put the casinos in the "best competitive situation" in the future. The bill is meant to help the gambling industry deal with growing competition in Ohio and Illinois, as well as a possible Native American casino in northern Indiana.

But other casino operators say that adding live dealers at the race track casinos will keep Central Indiana customers from driving to their operations in more distant places.

The House and Senate versions of the bill both allow riverboat casinos to rebuild on land. However, lawmakers are still discussing whether to provide a tax credit for casino investments and extend a marketing tax break.

"There's still some tweaks that need to be done," Austin said.

Lawmakers try to finalize gambling overhauls as session nears end

Chelsea Schneider

Lawmakers are working to finalize a plan aimed at boosting the competitiveness of the state's gambling industry with a week remaining in this year's Indiana General Assembly session.

A panel of lawmakers heard again from the operators of the state's casinos Wednesday. The proposal would allow Tropicana Evansville and the state's other riverboats to move to land-based facilities.

Negotiations on the bill appear centered on another of its features — allowing the state's two race track casinos, in Anderson and Shelbyville, to have live dealers. The House plan provided for live dealers at the racinos, but the Senate plan pushed them back to 2021.

Tropicana Evansville General Manager Jason Gregorec attended Wednesday's legislative hearing and expressed his support for the bill. Gregorec said allowing the casino to build on land would help it compete with Harrah's Metropolis in Illinois, which recently moved to land. He noted Tropicana has made improvements in Atlantic City and at sites in Mississippi, where the company brought the operations of two riverboats onto land.

"The company is in the position to make significant improvements at our facilities," Gregorec said.

Gregorec said he hopes lawmakers add a tax credit for capital investments back into the bill. The credit would aid in Tropicana building its land-based casino, he said. The credit was in the House version but later removed in the Senate.

A key lawmaker on the bill, state Rep. Tom Dermody, said the credit came out of the House version to help casinos "improve their property and make it more of a destination point."

"This is a bill that's been worked on since this past summer," said Dermody, a LaPorte Republican. "I've appreciated all the effort and hopefully we can bring something that will help the industry compete with surrounding states."

State Sen. Luke Kenley, a Noblesville Republican, stressed to lawmakers that the state's casino industry is fluid, especially given talks of a potential casino by the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Native Americans in South Bend.

Kenley said he understood the bill that cleared the Senate didn't answer all the desires and demands of the industry.

But he said, "Are we really able to do that with uncertainty that's ahead of us?"

The bill allows for casinos to move onto land within their existing footprint. For Tropicana to move onto land, the company plans to relocate a building that currently houses a temporary flood wall. The city also plans to vacate South Third Avenue, between Riverside and Northwest First Street in the area of the

proposed casino site, to make way for development. The bill allows Tropicana to build on that portion of the road.

Under the Senate version, discussion about proposed gambling taxing changes is sent to a study committee. Before passing the bill to the Senate, the House had stripped out major taxing changes, which could have cost the city of Evansville and other local governments, and the House chose not to end the \$3 admissions tax casinos pay every time a patron steps onto their facilities.

The bill in its current form does exempt the French Lick casino from the admissions tax, and also allows casinos to offer complimentary beverages outside of the gaming floor.

Lawmakers face a tight deadline on deciding a final gambling proposal to forward to Gov. Mike Pence. The General Assembly set to adjourn by April 29.

INDOT commissioner resigns without explanation

April 22, 2015

Erika Brock, The Statehouse File

Karl Browning resigned his post Wednesday as commissioner of the Indiana Department of Transportation through an e-mail to the governor.

Gov. Mike Pence immediately named Brandye Hendrickson—who previously led the agency in an interim role—to succeed him.

The governor's office would not say whether Browning's departure had been anticipated or whether he'd been asked to leave.

"We don't discuss personnel matters," press secretary Kara Brooks said.

And Browning's resignation email offered no clues.

"While I am proud for the accomplishments I've been able to achieve in state government and am sincerely grateful to you for the opportunity to serve your administration, it is time for me to move on," the e-mail said. "Effectively immediately I resign my appointment as Commissioner of the Department of Transportation. Highest regards, Karl B. Browning."

Pence appointed Browning to serve as commissioner in 2013—the second time he held the position. He also headed up INDOT from 2006 to 2009. In 2011, then-Gov. Mitch Daniels appointed Browning to be executive director of the Hoosier Lottery.

Hendrickson has served as the deputy commissioner of the Indiana Department of Transportation since 2007, overseeing the agency's Greenfield District Operations. In 2013, Pence named Hendrickson interim commissioner at INDOT, a role she held for seven weeks.

"I appreciate the opportunity to continue my service to Hoosiers as head of the Indiana Department of Transportation," she said in a statement, "I look forward to contributing further to the accomplishments of the Pence administration."

Hendrickson also served as deputy commissioner for human resources within INDOT and was the human resources director for the Indiana Department of Environmental Management for more than six years.

"With more than a decade of executive experience in state government, Brandye Hendrickson has demonstrated a commitment to public service and a nearly unmatched depth of understanding of the Indiana Department of Transportation," Pence said in a written statement. "I am confident that she will uphold the agency's mission and serve Hoosiers well as commissioner."

From: Gilson, Katie
Sent: Fri 4/24/2015 8:46 AM (GMT-04:00)
To: "Quyle, Lindsay" <LQuyle@gov.IN.gov>, "Anderson, Christopher M" <CAnderson@gov.in.gov>, "Hodgin, Stephanie" <SHodgin@gov.in.gov>, "#All Governor's Office" <allgovoffice@gov.IN.gov>, "Bailey, Brian (OMB)" <bbailey@gov.in.gov>, "Pitcock, Josh" <jpitcock@ssso.org>, "Baker, Lou Ann (DWD)" <lbaker@dwd.IN.gov>, "Rosebrough, Dennis (LG)" <DRosebrough@g.IN.gov>, "Rossier, Sarah (SBOE)" <SRossier@sboe.IN.gov>, "McKinney, Ted" <TMckinney@lsda.IN.gov>, "Bausman, David" <DBausman@lsda.IN.gov>, "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "#All Lieutenant Governor's Office" <#AllLieutenantGovernor'sOffice@gov.IN.gov>, "smith@ [REDACTED]" <smith@[REDACTED]>, "tomrose [REDACTED]" <tomrose@[REDACTED]>, "Kams, Allison" <AKams@gov.IN.gov>, "Brookes, Brady" <BBrookes@gov.IN.gov>, "Triol, Shelley" <STriol@lsoa.IN.gov>, "Wall, Kathryn E" <KWall@gov.IN.gov>, "Reed, Katie" <KReed@gov.IN.gov>, "Griffis, Andrew D (IER)" <AGriffis@ier.IN.gov>, "Betley, James" <JBetley@gov.IN.gov>, "Schlake, Josh" <JSchlake@gov.IN.gov>, "McCleery, William" <WMcCleery@iot.IN.gov>, "Aycock, Hailey" <HAycock@gov.IN.gov>, "Braun, Steven J" <SBraun@dwd.IN.gov>, "Lubsen, Graig" <GLubsen@iot.IN.gov>, "Myers, Janille (ISDH)" <JanMyers@isdh.IN.gov>, "Timmerman, Chad E (GOV)" <ctimmerman@gov.in.gov>, "Dowd, Jaclyn (DWD)" <jcdowd@dwd.IN.gov>, "Stephen.simcox [REDACTED]" <Stephen.simcox@[REDACTED]>, "Jeff Cardwell" <jcardwell@[REDACTED]>, "mobst [REDACTED]" <mobst@[REDACTED]>
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: Morning Clips- April 24, 2015

GOVERNOR/FIRST LADY

Gov. Mike Pence signs bill creating unified fire training system

WTHR

A new law will give Indiana firefighters access to high-quality training and a standardized curriculum that public safety officials say is long overdue.

Charter shopping bill next heads to Pence's desk

Chalkbeat

A bill that could soon be making its way to the governor's desk would strengthen Indiana's charter school law, proponents of the idea say, if signed by Gov. Mike Pence.

LEGISLATURE

Ed department could face new rules

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Republican legislative leaders on Thursday inserted a new concept into the debate over who runs the State Board of Education — saying they want to add language expanding the role of the board when it comes to data.

Lawmakers negotiating changes to state board of education

Evansville Courier & Press

Republican legislative leaders said Thursday they were still working out a final plan for changes to the Indiana State Board of Education.

*Subscription required, full text below

Long seeks comprehensive needle-exchange bill

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

With only days left in Indiana's legislative session, the question of whether to legalize needle exchanges in areas of the state at highest risk for HIV outbreaks, like the one that has infected more than 130 people in a rural southern county, remains unanswered.

Kenley backs off push for off the shelf student test

The Statehouse File

Key lawmakers said Thursday they plan to move forward with a new ISTEP test – at least for the next two years – and then study whether an off-the-shelf exam could be used in the future to save money.

*Subscription required, full text below

WorkOne achievement award winners announced

Inside IN Business

Jessica Ford of Indianapolis was presented with the WorkOne Achievement Award for overcoming several employment barriers and pursuing a better life for himself. She received the award today in a ceremony at the Indiana Statehouse.

STATE AGENCIES

State RDA funding for South Shore expansion not yet finalized

NWI Times

Funding for the Northwest Indiana Regional Development Authority to expand the South Shore Line to Dyer appears to be safe as lawmakers continued negotiating Thursday the final version of the state's new two-year budget.

Republicans eye more rules on Ritz, education board

Indy Star

Legislative leaders are considering steps to broaden the Republican-backed proposal aimed at allowing the state Board of Education to replace Democratic state schools chief Glenda Ritz as its leader, they said Thursday.

Schools delay testing, seek online waivers after glitches

IBJ

School districts across Indiana are delaying the second round of ISTEP+ testing or asking the Department of Education for permission to administer the exam with paper and pencil after experiencing continuing problems with an online server.

*Subscription required, full text below

AROUND INDIANA

Police: stage collapses at Indiana school; more than 12 hurt

Fort Wayne Journal

More than a dozen people were injured after a stage filled with students collapsed during a musical performance at a central Indiana high school Thursday night, authorities said.

EDITORIAL

Howey: problems, sure, but Pence still OK with GOP

Lafayette Journal & Courier

Gov. Mike Pence has a plethora of political and policy problems to deal with, but a Republican gubernatorial primary isn't likely to be one of them.

Indiana needs leadership ASAP

Indiana daily Student

Indiana has had a bad few months. Its image has taken a hit so bad Gov. Mike Pence has spent \$2 million on an outside PR firm to restore our public appearance. Many will ask why this has happened, but I have one simple explanation: Pence doesn't represent our interests.

Lawmakers negotiating changes to State Board of Education

Chelsea Schneider

Republican legislative leaders said Thursday they were still working out a final plan for changes to the Indiana State Board of Education.

But the proposal could do more than effectively remove state Democratic schools chief, Glenda Ritz, from head of the state board — or change the size of the board and its appointment process. Lawmakers are discussing adding a requirement into state law that the Ritz-controlled Indiana Department of Education shares data with the state board.

Senate President Pro Tem David Long said lawmakers need to take a holistic approach in fixing the state board's tension. Long, a Fort Wayne Republican, said he's fielded concerns that even if the chairperson changes, the board will continue to experience dysfunction if there's not a free flow of information between the Department of Education and the state board.

"I would say that there's great frustration on the board right now. A lot of it comes from the fact there's a lot of data they're not being provided that historically the board has been provided, and they are very frustrated about it," Long said.

Earlier proposals to require the Department of Education to provide data to the state board died earlier in the legislative session. One bill authored by a Republican lawmaker stated, "The department shall provide any data to the state board that the state board determines is necessary to perform the state board's duties under law."

The bill also required any data sharing to be done in compliance with a federal law that governs student information.

Ritz spokesman Daniel Altman on Thursday refuted claims the Department of Education hadn't provided information. Altman said his understanding was the department has "always provided data that (the state board) asked for," subject to any prohibition.

Yet, House Speaker Brian Bosma echoed Long's comments during a media briefing, saying access to data is an issue lawmakers are currently working on.

"We want to be sure, when the General Assembly leaves town next Wednesday evening, there are statutes in place to see to it that the board functions," Bosma said.

The reintroduction of the data requirement comes in the final days of the General Assembly, where lawmakers have yet to come to a consensus on the makeup of the state board.

The bill calls for the state board to elect its own chair. Right now, the state superintendent of public instruction automatically fills that role. Even with the changes, Ritz would still remain a member of the state board through her elected office.

The Senate's original plan reduced the size of the board from 11 to nine members and also changed who makes appointments to the board. The governor currently makes all appointments, with the exception of the state superintendent of public instruction. The version that passed the House increased the board to 13 members, and while most appointments would remain with the governor, legislative leaders would make two appointments.

Changes to the state board are one of several issues lawmakers are working to finalize before the General Assembly adjourns April 29. Lawmakers also are hammering out a new, two-year state budget and potential changes to the state's gambling industry, including approval of land-based casinos.

Kenley backs off push for 'off-the-shelf' student test

April 23, 2015 | Filed under: Education, Top stories | Posted by: Lesley Weidenbener

By Andi TenJarge

TheStatehouseFile.com

INDIANAPOLIS — Key lawmakers said Thursday they plan to move forward with a new STEP test — at least for the next two years — and then study whether an off-the-shelf exam could be used in the future to save money.

Sen. Luke Kenley, R-Noblesville, said he would back off his proposal to require the use of an already standardized test instead of ISTEP to measure student comprehension of the state's new curriculum standards.

Earlier this session, the Senate approved Senate Bill 566 — authored by Kenley and Sen. Ryan Mishler, R-Bremen — to explore the new avenue for school testing, rather than the ISTEP.

House Republican leaders had opposed the plan and stripped it out of SB 566. On Thursday, the two sides met to try to find a compromise on the legislation.

The debate stems from increasing costs to administer various statewide student tests — a price tag that is expected to rise further as the state develops a new test to match its new standards.

Originally, the state was set to use the controversial Common Core standards — which have been adopted by dozens of states — which would have made an off-the-shelf test much more likely.

But the General Assembly ordered the State Board of Education to come up with standards written just for Indiana. That also means a customized test, state Superintendent Glenda Ritz has argued.

The Democrat asked lawmakers in December for more than \$65 million to implement new tests, although she has since cut that number almost in half. Kenley had hoped to go even cheaper.

But now the issue will be sent to a legislative study committee for more review.

Schools delay testing, seek online waivers after glitches

April 23, 2015

School districts across Indiana are delaying the second round of ISTEP+ testing or asking the Department of Education for permission to administer the exam with paper and pencil after experiencing continuing problems with an online server.

Districts in Franklin, Kokomo and Columbus are among those that have received waivers from the online testing requirement. Fort Wayne Community Schools and the Bartholomew Consolidated School Corp. have delayed the start of testing after experiencing problems during online practice sessions.

The issues are fueling already heightened concerns over how students will perform on the high-stakes exam, which is used to evaluate schools and teachers. Outrage over changes to the exam that more than doubled its length, to about 12 hours, forced Gov. Mike Pence and lawmakers to find ways to shorten the test earlier this year.

Warrick County Superintendent Brac Schneider said practice testing in his district was an "absolute disaster" and said it's not acceptable to be experiencing problems as testing begins.

"Someone needs to answer for this simply because this is a high-stakes test. ... And if we can't provide a testing platform in which students are not disrupted ... what kind of impact will it have?" Schneider said.

The problems include students not being able to log onto the system, frames freezing, calculators and other functions not working and students only being allowed to click one answer on multiple choice questions when they are prompted to select more, the Evansville Courier & Press reported.

Lissa Stranahan, director of exceptional learners and testing at Western Schools in Russiaville, called the

testing issues a "debacle" in an email to House Speaker Brian Bosma.

"It is an embarrassment to the entire state. This assessment will not reflect the true abilities of students, teachers and schools," she wrote.

Department of Education spokesman Daniel Altman told The Associated Press on Thursday that the first day of testing was "going smoothly" and that the rate of interruptions was low.

He said the department was reaching out to schools that had reported disruptions to resolve the issues.

Educators say they're frustrated by continuing problems with the online test and vendor CIB/McGraw Hill. In the past three years, schools have had repeated problems ranging from screens freezing to seeing blank screens instead of questions. In 2013, schools statewide had multiple problems and an estimated 70,000 students experienced disruptions that included screens freezing and being kicked out of the test.

"The state should have their act together by now," Principal Mark Heiden of Creekside Elementary in Franklin told the Daily Journal. "At what point is someone going to get this under control?"

From: Gilson, Katie
Sent: Mon 4/27/2015 8:47 AM (GMT-04:00)
To: "Quyle, Lindsay" <LQuyle@gov.IN.gov>, "Anderson, Christopher M" <CAnderson@gov.in.gov>, "Hodgin, Stephanie" <SHodgin@gov.in.gov>, "#All Governor's Office" <allgovoffice@gov.IN.gov>, "Bailey, Brian (OMB)" <bbailey@gov.in.gov>, "Pitcock, Josh" <jpitcock@sso.org>, "Baker, Lou Ann (DWD)" <lbaker@dwd.IN.gov>, "Rosebrough, Dennis (LG)" <DRosebrough@g.IN.gov>, "Rossier, Sarah (SBOE)" <SRossier@sboe.IN.gov>, "McKinney, Ted" <TMckinney@isda.IN.gov>, "Bausman, David" <DBausman@isda.IN.gov>, "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "#All Lieutenant Governor's Office" <#AllLieutenantGovernorsOffice@gov.IN.gov>, "smith@ [REDACTED]" <smith@[REDACTED]>, "tomrose [REDACTED]" <tomrose@[REDACTED]>, "Kams, Allison" <AKams@gov.IN.gov>, "Brookes, Brady" <BBrookes@gov.IN.gov>, "Triol, Shelley" <STriol@idba.IN.gov>, "Wall, Kathryn E" <KWall@gov.IN.gov>, "Rood, Katie" <KRood@gov.IN.gov>, "Griffis, Andrew D (IER)" <AGriffis@ier.IN.gov>, "Betley, James" <JBetley@gov.IN.gov>, "Schlake, Josh" <JSchlake@gov.IN.gov>, "McCleery, William" <WMcCleery@iot.IN.gov>, "Aycock, Hailey" <HAycock@gov.IN.gov>, "Braun, Steven J" <SBraun@dwd.IN.gov>, "Lubsen, Graig" <GLubsen@iot.IN.gov>, "Myers, Janille (ISDH)" <JanMyers@isdh.IN.gov>, "Timmerman, Chad E (GOV)" <ctimmerman@gov.in.gov>, "Dowd, Jaclyn (DWD)" <jdowd@dwd.IN.gov>, "Stephen.slmcox [REDACTED]" <Stephen.slmcox@[REDACTED]>, "Jeff Cardwell" <jcardwell@[REDACTED]>, "mobst [REDACTED]" <mobst@[REDACTED]>

Cc:

Bcc:

Subject: Morning Clips- April 27, 2015

GOVERNOR/FIRST LADY

Pence adds familiar face to staff

Inside Indiana Business

Indiana Governor Mike Pence announced today the addition of Matt Lloyd to the governor's office as Deputy Chief of Staff for Communications and Strategy. Lloyd will assume his responsibilities in late May.

Angst about Iran deal at GOP Jewish meeting

Star Telegram

Indiana Gov. Mike Pence, center, meets with people after speaking at the Republican Jewish Coalition spring leadership meeting Saturday, April 25, 2015, in Las Vegas. Republican luminaries and presidential hopefuls reiterated their support for Israel and skepticism about President Obama's proposed nuclear deal with Iran as an influential group of Republican Jews gathered Saturday at the casino of GOP mega-donor Sheldon Adelson.

Top republicans are heading Vegas to meet Sheldon Adelson

The Market Business

Several Republican presidential candidates are heading Vegas to attend the Spring Meetings Leadership Jewish Republican Coalition on weekends. This meeting is very important for Cruz and Perry so that they will seek to reaffirm their commitment to Israel and their disapproval of Obama's policy towards Iran. Together with them, several prominent Republicans, such as Lindsey Graham, Mike Pence, and also George Pataki.

IN HIV outbreak triggers national alert

The Guardian

Federal health officials helping to contain an HIV outbreak in Indiana issued an alert to health departments across the US on Friday, urging them to take steps to identify and track HIV and hepatitis C cases in an effort to prevent similar outbreaks elsewhere...Indiana governor Mike Pence last month declared a public health emergency in Scott County because of the HIV outbreak that began in December and is primarily centered in Austin, a city of 4,300 people.

CDC issues alert over IN HIV boom

Gazette Review

Scott County in Indiana has been going through a huge HIV outbreak, with every day more cases being confirmed, which is all tied back to intravenous drug use. Health officials in Indiana said that there are now 142 confirmed cases in Scott County, with 136 confirmed and 6 preliminary testing positive. The surge in HIV cases is huge, considering that between 2009 and 2013 there had been only three cases of HIV...Governor Mike Pence used to be strongly against a needle exchange program, but with this outbreak, he changed his tune and allowed the program to open for 30 days. The program can continue in 30 day increments, which means Pence will likely add more time to the needle exchange program 30 days at a time. Pence has already decided to add another 30 days onto the program this week, but the program is only operating in Scott County.

State to probe collapse; injuries to students minor

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Indiana Gov. Mike Pence is promising a thorough state investigation into a stage collapse at a central Indiana high school that left more than a dozen students with minor injuries.

Religious freedom up for debate in Mich. committee

USA Today

Despite Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder's promise to veto a religious freedom bill if it reaches his desk, the state Senate Judiciary committee will consider such a bill Tuesday. The hearing on the Religious Freedom Restoration Act will come just a couple of hours after the U.S. Supreme Court hears oral arguments on bans on same-sex marriage in Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio and Tennessee... Opponents say the bill would legalize discrimination against the LGBT community and that protections for religious freedom already exist in the U.S. and state constitutions. The decision to address RFRA in Michigan comes after Indiana endured nearly a week of national derision last month for the religious freedom bill signed by Republican Gov. Mike Pence.

LEGISLATURE

Big items left on agenda as legislative session nears end

WISH TV

State lawmakers begin their last few days of this year's legislative session Monday. The session wraps up on Wednesday.

Lawmakers smooth over differences as end looms

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Lawmakers have three days to finish up the 2015 legislative session and there are "still a lot of balls up in the air."

Final countdown is on at the Statehouse

NWI Times

The Indiana General Assembly will adjourn for the year on Wednesday, that much is certain.

Charter school funding still a question as Legislature wraps up

Evansville Courier & Press

As lawmakers wrap up work on the state's new budget, one issue still up in the air is whether charter schools receive funding to help with facility costs.

*Subscription required, full text below

Republicans eye more rules on Ritz, education board dealings

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Legislative leaders are considering steps to broaden the Republican-backed proposal aimed at allowing the state Board of Education to replace Democratic state schools Superintendent Glenda Ritz as its leader, they said Thursday.

STATE AGENCIES

State releases ISTEP+ testing update

Inside Indiana Business

The Indiana Department of Education released a testing summary from the online administration of the ISTEP+ today. The summary includes data from Thursday's administration of the ISTEP+.

Restoration set for 1880s southern Indiana covered bridge

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Work is about to start on a project to restore a historic wooden covered bridge in southern Indiana's Jennings County.

AROUND INDIANA

IPFW celebrates first science TEC Academy

Inside Indiana Business

A group of dedicated university and community partners will join with pre-college students and their parents on April 28, 2015 to celebrate the inaugural year of the Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne (IPFW) Sci-TEC Academy. The event will take place in Walb Union Classic Ballroom from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Power to the Indiana people's party—in 1855

Indy Star

If you not only know that the answer to that question is 1855-1857, but you can also explain what the Indiana People's Party is, then your name is probably Trevor Foughty. Foughty, an aide to Rep. Todd Young, spent more than four years creating the site in his spare time. That meant not just writing the code, but also entering information on more than 2,000 candidates and listing the results of more than 600 elections.

Religious leaders plan to protest changes to RFRA

WISH TV

Pastors Alliance Executive Director Ron Johnson told The (Munster) Times the fix removes religious freedoms and the group believes Republican leaders caved to corporate threats and special interests.

Small Indiana town sued for rejecting proposed cell tower

Indy Star

A company that wants to build a cellphone tower in northeast Indiana is suing a small town, alleging the Zanesville Town Council is violating the federal Communications Act by using zoning ordinances to keep a wireless communications facility out.

Thousands honor slain IU student in 2 vigils

Indy Star

Thousands gathered Saturday in two emotional vigils to remember slain Indiana University student Hannah Wilson.

EDITORIAL

LoBianco: Another legislative session, full of surprises

Indy Star

In just a few days, state lawmakers and Gov. Mike Pence will wrap up their 2015 session, and the element of surprise has taken on sudden importance. Who's being blindsided typically determines whether those surprises make it into law.

Howey: Pence still strong with GOP, less so with women

NWI Times

Indiana Gov. Mike Pence has a plethora of political and policy problems to deal with, but a Republican gubernatorial primary isn't likely to be one of them.

Tully: tax suburbanites to fix Indy infrastructure

Indy Star

He's standing near a pond, looking into the camera. The look on his face is perfect, in that way that little kids' faces are always perfect. His mouth is either cutting a half-smile or locked in seriousness — I can't tell. He looks like a kid ready to either share a joke or announce to the world that he is in charge. Maybe both.

Smith: Why I'm leaving Indianapolis

Indy Star

You see, I am moving. Not to San Francisco, but close. About 90 minutes away, to Sacramento, Calif.

Charter school funding still a question as Legislature wraps up

Chelsea Schneider

As lawmakers wrap up work on the state's new budget, one issue still up in the air is whether charter schools receive funding to help with facility costs.

The funding would make a big difference, said Jean Hitchcock, executive director of Signature School. The Evansville charter school currently must raise about \$250,000 in donations annually to bridge a funding shortfall.

The school relies on donations for computers, and furniture is hand-downs from the University of Southern Indiana and other sources.

But what weighs on Hitchcock the most is the list of students waiting to get into Signature School, known nationally for its high achievement.

"I hate having kids on a waitlist and turning them away, but we simply don't have the space," Hitchcock said. "My hope is they will examine it this session and will be able to find some dollars for charter schools. It's very difficult for us to operate at a deficit."

But whether those dollars end up in the final budget lawmakers forward to Gov. Mike Pence by Wednesday is still a matter of negotiations. Supporters of offering additional funding for the schools say it's needed, because unlike traditional public schools, charter schools can't collect property taxes to help pay for capital expenses. Yet, opponents say any extra funding for those schools will drain money from traditional public schools where the vast majority of Hoosier children attend.

Budget proposals released by Pence and the House and Senate all take different routes on charter school funding.

- Pence offered the most funding – a \$1,500 per student grant for charter schools. The grants are expected to cost \$41 million in 2016 and \$45 million in 2017.

- The House plan offers \$20 million per year in grants to charter schools for capital projects.

- The Senate plan pushes back any proposed changes by sending them to a summer study committee.

Senate President Pro Tem David Long said on Thursday lawmakers are working to find a "sweet spot" on charter school funding. A 2013 report by the National Conference of State Legislatures found 10 states and the District of Columbia provide direct funding to charter schools to cover facility costs.

"They are in a deficit and usually incurring pretty significant debt to be able to construct their facilities," said Long, a Fort Wayne Republican, "so do we help them find a way to improve that situation. That's the discussion right now, and I think it's a fair one."

The funding likely will be one of the last issues resolved as lawmakers make final revisions to the next state budget, said Betsy Wiley, president and CEO of Institute for Quality Education. The school choice organization continues to be hopeful, Wiley said, that per-student funding toward capital expenses is made available to all charter schools.

"I think it's a big fight ahead of us," Wiley said, "but I think it's an important one. I think it's phenomenal we are having the conversation and getting the attention we have. There are nearly 27,000 students in charter schools and they deserve to have their education funded equitably. I'm optimistic we will all work together and figure out how to get that done here before the end of session."

Wiley expects the new forecast of state revenues released this month, which showed the state had about \$213 million less in spending power than anticipated for the next budget, to cause lawmakers and the Senate's lead budget architect, state Sen. Luke Kenley, concern.

"The Senate likes to be deliberative, and I don't think Sen. Kenley in particular has had the time to fully learn what our current situation is when it comes to charter school facility funding," Wiley said.

Regardless of facility money, Signature School and the area's other charter school, Joshua Academy, see different outcomes in House and Senate plans for funding K-12 schools. Joshua Academy makes slight gains in funding in both the House and Senate plans. But Signature School would lose about \$162,000 in state funding over the next two years in the Senate plan, while the school would see a slighter decrease in the House plan.

State Sen. Vaneta Becker, an Evansville Republican, said she supports sending charter school funding to a study committee. Becker said she was concerned of recent A-F school accountability grades where about 45 percent of the state's 73 charter accredited schools earned either a "D" or an "F."

"Just think we have a lot of traditional public schools that are struggling as well," Becker said on school finances. "So I think the study committee would be the best option at this point."

State Sen. Mark Stoops, a Bloomington Democrat and member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, said Pence's proposal goes against the original concept that charter schools would be more efficient to run than traditional public schools. Stoops said community-based, not-for-profit charter schools need to be separated out from those run by for-profit operators.

"Where is that money going to go? Is it going to go straight to the bottom line of these for-profit charter operators," Stoops questioned.

Deliberations on charter school funding come as lawmakers are working to settle a new, two-year budget for the state, which will cover spending from July through June 2017.

From: Gilson, Katie
Sent: Tue 4/28/2015 8:47 AM (GMT-04:00)
To: "Quyle, Lindsay" <LQuyle@gov.IN.gov>, "Anderson, Christopher M" <CAnderson@gov.in.gov>, "Hodgin, Stephanie" <SHodgin@gov.in.gov>, "#All Governor's Office" <al.govoffice@gov.IN.gov>, "Bailey, Brian (OMB)" <bbailey@gov.in.gov>, "Pitcock, Josh" <jpitcock@sso.org>, "Baker, Lou Ann (DWD)" <baker@dwd.IN.gov>, "Rosebrough, Dennis (LG)" <DRosebrough@lg.IN.gov>, "Rossier, Sarah (SBOE)" <SRossier@sboe.IN.gov>, "McKinney, Ted" <TMckinney@isda.IN.gov>, "Bausman, David" <DBausman@isda.IN.gov>, "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "#All Lieutenant Governor's Office" <#All.LieutenantGovernor'sOffice@gov.IN.gov>, "smith@ [REDACTED]" <smith@[REDACTED]>, "tomrose [REDACTED]" <tomrose@[REDACTED]>, "Karns, Allison" <AKarns@gov.IN.gov>, "Brookes, Brady" <BBrookes@gov.IN.gov>, "Triol, Shelley" <STriol@idoa.IN.gov>, "Wall, Kathryn E" <KWall@gov.IN.gov>, "Rood, Katie" <KReed@gov.IN.gov>, "Griffis, Andrew D (IER)" <AGriffis@ier.IN.gov>, "Betley, James" <JBetley@gov.IN.gov>, "Schlake, Josh" <JSchlake@gov.IN.gov>, "McCleery, William" <WMcCleery@iot.IN.gov>, "Aycock, Hailey" <HAycock@gov.IN.gov>, "Braun, Steven J" <SBraun@dwd.IN.gov>, "Lubsen, Graig" <GLubsen@iot.IN.gov>, "Myers, Janille (ISDH)" <JanMyers@isdh.IN.gov>, "Timmerman, Chad E (GOV)" <ctimmerman@gov.in.gov>, "Dowd, Jaclyn (DWD)" <jcdowd@dwd.IN.gov>, "Stephen.simcox [REDACTED]" <Stephen.simcox@[REDACTED]>, "Jeff Cardwell" <jcardwell@[REDACTED]>, "mobst [REDACTED]" <mobs@[REDACTED]>

Cc:

Bcc:

Subject: Morning Clips- April 28, 2015

GOVERNOR/FIRST LADY

Pence is headed to China for another trade mission

The Statehouse File

Gov. Mike Pence is packing his bags in anticipation of a trip to China, which will focus on creating economic opportunities and partnerships between the country and our state.

*Subscription required, full text below

Pence to lead jobs mission to China

Inside IN Business

Governor Mike Pence will lead a delegation of Hoosier business leaders to China next month on his sixth international jobs and economic development mission as governor.

Ethics reforms on their way to Pence

Indy Star

A package of ethics reforms is headed to Gov. Mike Pence — including a last-minute addition that would require lawmakers to disclose businesses in which they have a particularly large financial stake.

Ethics bill that requires more financial disclosure from lawmakers heads to Pence for approval

The Statehouse File

An ethics bill that would require lawmakers to be more transparent with their business dealings and stop them from using state resources for political gain is now headed to the governor for approval.

*Subscription required, full text below

Pence opposes expanding exchanges

Batesville Herald Tribune

Public health experts are pushing Indiana lawmakers to pass legislation to allow for needle exchange programs in communities at high-risk for the deadly virus that causes AIDS, despite continuing opposition from Gov. Mike Pence.

Pence, GOP leaders get pastors' 'rebuke' for RFRA fix

Indy Star

A pastor who stood behind Gov. Mike Pence last month when he signed the "religious freedom" bill stood in the heart of the Statehouse on Monday and publicly rebuked Pence for the "betrayal" of signing the "fix" that quelled the national backlash.

LEGISLATURE

GOP changes plan to dilute Ritz's power

Indy Star

A Republican plan to restructure the Indiana State Board of Education announced Monday would allow Superintendent of Public Instruction Glenda Ritz, a Democrat, to continue to chair the board until the end of her term while limiting her agency's authority over education policy.

Ritz would keep chair for now, board gets some ISTEP authority under proposed compromise

The Statehouse File

State Superintendent Glenda Ritz would keep her position as chair of the State Board of Education through the end of her current term under a new proposal lawmakers are considering with just days left in their legislative session.

*Subscription required, full text below

Vets could get a leg up for jobs under bill headed to governor

The Statehouse File

A bill that would allow employers to give veterans preference when hiring for jobs passed the House and Senate on Monday.

*Subscription required, full text below

Proposed changes to SBOE pushes back election of chair to 2017, gives state

Evansville Courier & Press

A final deal is in the works to modify the Indiana State Board of Education that delays any changes to the board chair until after the 2016 election, but would still give the board new powers over ISTEP.

*Subscription required, full text below

STATE AGENCIES

Local bar's fate in state commission's hands

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

A hearing judge with the Indiana Alcohol and Tobacco Commission heard evidence Monday that police runs have dropped at the embattled Sports and Spirits bar in Fort Wayne in the last six months.

Truck driver firm announces layoffs

Inside IN Business

Illinois based P.T.O. services says it is laying off 57 workers in Gary. In a notice to the DWD, the driver leasing company says the move is a result of a cancelled contract.

IOSHA to investigate high school stage collapse

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Indiana Department of Labor spokeswoman Amanda Stanley tells WISH-TV the Indiana Occupational Safety and Health Administration launched a formal investigation Monday into the cause of last week's stage collapse at Westfield High School. The collapse during the finale of a musical on Thursday sent 16 students plunging into the orchestra pit.

8 Applicants seek vacancy on Indiana Court of appeals

WTHR

The Indiana Judicial Nominating Commission has received eight applications for a future vacancy on the Indiana Court of Appeals.

Appellate Judge Ezra Friedlander plans to retire on August 31. Applicants seeking to take his seat include Marion Superior Court Judges Robert Altice and Gary Miller, Wabash Superior Court Judge Christopher Goff is the only applicant from outside of Indianapolis.

AROUND INDIANA

Four Indy area school districts seek tax hikes in May 5 election

Indy Star

Next week's primary election will allow voters in four Indianapolis-area school districts to decide whether they want to increase property taxes to update school facilities, boost operating budgets or provide for new construction.

Fort Wayne factory gains 'green' recognition

Inside IN Business

General Motors' Fort Wayne Assembly Plant — home of the regular and double-cab Chevrolet Silverado and GMC Sierra — ranks No. 5 among the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's top 30 generators of onsite green power. The assembly plant generates its renewable energy onsite from methane captured from decomposing trash in a nearby landfill, powering 43 percent of the building's electricity.

EDITORIAL

Swarens: A little perspective, please, on Christian 'persecution' and R^RA

Indy Star

Early morning, April 2, Muslim terrorists invaded the campus of Garissa University in eastern Kenya. They came with one intent, to kill Christians.

Pence is headed to China for another trade mission

April 27, 2015 | Filed under: [Jobs, economy & labor](#), [Top stories](#) | Posted by: [Lesley Weidenbener](#)
Staff Report

[TheStatehouseFile.com](#)

INDIANAPOLIS— Gov. Mike Pence is packing his bags in anticipation of a trip to China, which will focus on creating economic opportunities and partnerships between the country and our state.

Pence will leave on May 9 for a weeklong trip and will visit Beijing, Shanghai and Hangzhou, the capital city of Zhejiang Province, Indiana's Chinese sister state.

While away, Pence will meet with Chinese government leaders, top executives from numerous Chinese companies and potential investors. The governor will also stop at Indiana companies with operations in China, including Eli Lilly and Cummins, as well as China-based Haier Group, which is planning to locate its North American Tech Center in Evansville.

China is the state's fifth largest export partner, with exports totaling \$1.4 billion in 2014.

"Indiana plays a critical role in the global economy, with thousands of Hoosiers across our state going to work daily at international companies," Pence said in a statement. "China represents the largest economy in the world. Today we see immense potential for the creation of more jobs for Hoosiers through the strengthening of ties with our Chinese partners."

The trip is Pence's sixth international trade mission since taking office. His first was in 2013 when he traveled to Japan. He has also gone on trade missions to Germany, the United Kingdom, Canada and Israel.

"The reach of Indiana's economy extends far beyond our borders," Pence said. "Hoosiers can create everything from cars to medicines that are used around the world. And with Indiana's strengths in life sciences, advanced manufacturing and aerospace, we aim to make sure Chinese business leaders know that Indiana is the ideal place to grow their companies and create great Hoosier jobs."

Private donations from the Indiana Economic Development Foundation are paying for Pence's trip. First Lady Karen Pence and Secretary of Commerce Victor Smith will also travel with the governor.

"Our universities and our communities already boast a thriving friendship with China," Pence said, "and we're looking forward to strengthening this relationship on our jobs mission next month."

Ethics bill that requires more financial disclosure from lawmakers heads to Pence for approval

April 27, 2015 | Filed under: [People, Top stories](#) | Posted by: [Lesley Weidenbener](#)

By Alec Gray

[TheStatehouseFile.com](#)

INDIANAPOLIS – An ethics bill that would require lawmakers to be more transparent with their business dealings and stop them from using state resources for political gain is now headed to the governor for approval.

House Bill 1002, which was authored and sponsored by the four leaders of the House and Senate, received final approval by the House on Monday. The bill is a response to ethical issues surrounding former Rep. Eric Turner and former state Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Bennett.

House Speaker Brian Bosma, R-Indianapolis, said the bill gives Hoosiers the chance to see the business interests of lawmakers, while also forcing those lawmakers to be transparent.

"The goal was always to have unprecedented transparency and disclosure, and I'm very confident that 1002 accomplishes just that," Bosma said.

House Minority Leader Scott Pelath, D-Michigan City, said the bill was a bipartisan effort and all of the state legislative leaders contributed to the bill.

"We have plenty of things around here on which we find ground to disagree, but this is one we're all in together," Pelath said.

New language added to the bill closes a loophole that state employees have used in the past to get around a one year cooling off period. Current law allows a former employee to become a consultant and then contract with the company he or she would otherwise have been banned from working with.

The new language would ban that activity as well.

The legislation also requires lawmakers to take an ethics training course and creates an ethics office within the nonpartisan Legislative Services Agency. Bosma said new ethics office would feature the same LSA employees legislators go to for ethical advice now.

The bill would require lawmakers to disclose active business investments of at least \$5,000. Current law doesn't require a disclosure until the investment reaches \$10,000.

The bill passed the House unanimously.

Ritz would keep chair for now, board gets some ISTEP authority under proposed compromise

April 27, 2015 | Filed under: [Education, Top stories](#) | Posted by: [Lesley Weidenbener](#)

By Alec Gray

TheStatehouseFile.com

INDIANAPOLIS – State Superintendent Glenda Ritz would keep her position as chair of the State Board of Education through the end of her current term under a new proposal lawmakers are considering with just days left in their legislative session.

The plan would still give the state board the authority to elect its own leader – but not until Jan. 1, 2017, just after the next election of the superintendent of public instruction.

Stripping Ritz, a Democrat, of her power at the state board has been a hot-button issue throughout the session with majority Republicans pushing to let the board pick its own chair as soon as this summer. They've argued that the current setup, which has Ritz chair a board of members all appointed by a GOP governor, has led to dysfunction that is unacceptable.

But Sen. Travis Holdman, R-Markle – who is chairing the joint House-Senate conference committee looking for an agreement on competing versions of Senate Bill 1 – said the decision to keep Ritz in her position as chair for now is a compromise that is less about political pressure and more about other aspects of the legislation that should strengthen the board's hand.

Among those provisions are some that would give the state board more control over the ISTEP exam and make the board a state educational authority, as well as the DOE, which gives both agencies standing with the federal government. The proposal also revamps the board's makeup and dictates a number of board operating procedures, including how many members must be present to act and when agendas must be prepared.

John Barnes, the director of legislative affairs at the Indiana Department of Education, said the agency is happy that Ritz will not be removed as chairman. But he said he still thinks the argument is politically driven.

Democrats and advocates for Ritz have long argued that removing her as the board chair now would disenfranchise voters.

"So from that standpoint, certainly that's better," Barnes said. "We feel like it's ridiculous from the beginning to manufacture this kind of dysfunction that everybody wants to call it when in fact it all seems to be purely politics and it just doesn't make a whole lot of sense."

Since Ritz was elected more than two years ago – defeating Republican Tony Bennett – she and board members have bickered about not just significant policies involving testing and school accountability but also small, administrative issues including who gets to put items on the board agenda and when a policy is eligible for a vote. At one point, Ritz sued the board for taking action behind her back and, at another point, she walked out of a meeting.

Holdman chose not to hear public testimony on the proposal Monday, despite proposing language that had not passed the House or Senate earlier in the session. He said because of the time crunch, he only wanted lawmakers weighing in.

SB 1, in its current form, would give more power to the State Board of Education to not only set education policy in the state, but also to be more a part of the implementation of those policies, something the DOE has historically done.

Barnes said that is a dangerous idea because there are times when a quick decision must be made and the schools don't have time to wait for the DOE to consult with the board.

"We just think it's always confusing if you try to put two different entities in control," Barnes said. "There isn't time for two different entities to consult about what's going on so we feel like that's a big mistake. You don't want to put a volunteer board in charge of ISTEP when it takes experts and people who are experts in student assessment."

The new proposal would also shrink the board from 11 members to 9. The governor would appoint six members to the board, with only four coming from his political party. The speaker of the House and president pro tem of the Senate would each get one appointee.

Holdman said shrinking the board would allow members to work more efficiently and work better together as a team.

"Most Hoosiers acknowledge that the current discord and dysfunction on the State Board of Education is not in the best interest of Hoosier students," Holdman said in a statement after the meeting. "As state lawmakers charged with setting state education policy, we have a responsibility to do something about it. I believe this legislation is a solid move in the right direction that will benefit our kids in the classroom." Democrats said they were upset that the board would be stacked for the majority 6-3 and create a completely partisan system.

Senate Minority Leader Tim Lanane, D-Anderson, said he thinks the elected superintendent needs to have more power and is upset that language was taken out that required majority legislative leaders to at least consult with the minority leaders before selecting their appointees.

"This is going to be a completely partisan type of a board," Lanane said. "There's a good reason that the elected superintendent of public instruction serves as the chair. All those other appointments on that board are not elected, and underneath this scenario, they could have minimal qualifications.

"I think it would be an excellent time to restore the power, to affirm the power of the elected superintendent of public instruction as the chair of this board," he said. "We'll put that out there. We'll see if they accept that or not."

Vets could get a leg up for jobs under bill headed to governor

April 27, 2015 | Filed under: [Top stories](#) | Posted by: [Lesley Weidenbener](#)

By Alec Gray

[TheStatehouseFile.com](#)

INDIANAPOLIS — A bill that would allow employers to give veterans preference when hiring for jobs passed the House and Senate on Monday.

The bill underwent minor changes that gave the preference to more veterans including former members of the Indiana National Guard and Air National Guard.

"Our hardworking Hoosier veterans often find difficulty when returning home to their families," Rep. Karlee Macer, D-Indianapolis, said. "This bill makes it easier for these veterans to obtain employment while giving employers peace of mind knowing that their workforce is comprised of our nation's heroes."

The bill would also protect employers from lawsuits if they give preference to veterans.

Both chambers passed the bill and it is now awaiting the governor's signature.

Proposed changes to State Board of Education pushes back election of chair to 2017, gives state
Chelsea Schneider

A final deal is in the works to modify the Indiana State Board of Education that delays any changes to the board chair until after the 2016 election, but would still give the board new powers over ISTEP.

The proposed plan unveiled Monday reduces the State Board of Education to nine members from the current 11-member board. However, Democratic state schools chief Glenda Ritz would remain head of the state board through her current term in office — a shift from earlier proposals that would have allowed the board to remove Ritz as chair this year.

The proposal before lawmakers also would statutorily require the Department of Education to share data with the state board in a "reasonable time frame." It also gives the state board oversight over the content and format of the ISTEP.

Republican lawmakers involved in finalizing the changes to the state board called the deal a fair compromise on Monday. But Democrats criticized the decision not to allow public testimony at a Monday legislative hearing because some aspects of the proposal are either new concepts or ones that stalled in the legislative process earlier in the General Assembly session.

State Rep. Wendy McNamara, a Mount Vernon Republican who is serving as an advisor on the final deal, said the proposal balances concerns brought forward about the state board changes.

"I firmly believe when we really want to say what we mean, and it means we are going to take care of kids in Indiana; it's our ultimate responsibility to make sure that the highest level of education, the place that's given the governance for education, functions appropriately and functions in the best interest of our kids," McNamara said. "After months and months of discussion and compromise, this is the best thing for us."

John Barnes, director of legislative affairs for the Department of Education, took issue with the state board gaining new control over standardized tests for Hoosier students, saying putting two different groups in control of ISTEP would cause confusion.

"We feel like that's a big mistake. You don't want to put a volunteer board in charge of ISTEP when it takes experts and people who are experts in student assessment," Barnes said.

Delaying changes in the selection of the board chair until after the 2016 election eliminates the argument that the proposal would disenfranchise Indiana voters, who elected Ritz on the presumption she would serve as head of the Department of Education as well as the state board, Barnes said.

"But again, we feel like it's ridiculous from the beginning to manufacture this kind of dysfunction that everybody wants to call it when in fact it all seems to be purely politics," Barnes said.

One of the proposal's lead authors, state Sen. Travis Holdman, said lawmakers were under a "time crunch," so public testimony wasn't taken at the Monday hearing.

Holdman, a Mark's Republican, said the proposed changes aim to open communication lines between Ritz's department and board members, so the date of when the board first elects its chair became "somewhat moot."

Under the plan, membership on the board would reduce to nine members this June. The governor would appoint six members. The House speaker and Senate president pro tem would hold one appointment each, and the state schools chief would still serve as an automatic member.

Then at the board's first meeting in January 2017, the board would elect its own chairperson.

Of the governor's six appointments, four must have professional education experience and four can come from the same political party.

The proposal also speaks of board operating procedures, including requiring a chairperson – in the event it's not the state schools chief – to add items to the board's meeting agenda at the superintendent's request.

The proposed deal comes in the final days of the Indiana General Assembly session that's set to end Wednesday. However, further tweaks are expected as the proposal heads to both the House and Senate for final consideration.

From: Gilson, Katie
Sent: Wed 4/29/2015 8:43 AM (GMT-04:00)
To: "Quyle, Lindsay" <LQuyle@gov.IN.gov>, "Anderson, Christopher M" <CAnderson@gov.in.gov>, "Hodgin, Stephanie" <SHodgin@gov.in.gov>, "#All Governor's Office" <allgovoffice@gov.IN.gov>, "Bailey, Brian (OMB)" <bbailey@gov.in.gov>, "Pitcock, Josh" <jpitcock@ssso.org>, "Baker, Lou Ann (DWD)" <lbaker@dwd.IN.gov>, "Rosebrough, Dennis (LG)" <DRosebrough@g.IN.gov>, "Rossler, Sarah (SBOE)" <SRossler@sboe.IN.gov>, "McKinney, Ted" <TMckinney@isda.IN.gov>, "Bausman, David" <DBausman@isda.IN.gov>, "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "#All Lieutenant Governor's Office" <#ALLieutenantGovernor'sOffice@gov.IN.gov>, "smith@s" <smith@s>, "tomrose" <tomrose>, "Kams, Allison" <AKams@gov.IN.gov>, "Brookes, Brady" <BBrookes@gov.IN.gov>, "Triol, Shelley" <STriol@idba.IN.gov>, "Wall, Kathryn E" <KWall@gov.IN.gov>, "Rood, Katie" <KRood@gov.IN.gov>, "Griffis, Andrew D (IER)" <AGriffis@ier.IN.gov>, "Betley, James" <JBetley@gov.IN.gov>, "Schlake, Josh" <JSchlake@gov.IN.gov>, "McCleery, William" <WMcCleery@iot.IN.gov>, "Aycock, Hailey" <HAycock@gov.IN.gov>, "Braun, Steven J" <SBraun@dwd.IN.gov>, "Lubsen, Graig" <GLubsen@iot.IN.gov>, "Myers, Janille (ISDH)" <JanMyers@isdh.IN.gov>, "Timmerman, Chad E (GOV)" <ctimmerman@gov.in.gov>, "Dowd, Jaclyn (DWD)" <jcdowd@dwd.IN.gov>, "Stephen.simcox" <Stephen.simcox>, "Jeff Cardwell" <jcardwell@>, "mobst" <mobst>

Cc:

Bcc:

Subject: Morning Clips- April 29, 2015

GOVERNOR/FIRST LADY

Budget deal means more for schools, less for roads

IBJ

The \$31.3 billion, two-year plan – which should be approved and sent to Gov. Mike Pence on Wednesday, the last day of the 2015 General Assembly – would mean a 2.3-percent increase in K-12 school funding in 2016 and again in 2017.

*Subscription required, full text below

At a glance: Indiana state budget proposal

Washington Times

Here are key points of the two-year state budget agreement released Tuesday by legislative leaders. Lawmakers must approve the spending plan Wednesday to meet the General Assembly's adjournment deadline:

RDA funding in state budget, lawmakers say

NWI Times

Multiple Hoosier lawmakers are confirming that state funding for the Northwest Indiana Regional Development Authority to expand the South Shore Line is included in the compromise budget set to be released late Tuesday or early Wednesday.

CDC official: HIV outbreak lessons may spur 'model response'

Sun Herald

National health officials hope to use the lessons learned from efforts to contain an HIV outbreak in southern Indiana as "a model response" for the nation in combatting future outbreaks tied to intravenous drug use, a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention leader said Tuesday. Dr. Jonathan Morman, the

CDC's HIV prevention chief, said both he and Gov. Mike Pence hope the whole nation can benefit from the lessons learned in Scott and neighboring Jackson counties, which have seen a combined 143 HIV-positive cases since December fueled by needle-sharing among drug users.

Pastors: We were betrayed by Ind. 'religious freedom' fix

USA Today

A pastor who stood behind Indiana Gov. Mike Pence last month when he signed the "religious freedom" bill stood in the heart of the Statehouse on Monday and publicly rebuked Pence for the "betrayal" of signing the "fix" that quelled the national backlash.

LEGISLATURE

Gambling, education, criminal justice bills still unresolved

IBJ

Indiana lawmakers were still working late Tuesday to make deals on key bills about gambling, education and local criminal justice programs with just one day left in the 2015 legislative session. Lanane said Gov. Mike Pence's staff indicated the Republican would veto any measure that permitted the live dealers – which would take the place of electronic table games – anytime sooner.

Lawmakers tweak needle exchange proposal

Indy Star

Lawmakers have honed a measure that would allow counties facing hepatitis C or HIV epidemics to ask the state health commissioner to declare a public emergency, paving the way for needle exchange programs and/or additional law enforcement to help address the problem.

Legislative record concealment plan scrapped

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

A last-second attempt to conceal legislative records from the public hit a wall Tuesday morning.

Budget bans state archives building on Central Canal

The Statehouse File

The Pence administration would be banned from constructing a new, \$25 million state archives building along the Central Canal in downtown Indianapolis under the budget bill lawmakers plan to approve Wednesday.

*Subscription required, full text below

Funding in place for USI, IU portions of medical school; IVY Tech out

Evansville Courier & Press

Lawmakers neared a budget deal on Tuesday, as they came to compromises on funding for the regional medical school campus in Downtown Evansville and funding for charter schools, while preserving overall funding increases for K-12 education.

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STATE AGENCIES

Companies adding jobs in NE Indiana

Inside IN Business

Two companies today announced plans to expand their operations and create 59 new jobs in northeast Indiana.

State names four star schools

Inside IN Business

Indiana Superintendent of Public Instruction Glenda Ritz announced Indiana's Four Star Schools for 2013-2014 today. In order to achieve this designation, a school must be in the top 25th percentile of schools in two ISTEP-based categories. Additionally, a qualifying school must have earned an "A" in the state's accountability system and be accredited by the Indiana Department of Education. A total of 281 schools received the award throughout the state.

Budget, education board decisions set for session's last day

Evansville Courier & Press

Indiana lawmakers are facing final decisions on several contentious issues heading into the last day of this year's General Assembly session.

*Subscription required, full text below

Lawmakers considering language to emphasize confidentiality of audit process

Evansville Courier & Press

Last year, an Evansville city councilwoman made headlines when she recorded and released an audio recording of a private meeting concerning the city's financial audit.

*Subscription required, full text below

Lawmakers reconsidering search fee for public records

IBJ

A fee for public records requests that take longer than two hours to fulfill is back on the table this session, Indiana lawmakers said Tuesday.

*Subscription required, full text below

Jeffersonville Port racks up record quarter

Inside IN Business

The Port of Indiana-Jeffersonville recorded the highest quarterly shipments in its 30-year history during the first quarter of 2015. Cargo volume exceeded 800,000 tons, up 10 percent from the previous record set in the first quarter of 2014.

AROUND INDIANA

Kroger to make 'Massive' announcement

Inside IN Business

At a 10:00 AM news conference tomorrow, April 29th, at Kroger's store 1958 at 5350 East Thompson Road in Indianapolis, Kroger Central Division President Jeff Burt, Indianapolis Mayor Greg Ballard, Indiana Secretary of Commerce Victor Smith and Indy Chamber President Michael Huber will announce details of Kroger's massive, strategic capital investment plan for central Indiana.

Indy lands 'Promise Zone' designation

Inside IN Business

The Obama Administration announced today eight additional Promise Zones across the country, including six cities, one rural area, and one tribal community. Promise Zones are high poverty communities where the federal government partners with local leaders to increase economic activity, improve educational opportunities, leverage private investment, reduce violent crime, enhance public health and address other priorities identified by the community. Through the Promise Zone designation, these communities

will work directly with federal, state and local agencies to give local leaders proven tools to improve the quality of life in some of the country's most vulnerable areas.

Construction to begin on electric car share stations

Inside IN Business

The City of Indianapolis, Bolloré Group and Indianapolis Power & Light Company announced construction will begin soon on the first 12 of up to 200 BlueIndy electric car share stations in Indianapolis. As part of the launch effort, BlueIndy plans to hire up to 50 local employees by the end of 2015.

Indy hot-spot crime strategy has mixed early results

Indy Star

The Indianapolis Department of Public Safety strategy of flooding six crime-laden neighborhoods with city services has produced mixed results in the first three months.

Expanding LGBT rights one Indiana city at a time

Indy Star

As the U.S. Supreme Court takes up the controversial debate over state bans on same-sex marriages, the fight for gay rights in Indiana has moved on to another battleground, as more cities adopt ordinances to prohibit LGBT discrimination.

Gregg: 'Big news' to share soon

The Statehouse File

Big news is coming. Or at least that's the word from John Gregg. Gregg, 60, put the word out on Twitter encouraging people to sign up on his website, greggforgovernor.com, to be the first to know what his announcement might be. If the website is any indication, Gregg will be throwing his name into the 2016 race for governor. Gregg lost the election by a small margin to current Gov. Mike Pence, a Republican, in 2012.

*Subscription required, full text below

JOBS/ECONOMY

Allison Announces first quarter results

Inside Indiana Business

Allison Transmission Holdings Inc. (NYSE: ALSN), the largest global provider of commercial duty fully-automatic transmissions, today reported net sales for the first quarter of \$504 million, a 2 percent increase from the same period in 2014. The increase in net sales was principally driven by the continued recovery in the North America On-Highway end market, higher demand in the North America Off-Highway end market and price increases on certain products partially offset by lower demand in other end markets.

EDITORIAL

District by District

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Is downtown Fort Wayne prospering at the expense of the city's neighborhoods? That's the question candidates for City Council district seats are debating, with the strongest candidates recognizing the balance required to support both. Among contested races for the Republican and Democratic primaries, we endorse incumbent councilmen Thomas Smith, Thomas Didier and Glynn Hines. Michelle Merrill is the best candidate in the District 2 Democratic race and Ryan Keuneke in the District 4 GOP race.

School of Medicine funding is vital for SW IN

Evansville Courier & Press

The Indiana Legislature is taking steps this week to finalize the next biennial budget, and people in this corner of the state should be concerned — and perhaps even be prepared to be angry.

*Subscription required, full text below

Budget deal means more for schools, less for roads

April 28, 2015

The Statehouse File

Most charter schools would get additional money, teachers would get a \$100 tax credit and the governor's regional cities initiative would be funded under a budget compromise the Indiana House and Senate reached Tuesday.

The \$31.3 billion, two-year plan — which should be approved and sent to Gov. Mike Pence on Wednesday, the last day of the 2015 General Assembly — would mean a 2.3-percent increase in K-12 school funding in 2016 and again in 2017.

The school money will be divided among districts in a way that closes the gap between the urban districts with the state's highest per student funding and those in suburban areas with lower per student funding. But House Speaker Brian Bosma, R-Indianapolis, said the proposal also provides "a softer landing to some of the urban schools that thought they were suffering too much of a loss" under the original budget passed by the House.

Charter schools that have an A, B or C rating would get a \$500 per student funding boost under the plan. Under current law, they don't share in the property tax revenue that traditional public schools receive for buildings, transportation and other costs.

Charters that have a D or F grade could obtain the additional money if they perform at or above the level of the traditional schools in their area. Charters — which are public schools generally operated outside traditional districts and with fewer rules — would also be eligible for loans from the state's common school fund to help pay for construction and other costs.

Extra funding for charter schools had been a priority for Pence, although lawmaker had been far more skeptical.

"We're in a sweet spot where everyone can live with it," said Senate President Pro Tem David Long, R-Fort Wayne.

The budget plan creates an amnesty program that lets tax scofflaws pay up and avoid prosecution. That's expected to bring in more than \$100 million that will be used in part to pay for Gov. Mike Pence's regional cities initiative, which calls on metro areas to develop and implement strategic plans for development.

Pence wanted \$84 million for the plan but the Senate originally slashed the funding. Bosma said Tuesday that Pence will be happy with the compromise.

The Republican majorities in the House and Senate had originally hoped to have the final budget plan finished and posted publicly Tuesday afternoon. But Long said the usual last-minute negotiations over several issues pushed it back. The plan was expected to go online late Tuesday evening.

Meanwhile, legislative leaders spelled out some of the plan's details.

The budget will include a \$100 tax credit for teachers who spend their own money on classroom supplies. House Republicans had originally sought a credit twice that size but Senate Republicans opposed the program. Still, the compromise will cost the state \$10 million.

"Sometimes a half a loaf is better than none," Bosma said. "We are getting a tax credit for every teacher, which was our goal."

The budget will also include increased performance awards for teachers.

But to afford the additional money for schools and teachers, lawmakers are pulling back on money for

roads. Both the House and Senate had put \$200 million into the budget each year for special highway projects. That would be on top of the ongoing revenue stream for roads.

The compromise plan cuts that amount in half but lets the State Budget Committee authorize more later if the money is available.

"It is reduced," Bosma said, "but it's still high."

The budget plan boosts funding for higher education by about \$45 million – the same amount proposed by the House but less than pushed by the Senate.

"We felt we were going to have to back up a little bit," said Senate Appropriations Chairman Luke Kenley, R-Noblesville.

The cuts from the original budget proposals became necessary after lawmakers learned earlier this month that they'll likely have fewer tax dollars to spend in 2016 and 2017 than they thought when they started working on the spending plan.

Long said lawmakers wanted to keep enough reserves in the bank to ensure the state maintained its AAA bond rating, which makes borrowing cheaper, while still boosting funding overall for a few priorities.

"We're spending a lot of money on education, which we're happy about," Long said. But the reduced revenue forecast "caused some whittling here and there."

The budget provides \$80 million for local community corrections programs, which are expected to see significant increases in enrollment under sentencing changes the General Assembly made last year. But a separate bill puts considerable "checks and balances" on the way the money is obtained and spent, Kenley said.

There's no money in the budget to expand two prisons, something Pence had requested.

Lawmakers reconsidering search fee for public records

April 28, 2015

Associated Press

A fee for public records requests that take longer than two hours to fulfill is back on the table this session, Indiana lawmakers said Tuesday.

House members have approved a proposal that would allow government agencies to charge a searching fee for record requests that take over two hours. After that time, they could charge up to \$20 an hour.

Lawmakers considered the fee and other public record changes earlier this session but voted to remove the language in from another bill in March.

State law currently prohibits public agencies from charging a fee to search for, examine, or review a record to determine whether or not it can be disclosed. Those requesting the documents can only be charged for the actual cost of copying a record, which is a minimum of \$0.10 per page or \$0.25 for color.

Supporters of the proposal argue that compensation for search times would help alleviate the burden that large requests place on government resources. But critics say the measure could discourage in-depth records requests and give officials another tool to fight transparency.

Bill sponsor Republican Rep. Dennis Zent of Angola said local governments often receive complicated requests for documents from certain individuals.

"I don't think that's a wise use of taxpayer money if that's just one individual repeatedly doing it," Zent said.

Supporters also applaud a provision that would allow a requester to receive records electronically. The search fee would apply, but the requester would not have to pay a copying cost.

Currently, an agency can refuse to provide electronic copies, forcing a requester to pick up records in person and pay a copying fee.

Hoosier State Press Association Executive Director Steve Key said the benefit of getting records in an easy format outweighs the potential negatives of a search fee.

Key said it would also save time and resources for both government agencies and records requesters.

"This is going to probably force people to be a little bit more selective when they make records requests," he said. "It will be much more of a rifle approach as opposed to a shot gun or casting a fishing net."

Democratic Rep. Matt Pierce of Bloomington criticized the measure.

"The records are created with our tax dollars; the employees and the buildings are paid for with our tax dollars. If they've got to suffer through a few people who make outrageous requests, that's kind of the price of democracy," he said.

The Senate is set to vote on the measure Wednesday, the 2015 session deadline.

Gambling, education, criminal justice bills still unresolved

April 28, 2015

Adam Lee, The Statehouse File

Indiana lawmakers were still working late Tuesday to make deals on key bills about gambling, education and local criminal justice programs with just one day left in the 2015 legislative session.

Senate Minority Leader Tim Lanane, D-Anderson, said a proposed agreement on the gambling bill will allow riverboat casinos to move on land but will delay letting horse track casinos have live dealers for five years.

Lanane said Gov. Mike Pence's staff indicated the Republican would veto any measure that permitted the live dealers — which would take the place of electronic table games — anytime sooner.

"It's unfortunate for the gaming industry," Lanane said. "This is our opportunity to do a comprehensive improvement of our industry to ward off the competition of other states."

Lanane said the delay will kill potential jobs in Shelbyville and Anderson, and eliminates a competitive advantage for the state.

As passed by the House, the bill would have authorized the land-based casinos and the live dealers immediately. It also provided tax breaks to help the casinos beat back competition from Ohio and Illinois. But the Senate pushed back the live dealers for five years.

Senate President Pro Tem David Long, R-Fort Wayne, said the gambling compromise won't likely be finalized until Wednesday, the last day for legislation to pass the General Assembly.

That's when lawmakers also expect to vote on Senate Bill 1, a controversial bill that would give the State Board of Education the authority to elect its own chair. Originally, the House and Senate voted to put that provision in place this summer, which would likely sweep state Superintendent Glenda Ritz, a Democrat, out of her role as chair.

But a new provision would let Ritz, who was elected in 2012, keep the spot until the end of her four-year term.

Lawmakers were also still working on a bill to distribute millions of dollars in grants to local community corrections programs to help pay for programs — including mental health and addiction services — to men and women convicted of lower level felonies.

Budget bans state archives building on Central Canal

April 28, 2015 | Filed under: Taxes & budget | Posted by: Lesley Weidenbener

By Lesley Weidenbener

TheStatehouseFile.com

IND ANAPOLIS — The Pence administration would be banned from constructing a new, \$25 million state archives building along the Central Canal in downtown Indianapolis under the budget bill lawmakers plan to approve Wednesday.

"That's green space and it's not a big enough space," said Senate Appropriations Chairman Luke Kenley, R-Noblesville, who put the language into the bill. "If you build that building there now, in 20 years it's too small."

However, the budget includes \$25 million to fund the building.

The proposed site – which state officials said earlier month is their preference for the project – is located across the canal from the Indiana History Center near a state parking garage.

That's also across Ohio Street from the state office building complex that includes the Statehouse.

Kenley said the Department of Administration showed him six parcels of land the state owned that could serve as locations for a new archives building. "I think others are better," he said.

Currently, many of the state's historical documents are housed in a warehouse that does not have the climate control needed to properly preserve them.

The Indianapolis Business Journal reported that the proposed site for the archives has been somewhat controversial. "We need to continually add more vibrancy to the canal with increased foot traffic," Sherry Seiwert, CEO of Downtown Indy, told the IBJ.

The budget plan also includes \$2 million to renovate part of Robert Orr Plaza at the state office complex into a bicentennial plaza as well as \$2.5 million for an education center that would be part of a bicentennial legacy project.

Funding in place for USI, IU portions of medical school; Ivy Tech out

Chelsea Schneider

Lawmakers neared a budget deal on Tuesday, as they came to compromises on funding for the regional medical school campus in Downtown Evansville and funding for charter schools, while preserving overall funding increases for K-12 education.

The budget proposal offers \$25.2 million in state funding to construct the Indiana University and University of Southern Indiana portions of the medical school project. The IU portion is cash funded at \$19.2 million, and the USI portion at \$6 million. University of Evansville will fund its own portion of the project, so construction funding could reach closer to \$31.2 million among the universities, organizers say.

The proposal does not offer state funding for the Ivy Tech Community College portion. The school initially requested \$22.9 million

" said early on it was a high priority," Bosma said of the medical school. "I was down there (in Evansville) last Wednesday night and said it remained a high priority for me personally and for our team, and the Senate concurred it was an important regional program."

State Rep. Hollie Sullivan, an Evansville Republican, said the funding is an "absolute win" for the city.

" I am ecstatic that we've now got to the end of session and we have a med school coming to Southwest Indiana," Sullivan said.

Sullivan said she couldn't speak to the exact reason why Ivy Tech was left out of state funding, but she noted the strong community advocacy for the project.

" I feel the project itself will grow on its own two feet, and I can see Ivy Tech joining in a different phase at a different time," Sullivan said.

On education funding, Bosma confirmed the budget deal includes a 2.3 percent increase for K-12 schools each year over the next two years, which totals about \$464 million in new funding for schools.

Under the plan, Evansville-Vanderburgh School Corp. would see a \$6.8 million increase over the next two years. Warrick County School Corp. would see a \$2.2 million increase, while Metropolitan School Districts of Mount Vernon and North Posey would see slight decreases.

Details of the budget come as lawmakers race to get work done before Wednesday's deadline for the General Assembly to adjourn this year's legislative session. The approximately \$31 billion budget proposal lawmakers will forward to Gov. Mike Pence will cover state spending from July through June 2017. The spending proposal also maintains an almost \$1.8 billion cash surplus for the state in each year covered under the budget.

The proposal also includes a \$500 per student grant in additional funding for high-performing charter schools. The grant amount is lower than what Pence had hoped for, which was a \$1,500 per student grant

expected to cost \$86 million over the next two years. The grant amount contained in the final proposal is expected to cost about \$10 million per year, Bosma said.

Charter schools rated "A," "B," or "C" would receive the full grant amount. Charter schools with "D" or "F" grades would receive a lower level of funding if they can prove they perform equal to or better than nearby schools. The proposal also allows charter schools to get loans from the common school fund for facilities.

A key state budget writer, state Sen. Luke Kenley, said lawmakers advised Pence that they were concerned about the debt some charter schools were carrying. Kenley, a Noblesville Republican, said the governor had become a champion for extra charter school funding.

"That's where really challenged the governor," Kenley said, explaining that the issue of charter schools with high ratings and financial woes needs resolved.

Lawmakers also embraced the Senate plan to divvy out dollars to schools for at-risk students. The plan bases those dollars on students qualifying for food stamps, welfare or foster care. The spending plan also would count full-time kindergarten students as a full student for funding purposes.

On the medical school, the funding amount contained in the spending plan released Tuesday comes at the end of a long road local lawmakers and city leaders followed this session to secure construction dollars.

The Senate dealt the project a setback by lowering funding for the school after the House boosted funding from Pence's proposal. The project was envisioned as a partnership among IU School of Medicine, USI, Ivy Tech and University of Evansville. Full funding for the school was estimated at almost \$50 million, but throughout the budgetary process, lawmakers endorsed a plan with less square footage. Among other budget items, the plan includes about \$100 per year in income tax credit to help educators who use personal money to purchase classroom supplies. Lawmakers also are approving a tax amnesty program to fund Pence's regional cities initiative, where communities can apply for funding for community projects. That funding is expected to reach close to \$84 million.

Budget, education board decisions set for session's last day

Tom Davies

Indiana lawmakers are facing final decisions on several contentious issues heading into the last day of this year's General Assembly session.

The biggest matter on Wednesday's agenda is approval of a new two-year state budget. Other topics expected to come up for votes include a Republican-backed proposal that would shift some authority away from Democratic state schools Superintendent Glenda Ritz and a bill to legalize needle-exchange programs in reaction to a southern Indiana HIV outbreak blamed on intravenous drug use.

A budget deal announced Tuesday night by legislative leaders slows down proposed funding cuts to some shrinking school districts while providing a portion of the additional money that Republican Gov. Mike Pence sought for charter schools.

Republican House Speaker Brian Bosma said the agreement reached with the Senate would keep overall school funding increases of 2.3 percent, or about \$460 million, over the next two years. It would also phase in over three years a shift of money from many shrinking urban and rural school districts to those in growing suburban communities. A previous plan called for immediate cuts to more than a third of Indiana's nearly 300 school districts in order to even out the spending, a move Democrats called devastating.

"We make significant progress on the gap between the highest and lowest spending schools, but we give a softer landing to some of the urban schools that felt that they were suffering too much of a loss," Bosma said.

Lawmakers are to vote on approving the budget plan Wednesday, which is the Republican-dominated General Assembly's adjournment deadline.

The budget plan would spend about \$31 billion over the next two years, leaving state reserves of nearly \$1.9 billion, or 12 percent.

Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Luke Kenley, R-Noblesville, said he discussed the reserves level with Pence on Tuesday.

"I was concerned about making sure we maintained our triple-A bond rating and he and his advisers called New York, the Standard and Poor's people, to see if they approved of that approach to our balance sheet," Kenley said. "Apparently they do."

The budget deal also gives about \$10 million a year in additional charter school grants of about \$500 a student, Bosma said. That's about a quarter of the \$40 million a year that Pence had requested.

Pence's spokeswoman didn't immediately comment on the budget talks.

Meanwhile, an agreement had yet to be reached Tuesday night over a bill that would affect what control the Ritz-led Department of Education or the state Board of Education would have over state school policy. All members of the board besides Ritz are appointed by the governor.

Since the session's January start, Pence and GOP leaders have pushed for allowing the board to select any of its members as chairman, a move that likely would oust Ritz as the leader and end a decades-old law that makes the elected state superintendent the board's leader.

A Senate proposal released Monday would push back the change until 2017, which is after Ritz's current term ends. But it also would give the board additional authority over the ISTEP standardized test and school data.

Pence and other Republicans have said the chairmanship change is needed to address ongoing disputes between Ritz and the other board members, but Democrats and Ritz supporters have argued the move would undermine the will of voters, who elected her in 2012.

Bosma said delaying the chairmanship change wasn't his first choice, but he signaled that House Republicans might go along with it.

"It may be a shock to people, but we actually listen when people say things, when constituents express opinions, when teachers express opinions," Bosma said. "... It was never anyone's intent here to do a, quote, 'power grab' or to strip somebody of authority. It was always about making the board functional."

Lawmakers considering language to emphasize confidentiality of audit process

Last year, an Evansville city councilwoman made headlines when she recorded and released an audio recording of a private meeting concerning the city's financial audit.

State lawmakers are now considering a proposal that makes clear, in state law, that a person attending a meeting where audit details are discussed, called an exit conference, can't electronically record.

State Rep. Gail Riecken said she introduced language concerning exit conferences to the bill, which is now in final negotiations at the General Assembly. Riecken, an Evansville Democrat, said the language was needed following the incident involving Councilwoman Stephanie Brinkerhoff-Riley, D-3rd Ward.

The proposal also would emphasize in state law that information discussed and materials presented at an exit conference are confidential and can't be discussed publicly until the information is released. It also would allow all members of the Evansville City Council, or any other legislative body, to attend the exit conference, while keeping the meeting and its findings closed to the public.

Riecken said state law needed to be clear that the meetings are confidential and no participant can record. But she said it was also important for all council members to have the ability to attend to hear first-hand the concerns or comments surrounding an audit.

"I think it's important that we expand the opportunity for legislative bodies to be accountable," Riecken said. "They should all be there."

Currently, state auditors have the meeting with the government's fiscal officer, executive and president of the legislative body. State Examiner Paul Joyce said other members can attend, but only to the point

where a quorum is not met. Joyce said the proposal allows the meeting to remain private while allowing all members of the legislative body to attend.

"I think it is a positive change and will allow all of the legislative body to participate if they want to," Joyce said in an email to the Courier & Press. "We have had issues in the past where some members wanted to participate but couldn't because of the quorum issue. This will take care of that. It is always good to hear it straight from the source rather than second hand."

Last year, a prosecutor found that Brinkerhoff-Riley's release of the audio recording did not violate the law.

Following the Evansville incident, Joyce had placed limits on attendance at exit conferences to only city clerks and clerk-treasurers. He's since reopened attendance to other designated public officials, but attendees must first agree to sign a confidentiality agreement to participate.

State education board changes expected Wednesday

House Speaker Brian Bosma said Tuesday that pushing the ability for the Indiana State Board of Education to elect its own chair back to 2017 wouldn't be his first choice.

A plan unveiled Monday billed as a compromise by Republicans would effectively keep Democratic state schools chief Glenda Ritz in the role of board chair through her current term in office. Earlier proposals had allowed the board to elect its own chair this year.

"I think we are having discussions, honest policy discussions, about what will make the board the most functional, and that's what we are all focused on," said Bosma, an Indianapolis Republican.

Bosma said lawmakers are still looking at options as they consider changes to the state board.

The proposal lowers the board's membership to nine members by June, and then allows the board to choose its own chair in January 2017. The state board also would gain new oversight powers over the ISTEP test.

Aircraft bill headed to Pence

An effort to name an official state aircraft with Evansville ties is now on its way to Gov. Mike Pence's desk.

The proposal, which cleared the House and Senate on final votes this week, gives the designation to the P-47 Thunderbolt. More than 6,000 of the planes were manufactured in Evansville during World War II.

The bill also specifies that the Thunderbolt is commonly known as the "Indiana Warbird."

Gregg: 'Big news' to share soon

April 28, 2015 | Filed under: [Elections, Top stories](#) | Posted by: [Lesley Weidenbener](#)

By Aubrey Helms

[TheStatehouseFile.com](#)

INDIANAPOLIS — Big news is coming. Or at least that's the word from John Gregg.

Gregg, 60, put the word out on Twitter encouraging people to sign up on his website, [greggforgovernor.com](#), to be the first to know what his announcement might be.

If the website is any indication, Gregg will be throwing his name into the 2016 race for governor. Gregg lost the election by a small margin to current Gov. Mike Pence, a Republican, in 2012.

In October of 2013, he announced he would not seek the seat in 2016 but instead, wanted to focus on family issues. He made that announcement on Facebook.

At that time Gregg wrote the decision came "despite the overwhelming support and encouragement to make another run."

No stranger to the Statehouse, Gregg is a Democrat from Sandborn. He served as a state representative from 1985-2002, including a stint as House speaker.

School of Medicine funding is vital for SW Indiana

3:01 AM, Apr 28, 2015

[opinion](#) | [editorials](#) | [facing our future](#)

The Indiana Legislature is taking steps this week to finalize the next biennial budget, and people in this corner of the state should be concerned — and perhaps even be prepared to be angry.

We are standing on the precipice of taking a major step in Southwestern Indiana, with a key component being the proposed Downtown campus for the Indiana University School of Medicine.

It has been a remarkable process to build a facility that no one can argue is not needed, both for this region and the state. There has been unparalleled, complete cooperation shown by IU, the University of Southern Indiana, Ivy Tech Community College Southwest and the University of Evansville.

Visionary leaders at those schools saw the good in a combined effort to bring a full-service medical campus to Southwestern Indiana. There is no doubt that the plan of having a variety of disciplines operating in proximity — young men and women learning to be doctors, dentists, nurses and technicians — would help with teaching and training. With two first-class medical facilities in Evansville, along with smaller regional hospitals, there is no arguing the ability to train these professionals.

But some members of our Legislature, particularly in the Senate, don't appear to recognize that value.

The Indiana House of Representatives, in its budget plan, provided \$36 million to get the project well underway. But the Senate, in a process led by Noblesville Republican and finance chairman Luke Kenley, pulled the number back to \$19 million — basically representing the share for IU.

Nothing for USI's portion of the project. And nothing for Ivy Tech, which represents the fastest growing and most-affordable segment of higher education — but is landlocked at its North First Avenue building. Kenley hasn't helped his standing by saying, basically, that the Evansville facility would be too nice or too big in relation to other regional medical school campuses — a statement that he made without noting that none of the other facilities are designed to include so many schools and so many students.

It's such a lack of vision that will keep Indiana behind the times in not just education, but in medical care — and precisely the lack of vision that was shown when Kenley — and most Republicans in the House and Senate — voted for a hastily-modified Religious Freedom Restoration Act that placed a scar on our state's reputation (and caused additional costs to be added to the budget for damage control).

At this point, that's how this session's legislators will be remembered — as architects of a hateful piece of legislation. Perhaps by making smart, bold moves on such long-lasting projects as the School of Medicine, they can mitigate that legacy.

* * *

Another piece of the budget pie could help fund projects such as the School of Medicine.

If the Legislature approves land-based casinos, and Pence signs the bill, the gaming groups believe that competitive advantage will raise revenues — and the public's shares in taxes.

In Evansville, if the School of Medicine progresses, that would anchor two ends of Downtown — the school to the south and east, and a land-based casino to the north and west. That, in turn, creates space for the I-325 to dock on the bend where the casino boat now sits, and adds another reason for folks to visit the riverfront. It's definitely a key moment for Evansville, with answers just around the corner.

From: Gilson, Katie
Sent: Thu 4/30/2015 8:35 AM (GMT-04:00)
To: "Quyle, Lindsay" <LQuyle@gov.IN.gov>, "Anderson, Christopher M" <CAnderson@gov.in.gov>, "Hodgin, Stephanie" <SHodgin@gov.in.gov>, "#All Governor's Office" <allgovoffice@gov.IN.gov>, "Bailey, Brian (OMB)" <bbailey@gov.in.gov>, "Pitcock, Josh" <jpitcock@sso.org>, "Baker, Lou Ann (DWD)" <lbaker@dwd.IN.gov>, "Rosebrough, Dennis (LG)" <DRosebrough@g.IN.gov>, "Rossier, Sarah (SBOE)" <SRossier@sboe.IN.gov>, "McKinney, Ted" <TMckinney@isda.IN.gov>, "Bausman, David" <DBausman@isda.IN.gov>, "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "#All Lieutenant Governor's Office" <#AllLieutenantGovernor'sOffice@gov.IN.gov>, "smith@s[REDACTED]" <smith@s[REDACTED]>, "tomrose[REDACTED]" <tomrose[REDACTED]>, "Kams, Allison" <AKarns@gov.IN.gov>, "Brookes, Brady" <BBrookes@gov.IN.gov>, "Triol, Shelley" <STriol@idpa.IN.gov>, "Wall, Kathryn E" <KWall@gov.IN.gov>, "Reed, Katie" <KReed@gov.IN.gov>, "Griffis, Andrew D (IER)" <AGriffis@ier.IN.gov>, "Betley, James" <JBetley@gov.IN.gov>, "Schlake, Josh" <JSchlake@gov.IN.gov>, "McCleery, William" <WMcCleery@iot.IN.gov>, "Aycock, Hailey" <HAycock@gov.IN.gov>, "Braun, Steven J" <SBraun@dwd.IN.gov>, "Lubsen, Graig" <GLubsen@iot.IN.gov>, "Myers, Janille (ISDH)" <JanMyers@isdh.IN.gov>, "Timmerman, Chad E (GOV)" <ctimmerman@gov.in.gov>, "Dowd, Jaclyn (DWD)" <jcdowd@dwd.IN.gov>, "Stephen.simcox[REDACTED]" <Stephen.simcox[REDACTED]>, "Jeff Cardwell" <jcardwell@[REDACTED]>, "mobst[REDACTED]" <mobst[REDACTED]>

Cc:

Bcc:

Subject: Morning Clips- April 30, 2015

GOVERNOR/LT. GOVERNOR

Sarah Fischer to make business announcement

Inside IN Business

Indianapolis 500 veteran Sarah Fisher and her husband, Andy O'Gara, will announce a comprehensive business development project on Main Street in Speedway, Indiana, at 1:30 p.m. (ET) Thursday, April 30. Special guests at the presentation will include Indiana Lt. Governor Sue Ellspermann, Speedway Redevelopment Commission

Pence, others set to mark anniversary of Lincoln showing

The Elkhart Truth

Gov. Mike Pence and others are set to mark the 150th anniversary of the day that President Abraham Lincoln's body lay at the Indiana Statehouse following his assassination.

Lawmakers approve budget at the bell

Inside IN Business

Governor Mike Pence issued the following statement at the close of the 2015 session of the Indiana General Assembly.

Pence signs public safety bills

The Statehouse File

Gov. Mike Pence signed a series of bills on Wednesday all aimed at making Indiana a safer place to live and visit.

*Subscription required, full text below

Lawmakers pass bill to leave Ritz as chair, shift some ISTEP power to board

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*Subscription required, full text below

State school board changes tilt power to Pence

NWI Times

Gov. Mike Pence looks to retain his grip on the State Board of Education, though Glenda Ritz temporarily would remain chairwoman, under legislation approved Wednesday night by the General Assembly.

State ed board gains power; Ritz still chair

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Lawmakers capped a topsy-turvy day Wednesday by passing legislation reorganizing the State Board of Education but allowing the elected state schools superintendent to keep her post as chairman.

Indiana budget, education authority changes win approval

Washington Times

An Indiana legislative session that Republican Gov. Mike Pence touted as an "education session" at its outset brought significant changes to how state education policy will be set and shifted more money to growing suburban school districts as lawmakers passed a new two-year budget.

Budget surprise moves voucher rules from Ritz to Pence

Indy Star

Gov. Mike Pence has won a last-minute power play that moves control over the state's school vouchers from Democratic Schools Superintendent Glenda Ritz to his State Board of Education, escalating an already tense power battle between the two in the final hours of the 2015 session.

Pence signs Indiana ban on powdered alcohol into law

Indy Star

Indiana residents will be barred from purchasing, selling or using a powdered form of alcohol under a bill Gov. Mike Pence has signed into law.

Indiana lawmakers OK needle exchange programs

Indy Star

Lawmakers looking to prevent a repeat of an HIV outbreak that has rocked a Southern Indiana county sent Republican Gov. Mike Pence a measure Wednesday that would allow communities to implement needle exchange programs if they can prove they're in the midst of an epidemic tied to intravenous drug use.

Pence to sign limited syringe exchange program legislation

WHAS 11

Wednesday night saw the Indiana General Assembly passing Senate Enrolled Act 461 regarding the use of syringe or needle exchange programs in the case of public health emergencies like the recent HIV outbreak in Scott County.

Bill to allow search fee for public records sent to Pence

Fox 28

An Indiana bill that would allow a fee for public records requests that take longer than two hours to fulfill will be sent to Gov. Mike Pence's desk.

Governor Mike Pence to determine the future of Indiana Casino Industry

Casino News Daily

Mere hours ago, the Indiana casino-related issue was forwarded to the Governor as state lawmakers settled around the decision of moving the existing riverboat casinos to land. However, the proposal for the availability of live dealers in two Indiana racinos was rejected. Proponents of the idea insisted live dealers to be added no later than next year but during yesterday's meeting it was announced that they might be available from 2021 onwards.

LEGISLATURE

Land Based casinos win legislative approval

NWI Times

Hoosier lawmakers opened the door Wednesday to the next generation of Indiana gaming by authorizing the state's 11 riverboat casinos, which never sail, to relocate on land adjacent to their docks.

Wealthiest schools thrive under new state budget while poor ones mostly get less

Chalkbeat

The effect of the new school funding formula approved by the Indiana legislature tonight can be summed up by the effect on the richest and poorest communities.

Congress considers a bill to curb drug abuse

The Statehouse File

Legislation aimed at reducing the abuse of prescription drugs and heroin in Indiana has been re-introduced in Congress.

*Subscription required, full text below

Jim Banks returns to Senate for visit, will be back for good soon

The Statehouse File

Sen. Jim Banks, R-Columbia City, made his first visit Wednesday to the Senate chamber since returning from Afghanistan where he'd been deployed for the past six months.

*Subscription required, full text below

Indy Eleven stadium bill dies as session nears close

IBJ

A bill that would have funneled state money into a new or substantially renovated soccer stadium for the Indy Eleven has died in the legislative session's final hours.

*Subscription required, full text below

Congress considers a bill to curb drug abuse

The Statehouse File

Legislation aimed at reducing the abuse of prescription drugs and heroin in Indiana has been re-introduced in Congress.

*Subscription required, full text below

STATE AGENCIES

IN deer harvest down from 2 previous years

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

A state wildlife biologist says Indiana's deer harvest fell last year for the second straight year, but those declines were by design and part of a long-term deer-reduction strategy.

Porter Town Council asks attorney to check on Pavilion plans following Whitlow request

Chesterton Tribune

Jackson Twp. resident Rich Whitlow made his second appearance this week at a town council meeting, asking Porter officials to send word to Governor Mike Pence and the DNR to stop work by Pavilion Partners at Indiana Dunes Pavilion.

AROUND INDIANA

Ribbon cutting set for former hospital site

Inside IN Business

City officials say it will showcase four projects. The ribbon cutting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 6.

Election preview: Upset unlikely in Indy mayoral primary

Indy Star

The Indianapolis mayor's race may as well be a tree falling in a secluded forest.

Crowded primary in race for Lawrence mayor

Indy Star

Voters in Lawrence will have their pick of a variety of candidates for mayor in this year's May 5th primary, which will feature competitive races among both Republicans and Democrats.

Small group in Indianapolis protests Baltimore suspect death

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

More than two dozen protesters have gathered in downtown Indianapolis to protest police brutality and show support for Baltimore residents following the death of a suspect while in police custody.

JOBS/ECONOMY

Manufacturer Growing in River Ridge

Inside IN Business

D.A. Inc., a Japanese-owned company that manufactures plastic injection molded parts for the automotive industry, announced plans today to expand its operations here, creating up to 21 new jobs by 2015.

Gear maker invests in South Bend

Inside IN Business

Somaschini S.p.A., headquartered in Trescore Balneario (Bergamo) Italy announces it will double the investment in Somaschini North America LLC, the Group company based in South Bend (Indiana) in 2011 in order to produce gears for the North American heavy duty truck industry.

Indy casting facility to close

Inside IN Business

Pure Power Technologies was founded in 2009 by Navistar International Corp. (NYSE: NAV). The company produced compacted graphite iron cylinder blocks and other materials at the facility.

EDITORIAL

VIDEO: Brad Byrd in depth- Chris Donahue explains what's next for LST 325 if Casino Bill is signed

Tristate

The bill calls for many changes in the state's gambling industry. But most importantly, it would allow riverboat casinos like Tropicana Evansville to move to land. Other measures would help Indiana casinos compete with out-of-state competition.

Indiana suddenly crossroads of comedy

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

How do you know when you've got a PR problem? Well, when the president of the United States makes a joke about you at a nationally televised event that might be a clue.

Latest effort to undermine records law thwarted

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

If you've ever tried to follow a Quidditch tournament at Hogwarts – and what Harry Potter fan hasn't – you have an idea of how difficult it is to keep up with legislation during the final days of a session of the Indiana General Assembly.

Pence signs public safety bills

April 29, 2015 | Filed under: [Top stories](#) | Posted by: [Aubrey Helms](#)

By Aubrey Helms

[TheStatehouseFile.com](#)

IND ANAPOLIS – Gov. Mike Pence signed a series of bills on Wednesday all aimed at making Indiana a safer place to live and visit.

"Indiana should be the worst place in the nation to commit a crime," said Pence, "and the best place to get a second chance once you've done your time."

Pence signed three bills focused on law enforcement and public safety.

Senate Bill 6 outlaws the possession, purchase, sale, offer to sell, or use of powdered or crystalline alcohol. Doing so is now a Class B infraction. Specific groups, including the State Department of Health, are exempt from the law if using the substance for research. The law went into effect immediately.

Senate Bill 94 lengthens the statute of limitations for rape. SB 94 makes it possible to prosecute someone otherwise protected by the statute of limitations in certain circumstances. Charges could be brought against a suspect within five years of the state obtaining DNA evidence linking the offender, the state becomes aware of the existence of a recording that provide sufficient evidence to charge the offender or a person confesses to the offense. This law goes into effect July 1, 2015.

Pence also signed Senate Bill 193. The legislation designates the Northwest Indiana Law Enforcement Academy as a criminal justice agency and specifies that it is a board-certified training center. This law also goes into effect July 1 of this year.

Lawmakers pass bill to leave Ritz as chair, shift some STEP power to board

April 29, 2015 | Filed under: [Education](#), [Top stories](#) | Posted by: [Lesley Weidenbener](#)

By Erika Brock

[TheStatehouseFile.com](#)

IND ANAPOLIS – Republican lawmakers pulled back slightly Wednesday from a last minute effort to shift more authority away from state Superintendent Glenda Ritz even as they let her remain the chair of the State Board of Education through the end of her current term.

With the support of Gov. Mike Pence, fiscal leaders put language in the state budget late Tuesday that would have shifted oversight of Indiana's private school voucher program to the State Board of Education.

The governor – emerging from a meeting Wednesday in House Speaker Brian Bosma's office – said he supported the move. But a few hours later, Senate President Pro Tem David Long, R-Fort Wayne, said that language had been stripped from the bill.

"The Senate didn't know it was there," Long told reporters.

Daniel Altman, a spokesman for Ritz, said Pence "got caught with his hand in the cookie jar."

The revised budget – which lawmakers planned to approve by a midnight deadline – still gives the State Board of Education more authority to oversee Indiana's ISLEP testing program and lets the board control a new grant program that gives more money to charter schools, which are public schools freed from traditional rules and districts.

It also boosts funding for the education board.

"I think that the goal here is that we would bring about a range of reforms in the State Board of Education that would make it more possible for those various initiatives to operate with more efficiency and more effectiveness for our kids," Pence said.

Legislators also approved Senate Bill 1, which will allow Ritz to keep her position as chair of the state board until December 31, 2016. After that, the board would elect its own chair. The bill passed the House 60-38 and the Senate 31-17.

Earlier this session, the House and Senate had passed bills to remove her from the job immediately. The new provision won't take effect until after the next election.

State Rep. Vernon Smith, D-Gary, said Ritz deserves to keep her spot as chair of the board because she represents the will of the people.

"I get so many emails, so many text messages, so many calls indicating they are supporting her even though they are of the Republican persuasion," Smith said. "They claim themselves to be Republican but still they are supporting what she is about."

But the bill's sponsor, Rep. Jud McMillin, R-Brookville, said the legislation is a compromise.

"We create a mechanism that requires more cooperation" between the state board and superintendent, he said. "We make sure our children are best served."

Under SB 1, the superintendent will remain in charge of the Department of Education, which implements policies approved by the board.

Still, Altman said the legislation is "still taking away the voice of the voters."

"When some votes for governor, they do it for a variety of reasons," he said. "When someone votes for superintendent, they're voting on education issues. This takes away their voice on the State Board of Education."

Since Ritz was elected more than two years ago – defeating Republican Tony Bennett – she and board members have bickered about not just significant policies involving testing and school accountability but also small, administrative issues including who gets to put items on the board agenda and when a policy is eligible for a vote. At one point, Ritz sued the board for taking action behind her back and, at another point, she walked out of a meeting.

"I realize the shock of Superintendent Ritz's election was hard to take," said Minority Leader Scott Pelath, D-Michigan City. "But this bill does not have to be. It doesn't have to be because it still suffers the taint that has existed through the legislative session. It is an effort to reverse the will of the people."

And Rep. Sue Errington, D-Muncie, said the divisions between the superintendent and the board represent deep philosophical differences that should be debated.

But Rep. Tony Cook, R-Cicero, said dysfunction does exist – and he blamed both sides.

"The actions I've witnessed don't demonstrate how adults should work together," said Cook, a former school superintendent.

He called the bill "an excellent attempt" to deal with the needs of the state's education leadership structure.

SB 1 shakes up the board membership, although not as significantly as previous versions. The board would retain 11 members – with the superintendent serving as one.

Eight members would be appointed by the governor – as opposed to 10 now – and six of those must have professional experience in education. The governor could appoint no more than five from any one political party.

The leaders of the House and Senate would each get one appointment to the board.

The changes in the board composition would begin June 1.

“I’m just grateful that we are rolling our sleeves up,” Pence said. “We’re finding some ways to improve the functioning, provide the resources necessary for the state board of education to provide that role of oversight of education policy in the state of Indiana that it’s designed to do.”

Congress considers a bill to curb drug abuse

April 29, 2015 | Filed under: Issues, Social Issues, Top stories | Posted by: Aubrey Helms

By Olivia Covington

TheStatehouseFile.com

INDIANAPOLIS — Legislation aimed at reducing the abuse of prescription drugs and heroin in Indiana has been re-introduced in Congress.

Sen. Joe Donnelly, D-Indiana, said he is resurrecting the Heroin and Prescription Opioid Abuse Prevention, Education and Enforcement Act because abuse of opioids and heroin continues to rise nationwide.

“Sadly, prescription drug abuse is a serious problem, not just in Indiana, but around the country,”

Donnelly said.

The legislation, which Donnelly said is a bipartisan effort that is also sponsored by Sen. Kelly Ayotte, R-New Hampshire, has five parts.

First, it would create the Pain Management Best Practices Interagency Task Force, which would look at best practices for pain medication prescriptions and management. Donnelly said there is a “clear correlation” between prescription drug abuse and eventual heroin use.

Second, the bill would create the Harold Rogers Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, which would give grants to support other prescription drug monitoring programs.

“If we can do a better job in prescription monitoring programs, I think that can help right at the root cause,” Donnelly said.

Donnelly said 80 percent of heroin users admit to abusing prescription drugs earlier in their lives.

Donnelly’s bill would also reauthorize the Byrne Justice Assistance, which would give grants to support local law enforcement in their efforts to combat the drug problem.

“Opioid addiction is difficult to treat,” Donnelly said. “It’s critical to support the efforts to prevent it.”

The bill would also start a national awareness campaign to shed light on prescription drug abuse throughout the country.

New to the legislation this year is a provision that would allow first responders to administer the drug Naloxone to patients who have overdosed on heroin.

Donnelly said according to the World Health Organization, 20,000 heroin-related deaths could be prevented each year if the use of Naloxone were legalized nationwide.

“We’re trying to prevent them from dying there on the spot,” Donnelly said.

Republican Gov. Mike Pence signed a similar bill into Indiana law earlier this month. Senate Bill 406 allows individuals to administer either Naloxone or Narcan, another anti-overdose drug, if a family member or friend overdoses.

Previous Indiana law only allowed health professionals, law enforcement officers or emergency workers to administer the drugs.

"With the rise of heroin addiction across our state, this important legislation will make available overdose intervention treatments and will save lives in Indiana," Pence said in a statement.

The issue of overdoses caused by intravenous drug use has been in the forefront of legislators' minds in Indiana after an HIV outbreak in Scott County in March caused Pence to declare a state of emergency. Donnelly said just last week, 142 residents of Austin, Indiana, a town in Scott County, were diagnosed with H V. The town has a total population of 4,200. This surge in diagnosed cases has been linked to the sharing of infected needles among Opana users.

Donnelly said the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention "have been able to trace family members swapping needles at the same time and taking these drugs."

In an effort to combat the HIV crisis in Scott County, Pence authorized a temporary needle exchange program. The program allows "high risk" counties that have a high rate of Hepatitis C to send clean needles to its residents.

Donnelly said 80 percent of HIV patients are also suffering from Hepatitis C.

Pence said he is opposed to creating a statewide exchange once the temporary program expires.

" do not enter into this lightly," Pence said when he signed the temporary exchange into law. "I do not support needle exchange as anti-drug policy, but this is a public health emergency."

But Donnelly said he would support a needle exchange program in the state.

" am hopeful the governor will consider extending that temporary cycle for at least another 30 days," Donnelly said.

While Donnelly said the cost of his bill has not been added up yet, he said the cost of HIV treatment is worth creating preventative legislation.

Donnelly said HIV and Hepatitis C patients have to pay \$500 thousand in medical bills. In Scott County alone, Donnelly said it will cost nearly \$71 million to treat all the patients of the outbreak.

Donnelly said he and Ayotte are "going to do everything possible" to see their bill passed during this Congressional session.

"This isn't an Indiana problem only, this isn't just a rural problem, this can happen anywhere," Donnelly said. "I don't know a senator who wouldn't want to try to make sure this gets done."

Jim Banks returns to Senate for visit, will be back for good soon

April 29, 2015 | Filed under: People, Top stories | Posted by: Lesley Weidenbener

By Erika Bruck

TheStatehouseFile.com

IND ANAPOLIS — Sen. Jim Banks, R-Columbia City, made his first visit Wednesday to the Senate chamber since returning from Afghanistan where he'd been deployed for the past six months.

Banks gave up his seat temporarily — and Democratic officials assigned it to his wife — to go to the Middle East.

" would like to thank all of you the members of the Indiana Senate," Jim Banks said. "You have no idea what it meant to me to hear from each of you while I was gone."

Banks had been reelected in November but deployed with the Navy Reserves before the session started. That's when Banks' wife, Amanda Banks, stepped forward to take over.

In adherence with state law, a caucus of Republican precinct committee officials voted to elect Amanda Banks to temporarily represent her husband.

" am proud of Amanda," her husband said. "She represents tens of thousands of spouses of military families."

Banks was away from his family for eight months. Banks said letters and messages he received from fellow senators helped him get through the toughest days.

Banks is still on active duty until Tuesday. He does not know when he will return to the Senate, but he said he is excited for the 2016 legislative session and getting back involved.

Indy Eleven stadium bill dies as session nears close

April 29, 2015

A bill that would have funneled state money into a new or substantially renovated soccer stadium for the Indy Eleven has died in the legislative session's final hours.

"We needed to get to something clear, and we kind of ran out of time," the bill's author, Rep. Todd Huston, R-Fishers, told IBIJ Wednesday afternoon. "Better not to do it than to put together a bad bill." Huston said legislators could take up the issue again in the coming years.

A version of the bill that passed the Indiana Senate earlier this month called for up to \$20 million in state money to help expand and renovate Michael Carroll Track and Soccer Stadium at IUPUI, where the Indy Eleven play their matches.

That was scaled back from an earlier version, passed by the Indiana House, that would have helped fund a new \$82 million arena in an undetermined Indianapolis location.

The team and its lobbyists had been busy trying to shape the legislation into allowing a new stadium on the site of the existing one—a project that also would require city support.

Congress considers a bill to curb drug abuse

April 29, 2015 | Filed under: Issues, Social Issues, Top stories | Posted by: Aubrey Helms

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First, it would create the Pain Management Best Practices Interagency Task Force, which would look at best practices for pain medication prescriptions and management. Donnelly said there is a "clear correlation" between prescription drug abuse and eventual heroin use.

Second, the bill would create the Harold Rogers Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, which would give grants to support other prescription drug monitoring programs.

"If we can do a better job in prescription monitoring programs, I think that can help right at the root cause," Donnelly said.

Donnelly said 80 percent of heroin users admit to abusing prescription drugs earlier in their lives.

Donnelly's bill would also reauthorize the Byrne Justice Assistance, which would give grants to support local law enforcement in their efforts to combat the drug problem.

"Opioid addiction is difficult to treat," Donnelly said. "It's critical to support the efforts to prevent it."

The bill would also start a national awareness campaign to shed light on prescription drug abuse throughout the country.

New to the legislation this year is a provision that would allow first responders to administer the drug Naloxone to patients who have overdosed on heroin.

Donnelly said according to the World Health Organization, 20,000 heroin-related deaths could be prevented each year if the use of Naloxone were legalized nationwide.

"We're trying to prevent them from dying there on the spot," Donnelly said.

Republican Gov. Mike Pence signed a similar bill into Indiana law earlier this month. Senate Bill 406 allows individuals to administer either Naloxone or Narcan, another anti-overdose drug, if a family member or friend overdoses.

Previous Indiana law only allowed health professionals, law enforcement officers or emergency workers to administer the drugs.

"With the rise of heroin addiction across our state, this important legislation will make available overdose intervention treatments and will save lives in Indiana," Pence said in a statement.

The issue of overdoses caused by intravenous drug use has been in the forefront of legislators' minds in Indiana after an HIV outbreak in Scott County in March caused Pence to declare a state of emergency. Donnelly said just last week, 142 residents of Austin, Indiana, a town in Scott County, were diagnosed with HIV. The town has a total population of 4,200. This surge in diagnosed cases has been linked to the sharing of infected needles among Opana users.

Donnelly said the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention "have been able to trace family members swapping needles at the same time and taking these drugs."

In an effort to combat the HIV crisis in Scott County, Pence authorized a temporary needle exchange problem. The program allows "high risk" counties that have a high rate of Hepatitis C to send clean needles to its residents.

Donnelly said 80 percent of HIV patients are also suffering from Hepatitis C.

Pence said he is opposed to creating a statewide exchange once the temporary program expires.

"do not enter into this lightly," Pence said when he signed the temporary exchange into law. "I do not support needle exchange as anti-drug policy, but this is a public health emergency."

But Donnelly said he would support a needle exchange program in the state.

"I am hopeful the governor will consider extending that temporary cycle for at least another 30 days," Donnelly said.

While Donnelly said the cost of his bill has not been added up yet, he said the cost of HIV treatment is worth creating preventative legislation.

Donnelly said HIV and Hepatitis C patients have to pay \$500 thousand in medical bills. In Scott County alone, Donnelly said it will cost nearly \$71 million to treat all the patients of the outbreak.

Donnelly said he and Ayotte are "going to do everything possible" to see their bill passed during this Congressional session.

"This isn't an Indiana problem only, this isn't just a rural problem, this can happen anywhere," Donnelly said, "I don't know a senator who wouldn't want to try to make sure this gets done."

From: Gilson, Katio
Sent: Fri 5/01/2015 8:53 AM (GMT-04:00)
To: "Quyte, Lindsay" <LQuyte@gov.IN.gov>, "Anderson, Christopher M" <CAnderson@gov.in.gov>, "Hodgin, Stephanie" <SHodgin@gov.in.gov>, "#All Governor's Office" <al.govoffice@gov.IN.gov>, "Bailey, Brian (OMB)" <bbailey@gov.in.gov>, "Pitcock, Josh" <jpitcock@sso.org>, "Baker, Lou Ann (DWD)" <baker@dwd.IN.gov>, "Rosebrough, Dennis (LG)" <DRosebrough@lg.IN.gov>, "Rossier, Sarah (SBOE)" <SRossier@sboe.IN.gov>, "McKinney, Ted" <TMckinney@lsda.IN.gov>, "Bausman, David" <DBausman@lsda.IN.gov>, "Atterholt, Jim" <jatterholt@gov.IN.gov>, "#All Lieutenant Governor's Office" <#AllLieutenantGovernor'sOffice@gov.IN.gov>, "smith@ [REDACTED]" <smith@[REDACTED]>, "tomrose [REDACTED]" <tomrose@[REDACTED]>, "Karns, Allison" <AKarns@gov.IN.gov>, "Brookes, Brady" <BBrookes@gov.IN.gov>, "Triol, Shelley" <STriol@idoa.IN.gov>, "Wall, Kathryn E" <KWall@gov.IN.gov>, "Reed, Katio" <KReed@gov.IN.gov>, "Griffis, Andrew D (IER)" <AGriffis@ier.IN.gov>, "Betley, James" <JBetley@gov.IN.gov>, "Schlake, Josh" <JSchlake@gov.IN.gov>, "McCleery, William" <WMcCleery@iot.IN.gov>, "Aycok, Hailey" <HAycok@gov.IN.gov>, "Braun, Steven J" <SBraun@dwd.IN.gov>, "Lubsen, Graig" <GLubsen@iot.IN.gov>, "Myers, Janille (ISDH)" <JanMyers@isdh.IN.gov>, "Timmerman, Chad E (GOV)" <ctimmerman@gov.in.gov>, "Dowd, Jaclyn (DWD)" <jcdowd@dwd.IN.gov>, "Stephen.simcox [REDACTED]" <Stephen.simcox@[REDACTED]>, "Jeff Cardwell" <jcardwell@[REDACTED]>, "mobst [REDACTED]" <mobst@[REDACTED]>, "emreese [REDACTED]" <emreese@[REDACTED]>
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: Morning Clips- May 1, 2015

GOVERNOR/LT. GOVERNOR

Ellspermann salutes cities for national honors

Inside IN Business

Lt. Governor Sue Ellspermann congratulates municipalities throughout Indiana who are in the national spotlight for their hard work and planning for current and future community and economic development opportunities. Indianapolis was selected as the site for a National Promise Zone and eleven other communities were named quarter-finalists in the America's Best Communities competition.

Consul General: Indiana, Israel share business 'bridges'

Inside IN Business

Today Governor Mike Pence joined business and government leaders in an Indiana-Israel Business Exchange as both states convened to discuss opportunities for economic collaboration, furthering the Governor's efforts and connections gained during his jobs mission to Israel in December.

Pence wraps up legislative session

Indiana Daily Student

With the 2015 legislative session of the Indiana General Assembly coming to a close Wednesday, many have been looking back on what was and what wasn't achieved with mixed opinions.

Governor Pence speaks about the recent legis'ative session

Indy Star-VIDEO

Indiana becomes 2nd state to Pass Anti-BDS resolution

Jewish Press

The Indiana General Assembly has become the second-ever state legislature to pass a resolution that formally opposes the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement against Israel. Tennessee lawmakers approved a similar measure on April 21.

GOP-led session flush with Pence wins education, regional cities funded; image polished

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Gov. Mike Pence might have faltered on the national stage created by the religious freedom debacle, but he ended the legislative session with strong wins for his agenda.

Indiana lawmakers give Pence much of what he sought

Goshen News

The Republican-dominated Legislature gave GOP Gov. Mike Pence much of what he sought during this year's General Assembly session, leading the governor to declare several triumphs Thursday.

Governor says education session was a success, admits religious freedom was a sore spot

CBS

As the 2015 Indiana legislative session came to an end, state lawmakers had mixed reviews on the session's results.

Indiana governor to sign needle exchange bill to curb HIV outbreak

The Guardian

The Indiana governor, Mike Pence, is set to sign a bill passed on Wednesday by the state's assembly that will allow local governments to set up needle exchange programs in an effort to combat the spread of HIV.

Indiana leaders boost regional cities' funds

Courier & Journal

Southern Indiana leaders seeking Indiana Regional Cities' program funding were elated to find out the General Assembly restored the full \$84 million recommended by Gov. Mike Pence in the upcoming biennium state budget, which was approved by both houses late Thursday.

Pence doesn't know if he'll sign gambling bill

IBJ

Indiana Gov. Mike Pence says he hasn't decided whether to sign a gambling bill into law even though legislators took steps to try to avoid a veto.

*Subscription required, full text below

LEGISLATURE

Woman behind rape law speaks about legislation

Wish TV

Senate Bill 94 also known as "Jenny's Law" is named after Jenny Wendt Ewing. 24-Hour News 8 talked with her over Skype about the change.

Indiana becomes second state to pass anti-BDS legislation

Israel National News

Indiana's state legislature has made it the second state to pass a resolution opposing the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement against Israel, Tennessee being the first as of April 21.

Senators pressing EPA on water regs

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Several U.S. senators, including Indiana Democrat Joe Donnelly, are demanding that the Environmental Protection Agency rework its proposal for regulating the nation's water.

Lawmakers attack Indian casino in South Bend

South Bend Tribune

As the Indiana General Assembly wrapped up its 2015 session Wednesday, it took two parting shots at the Pokagon Band's plans to build a casino in South Bend.

STATE AGENCIES

Ritz considers run for governor

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Democratic Superintendent of Public Instruction Glenda Ritz dropped a bombshell Thursday – saying she is considering a run for governor in 2016.

Democratic field for Indiana governor could see Gregg, Ritz

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

Democrat Superintendent of Public Instruction Glenda Ritz dropped a bombshell Thursday, saying she is considering a run for governor in 2016.

AROUND INDIANA

Gregg running for governor again

Times Herald Online

Former southern Indiana lawmaker John Gregg has announced he is running again for Governor. Gregg, from Sandborn in Knox County, says he is running for the office because "Governor Mike Pence is giving Indiana a bad name."

IUPUI project looks back at Allison Transmission

Inside IM Business

As part of ongoing efforts to preserve and share the history of Allison Transmission in honor of the manufacturer's centennial in 2015, Allison and University Library at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis have collaborated in the creation of a new digital collection.

EDITORIAL

Can Mike Pence reunite republicans?

Indy Star

Indiana Republicans have been down this road before. Frustrated with the party's direction, the business wing of the GOP steps in with energy, money and candidates to enlarge the base.

Public education

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

When the governor and General Assembly leaders said 2015 would be the education session, they weren't kidding. Although the issue consumed time and energy, it unfortunately produced little to put Indiana schools back in position to serve students and raise achievement.

Pence doesn't know if he'll sign gambling bill

April 30, 2015

Indiana Gov. Mike Pence says he hasn't decided whether to sign a gambling bill into law even though legislators took steps to try to avoid a veto.

"I'm going to take a very serious look at the legislation," Pence said. "I have a sense there was a good-faith effort to address issues that we had raised. I'm going to give it a fair look."

The bill lets riverboat casinos rebuild on land — something Pence calls a change in "business practice" — and extends a tax break that subsidizes a marketing tool for gambling operations.

But the legislature pulled back from a provision that would have immediately authorized live dealers at the state's horse track-based casinos. Instead, the bill lets the governor decide in spring 2021 — just after Pence would leave office if he's elected to a second term — whether to let the racinos in Anderson and Shelbyville replace their electronic table games with live dealers.

Sen. Tim Lanane, D-Anderson, who advocated for the live dealers, said the governor threatened to veto the bill if it authorized live dealers immediately — or in anything less than five years.

Still, Pence said he needs to review the bill before he decides whether to sign it, veto it or allow it to become law without his signature.

He said letting casinos rebuild on land "would allow them to remain competitive and viable in an increasingly competitive marketplace."

But he said he'll have to take a "very serious look" at the rest of the bill and in particular legally examine the provisions that let racinos seek live dealers down the road.

"I think legislators knew where I stood on this," Pence said. "I'm going to give it a fair look and we'll make a decision after we've had a chance to review."