

The Cope...



INCMA's Monthly Fax Newsletter

May 2007

2007 LEGISLATIVE WRAPUP

While INCMA's bill to make US and particularly Indiana castings more competitive when part of state public works project bids was signed into law on March 30, the legislature worked right up to their April 29 deadline before adjourning for the year. The final results can be viewed on INCMA's website www.INCMA.org but a snapshot includes:

SB 206, authored by Sen. Gard, would have added several new energy "trackers" resulting in increased costs for utility customers. The bill died in the final minutes of the Session as a compromise with labor and other parties failed to materialize. This is another win for the foundry and manufacturing community.

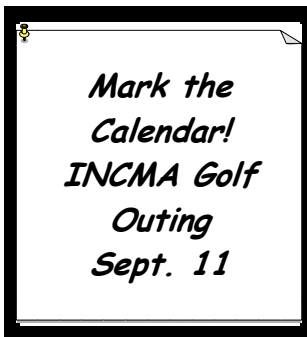
HB 1478 passed and reflects an attempt at property tax reform although local gov'ts will have to use their additional authority to raise income taxes for it to actually work. Stay tuned as this issue will likely be a primary focus in future sessions.

HB 1092 passed and

requires employers to provide up to 10 days of vacation leave or other alternatives provided by an employer for family members of soldiers deployed on active duty.

HB 1027 passed tying the state minimum wage to the federal minimum wage.

There were no workers comp. benefit changes which made it through the Session this year.



SB 286 passed and provides substantial clarification to the laws surrounding environmental crimes. Folks have worked on this one for several years given prior extremely vague laws and interpretation.

HB 1192 passed as the environmental basket bill containing several provisions relating to brownfields and new public notification requirements related to spills from underground storage tanks.

As noted last month, **SB 431** would have increased nearly all of IDEM's fees but failed in the House. IDEM will likely attempt to build a compromise prior to the 2008 Session on this issue.

And finally several health care related changes were adopted partially funded by the new cigarette tax increase. It remains to be seen what indirect impact, if any the changes may have on the continued escalation of business health care costs.

Contact INCMA with specific questions and thank you to everyone that make contact with your elected leaders this session. Your relationships make the difference on bills that matter.

FUNDRAISER SEASON

The Session has adjourned and the campaign/fundraising season has begun. Below are listed a few of the foundry industry's friends and key contacts FYI.

6/14, Rep. Tim Harris
Golf, Marion.
765.674.0668

5/16, Rep. Dale Grubb
Breakfast, Indpls.

317.231.6291

5/16 Rep. Russ Stilwell,
Rcpt. Indpls.

317.231.6291

5/30 Rep. David
Niezgodski Lunch,
Indpls. 317.231.6291

6/26 House D's Golf
Outing at Hickory Stick
317.231.6291

6/27 Rep. Bill Ruppel
Golf, Wabash
317.964.5010

7/31 House R's Golf
Outing at Ironwood
317.964.5010

WELCOME ENGINEERED FOUNDRY SYSTEMS

We would like to welcome INCMA's newest associate member - Engineered Foundry Systems located in St. Louis MO. Log onto INCMA.org to link to their site and find out more about them. Welcome!

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