

# The Cope...



## INCMA's Monthly Newsletter

December 2023

### 2024 LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

INCMA's annual Legislative Conference will be held on Wednesday January 24, 2024 at the Hilton Hotel in downtown Indianapolis. [Register now to attend!](#) This year's informative speakers will include:

- Robert Kuzman, Regional Director of Regulatory Affairs, MISO;
- Stephanie Wells, President, Indiana Fiscal Policy Institute;
- Vanessa Green Sinders, New President, Indiana Chamber of Commerce; &
- Stephanie Salmon, VP Gov't Affairs, AFS.

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[Click here for information or to register to attend this critical event.](#)

### THE COST OF FEDERAL REGULATION

Last month, the National Assoc. of Manufacturers (NAM) released their [most recent study on the cost of federal regulation](#) to the US economy. A few key findings: 1) The total cost of federal regs. In 2022 is an estimated \$3 trillion, an amount equal to 12% of US GDP.

2) Since 2012, the total annual cost of complying has risen by \$465 billion. 3) Regulatory costs PER EMPLOYEE per year in 2022 (2023 dollars) was \$24,800 for large mfrs, \$28,000 for medium mfrs., and \$50,100 for small mfrs. [Click here to review the full report.](#)

### 2024 SESSION NEAR

The 2024 legislative session is scheduled to begin on January



8th. Legislative leadership has consistently stated the session would be fast and lean in recent weeks.

Education reform is expected to get most of the attention with a focus on improving early reading success. Historically, the non-budget or "short" session is used for legislation that is truly necessary. However, it has become common for the total number of bills filed to be near the same as a budget session. Proposed legislation will need to pass their body of origin by February 6, as the

session will have reached the halfway point. By statute, the legislature must adjourn no later than March 14. INCMA lobbyists will review all introduced legislation and produce [weekly reports](#) for the membership. We look forward to seeing many of you at the INCMA Legislative Conference on January 24th in Indy.

### INCMA WORKS AGAINST NEW PM 2.5 REGULATIONS

INCMA recently joined the AFS effort to oppose EPA's proposed revisions to the PM 2.5 standards by reaching out to the Indiana Congressional delegation members and requesting their support to get the rule withdrawn. EPA's effort to enact more strict requirements will impact compliance as well as business expansions in vast portions of the country. [Click here to view a copy of the letter.](#)

### STATE GOV'T REFORM TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

From *Sally Rideout*, The two-year IN Government Reform Task Force, consisting of 10 members - 5 Senators/5 Reps. - met 3 times during the 2023 interim

and recently issued their report. The Task Force's [report](#) recommends legislation during the upcoming session that would attempt to alter portions of administrative rulemaking and regulatory review. The recommendation generating the most opposition from some Task Force members would direct courts reviewing an agency decision that they should not defer to the interpretation of the agency. This goes against a body of case law around judicial review of agency decisions commonly referred to as the "[Chevron Two Step](#)." It guides courts to first look for ambiguity in statute, and second, determine if the agency's decision is permissible. The assumption being that the agency is tasked with being the expert on matters within their regulatory purview. The report, with 12 total recommendations, was approved by a 5-3 vote.

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