

## STATEHOUSE SPOTLIGHT WEEK 6

With the start of the second half of the Indiana General Assembly, the House started its deliberations on bills that were introduced and passed in the Senate and conversely, the Senate started consideration of House bills. It was a quiet week with few committee meetings and very little legislative action which is a normal sequence of events for the week after a Third Reading deadline.

As a reminder, the second half of the legislative session essentially restarts the legislative process, (minus the introduction of any new bills). When bills move to the opposite chamber they can be amended, but the new chamber's amendments are subject to approval by the originating chamber. If the original chamber refuses to consent to any changes, a conference committee will be formed. Conference committees consist of members from both chambers who work to create a version of the bill that both houses can agree on. Once a bill is approved by both chambers in some fashion, it can then proceed to the Governor for his signature or veto.

Many committees have begun hearing their

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bills but it's important to remember that only **283 bills out of the original 912 bills are still in contention**. While the schedule is slightly more intense, the volume is significantly less so. That said, new language that hasn't passed either chamber sometimes creeps into bills so we are keeping our ears to the ground and our eyes peeled as the legislative process continues.

### TIME'S A TICKIN'

We are still awaiting news of committee placements for the Coal Bailout, House Bill 1414, and House Bill 1337 which would improve reporting protocols to downstream water users of toxic chemical spills. Neither have received committee assignments yet and with only two weeks of committee meetings left, there's not much time left in the legislative session.

We're also eager to see both lead testing bills move forward: House Bill 1265 by Carolyn Jackson (D-Hammond) provides for statewide lead testing in schools and Senate Bill 214, by Sen. Lonnie Randolph (D-East Chicago) provides for lead testing in Lake County Schools.

### UPCOMING THIS WEEK

- On Monday we will be monitoring the Senate Environmental Affairs Committee which is hearing a handful of bills we've been tracking.
- We will also be attending the House and Senate Utilities Committees as they will hear municipal utility legislation and water legislation that's on the CAC watch list.

## DID YOU KNOW?

CAC has advocated for four decades on behalf of Hoosiers on issues regarding energy policy, utility reform, health care, pollution prevention, and family farms. In order to achieve the objective to protect consumers in Indiana, CAC's activities include performing research, carrying out public education campaigns, organizing citizens, creating public awareness, lobbying legislators, intervening in utility cases before the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission, and litigating when necessary.

**CAC has saved ratepayers more than \$4 billion in excess utility charges since 1974.**



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## COAL BAILOUT



Valentine's Day has come and gone but the ultimate Love Letter to Indiana's dying coal industry from the Indiana Legislature is House Bill 1414. [In this video](#), our Kerwin Olson gives you the basics of this wildly anti-consumer bill that forces you to pad billionaires' pockets.

*Legislators need to hear from you!*

Click [here](#) to email your legislators about the coal bailout bill, House Bill 1414.

**OUR  
GOVERNMENT  
AFFAIRS TEAM**



KERWIN  
OLSON



LINDSAY  
HAAKE