

Important Telephone Numbers

Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield
RIPEA Group Health Plan
1-866-649-2041

Anthem Medicare Advantage Plan
Current members: 1-833-848-8730
More information: 1-833-848-8729

AMBA
Dental/Vision/Long Term Care/Cancer/Whole Life/
Medical Air Service Association
1-800-258-7041

TruHearing
Hearing Plan
1-800-250-9993

INPRS/PERF
Retirement Checks & Benefits
1-844-464-6777

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Indianapolis, IN 46241
317-789-0244
800-345-9214

H.B. Shepherd, Founder
Jessica B. Love,
Executive Director

Email us at ripea@ripea.org
or visit our website:

www.RIPEA.org

The RIPEA office hours are:
Monday through Friday,
8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Dr. Robert N. Jackman
Milroy

Bruce Kimery
Indianapolis

Patricia Miller
Indianapolis

Marriette (Marty) Montgomery
Indianapolis



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Retired Indiana Public Employees
Association, Inc.
2415 Directors Row, Suite M
Indianapolis, IN 46241

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A Message from the Executive Director

Here we go again!

It's confusing, I know.

Last year, when we secured the 1-year 13th check after a monumental effort to see it reinstated, we shared that the framework for automating an annual 13th check and COLA hybrid plan was approved.



Jessica B. Love

We tried to make it clear this was just the groundwork being laid ahead of the 2025 session.

But whether we didn't make it as clear as we thought, or too much time has lapsed since it was approved to remember it was just the framework without an implementation date that was approved, what is now clear is that there's confusion.

Members are wondering why there's again a bill for the 13th check.

And that's fair. Most of what happens at the statehouse is dizzying at best.

Here's the update, as it stands currently, on our priority bill for 2025, understanding that – as soon as we sent this newsletter to the printer – some details of the bill could have already changed:

- We worked with Representative Mike Karickhoff to draft House Bill 1221
- The bill was designed to accomplish two things:
 - Ensure a 13th check for the next two years
 - Provide an implementation date for automating the hybrid going forward
- The bill was heard in House Ways & Means on 1/22; Jessica Love testified in support

- HW&M approved the bill with amendments slightly increasing the 13th check amounts for some and removing the automatic benefit enhancements
- The bill must be approved by the full House before the mid-session break (2/20), to be considered by the Senate

But if you want to know the details of our legislative efforts as they unfold, that happens via e-blast.

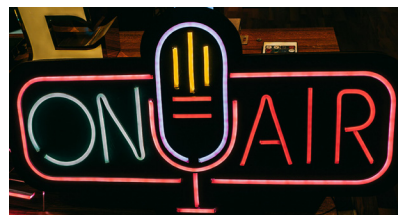
If you haven't received the three legislative updates we've sent this year, that means we don't have your current email address in our system. To fix that, please log into your Info Hub or email our team at ripea@ripea.org to ensure you don't miss future legislative updates and alerts.

The more connected we are, the more successful we will be, especially at the statehouse!

Thanks, as always, for your years of service,

Jessica Love
Executive Director

Help Wanted



If you're willing to testify or talk to media or submit a letter to the editor, let us know! The media always

prefer to feature someone directly affected by legislation. We'll get you connected and help you prepare. Contact us at ripea@ripea.org to volunteer.

Staff Changes



Many people know that when former RIPEA Executive Director Bill Murphy retired, he didn't go far. He shifted into the role of insurance consultant for the Trust, providing members with a guide through the insurance selection process since 2023.

We've loved having Bill continue as an extension of the RIPEA team. But after two years in the role, and now 45 years total at RIPEA, Bill is ready to fully retire.

Stepping into the insurance consulting role and more, Desiree Harrison has joined the RIPEA team as Member Success Manager. Her goal is to ensure every member knows the breadth and depth of RIPEA's benefits and engages well to retire well.

Desiree was previously membership manager for MIBOR Realtors Association in Indianapolis.

Welcome, Desiree!



RIPEA team farewell lunch with Bill Murphy.

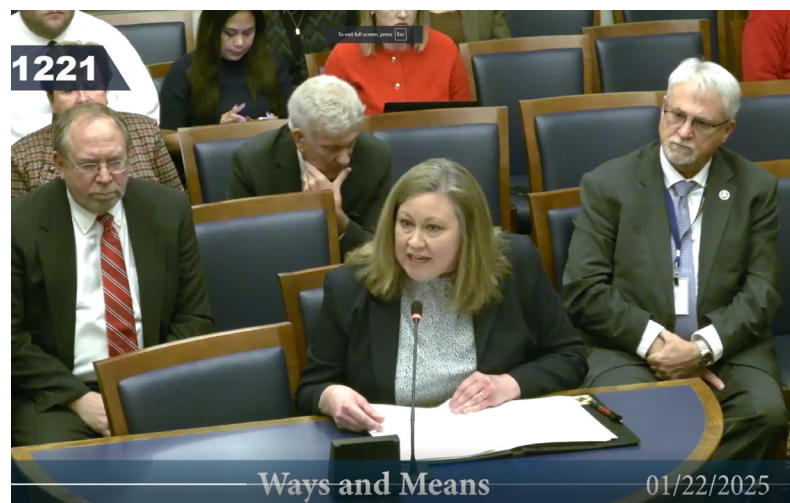
Member Info Hub Live!

Our Info Hub (member portal) is now up and running. We sent out an email on how to log in.

If you didn't receive this email, please log in and add it or email us at ripea@ripea.org to make sure we have your current address. Please refer to the Info Hub guide on our website Contact page.

1. We haven't yet resolved an issue where a "[POSSIBLE PHISHING]" alert is in the subject line of our emails. Please know we are working to get this faulty message fixed, and we most definitely are not and will not be phishing!!
2. We were late getting 2025 dues invoices out last year and have been swamped by receiving almost all our annual renewal payments at one time. Thank you for your patience with our processing speed as we acclimate to our new system. It's been all-hands-on-deck to get memberships processed and cards in the mail.

Legislative Action



RIPEA Executive Director Jessica Love testifies in support of HB 1221, with bill author Rep. Mike Karickhoff looking on.

RIPEA's priority bill for 2025 is House Bill 1221, introduced by Representative Mike Karickhoff.

As drafted, HB 1221 would do two things:

1. Ensure a 13th check over the next two fiscal years for currently retired public employees for FY2026 and FY2027 (which would be received Sept 2025 and 2026) and
2. Implement the hybrid framework approved as a result of RIPEA endorsement and advocacy in 2024 (to provide automated annual 13th checks for current retirees and annual cost of living increases for future retirees), starting in FY2028 (Sept 2027).

To view video of RIPEA Executive Director Jessica Love's testimony, go to the Legislation page on ripea.org to find the link and instructions. You can also find the approved bill amendments on this page.

While we don't have a specific legislative action alert issued to activate members at this time, RIPEA members are always welcome to send a nice note or call legislators asking for their support of our priority bill, HB 1221 for the 13th check.

To Find Your Legislator, go to <https://iga.in.gov/information/find-legislators> and look for the Senate and House District numbers.

Senate member emails follow this format: `sdistrictnumber@iga.in.gov`, i.e. `s1@iga.in.gov` for District 1

House member emails follow this format: `hdistrictnumber@iga.in.gov`, i.e. `h1@iga.in.gov` for District 1

The best way to stay in-the-know regarding this and other important bills throughout session is through our legislative update e-blasts. If you haven't been receiving RIPEA legislative updates, please log in to the Info Hub or email us at ripea@ripea.org to provide us with your current email address.



Hear the latest on the state's 2025 legislative session from RIPEA's lobbyists, Executive Director Jessica Love and Lauren Box, a partner with Barnes & Thornburg.



Join us via Zoom
Tuesday, February 25, 2025 at 12PM Noon

The event is free, but online event registration is required via ripea.org.

Giving Tuesday Update

Thanks to all who donate to the RIPEA/Murphy Foundation throughout the year. Every gift makes an impact on the lives of your fellow members.

We are thrilled to share that our first Giving Tuesday campaign was a success last year! We raised \$1,395 from 21 contributors with an average donation amount of \$66.00. Incredible!

Thank you to all of our Giving Tuesday donors!

State Employees' Community Campaign

We secured two RIPEA/Murphy Foundation donors through the Indiana State Employees' Community Campaign (SECC). These payroll-deducted donations will bring in \$728 in 2025 to support Foundation grantmaking. Thank you to the Foundation's inaugural SECC donors!

Made in America & First Responders Night

RIPEA will be featured at the Indy Fuel's "Made in America & First Responders" night on April 5, 2025.

We'd love for you to join us at the hockey game, and we are offering a few ways to win tickets:

1. The first 25 Early Bird registrants for the Foundation Gala event who mention the Indy Fuel when registering will receive a free ticket to the Fuel game. You must call the RIPEA office to register to win.
2. Every member who comments on the Indy Fuel post on the RIPEA – Retire Well Facebook page between now and March



2025 Gala Dinner

This year, we are hosting a special Gala Fundraiser to support the RIPEA Foundation, commemorating our 25th year of grantmaking. Call or go online to ripea.org to register.

Special thanks to Anthem for sponsoring.

21st will be entered for a chance to win two free tickets.

3. For every \$25 donated to the Foundation between now and March 21st, donors will receive a chance to win two tickets to the **Indy Fuel** game. The more \$25 increments you donate, the greater your chance of winning.
4. We have reserved 50 tickets for our Police & Fire members. The first 25 '77 Fund members who contact our office will receive up to two complimentary tickets to the game. Thank you for your service!

The game will be held at 7 pm EDT, April 5th, at the Fishers Event Center. Tickets are valued at approximately \$20.

Interested in Attending a Chapter Meeting?

HOWARD COUNTY

11:30 AM, Tuesday, April 8, 2025
Security Federal Savings Bank
1600 E Blvd
Kokomo, IN

NORTHEAST

11:30 AM Tuesday, May 6, 2025
Liberty Diner
2929 Goshen Road
Fort Wayne, IN

GREATER BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY

11:30 AM, Thursday, May 8, 2025
Hotel Indigo
400 Brown Street
Columbus, IN

SOUTHEAST

11:30 AM, Thursday, May 15, 2025
American Legion
412 N New Albany Street
Sellersburg, IN

EAST CENTRAL

11:30 AM, Tuesday, May 20, 2025
MCL Cafeteria ~ Muncie Mall
3501 N Granville Ave
Muncie, IN



See Updates Here!

Meeting dates and times for the following chapters are still TBD:

CENTRAL INDIANA

Indianapolis area

GREATER WESTERN INDIANA

Terre Haute area

Watch for meeting announcements via email. (If you haven't been receiving emails from us, please email ripea@ripea.org or log into the Info Hub.) Call or email RIPEA if you don't know how to register for these events.

2025 Convention Sponsors

Pile CPAs—Partner
Community First Bank—Regional Partner
Barnes & Thornburg—Coffee & Donuts
Anthem—Lanyard
Indiana Member Credit Union—Booth

Upcoming Webinars

RIPEA is partnering with AMBA to provide monthly webinars (see topics to right) and with the Alzheimer's Association to provide a webinar on "The Impact of Alzheimer's and Dementia on Our Community".

The ALZ webinar will be held at 12 pm ET, Wednesday, February 19, 2025. Register at bit.ly/RIPEA-ALZ or call 800-272-3900 to attend.

Our webinars are free but require registration. To register for one of our monthly webinars, please go to the AMBA/RIPEA Educational Webinar Series page under Events on ripea.org, or look for our e-blasts announcing the next training in your inbox each month. They are currently held 2nd Tuesdays of each month at 12PM EST.

If you ever miss a webinar, you can always watch them afterwards, once they're posted on the Resources page of ripea.org.

Planned Webinar Topics for 2025

January 14	Financial Wellness in the New Year
February 11	The Impact of a Critical Illness
March 11	Aging in Place
April 8	Emergency Transportation Issues in Indiana
May 13	Preparing for Summer - Discounts for RIPEA Members
June 10	All about your Dental and Vision Plans
July 8	All About Long Term Care
August 12	Protecting Your Nest Egg
September 9	Life 101
October 14	The Basics of Medicare and Your State Plan
November 11	All about Long Term Care
December 9	Holiday Discounts for RIPEA Members

RIPEA's 33rd Annual Convention

SAVE THE DATE

AUGUST 26 2025

Primo Banquet & Conference Center
2615 National Avenue
Indianapolis 46227

VENUE IS WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE

INDIANAPOLIS ZOO **GO WILD** SPEND LESS.

SAVE OVER 35% ON ADMISSION

Retired Indiana Public Employees Association

	Jan. 6 – Mar. 21, 2025	Mar. 22 – Jan. 4, 2026
Adult	\$10.75	\$21.75 \$34.75
Youth (2–12)	\$8.75	\$17.75 \$31.75

1. Go to: <https://tickets.indyzoo.com/webstore/shop/ViewItems.aspx?CompanyCode=RIPEADolphin&CG=MktgDMA&C=DMATkt>
2. Select ticket quantity.
3. Click **Add To Cart**.
4. Check your order and then click **Checkout**.
5. Enter billing and payment information.
6. You will then see a receipt page.
7. You will receive your tickets by email.
8. To print your tickets, please save them from the receipt page when you complete your transaction.

SCAN TO PURCHASE

TICKETS VALID ANY DAY, INCLUDING SPECIAL ZOO EVENTS: