

## Property tax reform dominates opening of 2008 General Assembly

It's all about property taxes in the 2008 General Assembly, and they have "hit the ground running." Committee meetings with full agendas marked the first week of this "short" session. Many of those bills have property tax implications.

Legislators seem intent on letting voters know they've heard their concerns about property taxes—125 of the 150 seats are on the ballot this year.

INARF is watching Senate Joint Resolution 2, which would confer constitutionally exempt status to church property. It's authored by Senator Pat Miller. Sen. Robert Meeks has just joined her as co-author. The constitutional amendment process requires the resolution to pass two separately elected General Assemblies and then a voter referendum. INARF's goal is ensuring that all bona fide charitable and educational nonprofits are protected equally. The resolution has been assigned to the Senate Judiciary committee.

Though it's printed in no bill, some legislators have begun to tout imposing sales tax on virtually all services as a way of paying for the property tax reforms "without increasing taxes." They talk of exempting "medical services" and some include "business to business" sales. Their logic is that imposing the current sales tax rate [6%] on a much broader base [hundreds of services versus the "20-some" now subject to sales tax] will provide as much or more than will be raised by increasing the sales tax rate to 7% as the governor has proposed—and some believe they can assert they "didn't vote to raise taxes."

The deadline for filing Senate bills has just passed. The House deadline is Tuesday. Roughly 500 bills have been publicly released. Another 200-400 are expected.

Here are some of those that INARF staff and consultants are watching:

**SB 20**—Eliminates exclusion from a county's maximum levy of the Children's Psychiatric Residential Treatment Services fund. Sen. Kenley. Assigned to Tax and Fiscal Policy.

**SB 76**—Review of privatization plans. Sen. Lanane. Assigned to Tax and Fiscal Policy.

**SB 143**—Childhood lead poisoning prevention. Sen. Gard. Assigned to Health.

## Therap Services commits as title sponsor for conference

INARF is pleased to welcome Therap Services for a repeat performance as the title sponsor for the INARF Annual Conference. Their return to center stage will include a commanding presence at the 2008 Annual Conference in addition to regional educational opportunities for members on the multitude of benefits offered through their solutions.

Therap Services works with developmental disability providers in Indiana and more than thirty other states providing web-based documentation, communication and reporting services. Therap's secure applications enhance communication through agencies, empowering Direct Support Professionals and saving significant amounts of time for supervisory and clinical staff. With a user friendly interface, immediate notifications, powerful reporting tools and unparalleled customer support, Therap is the leading provider of paperless solutions to the developmental disability community.

For more information on Therap Services, plan to visit their booth during the upcoming annual conference exhibition day or visit their web site at [www.therapservices.net](http://www.therapservices.net). ■

**SB 148**—Repeals the 1-1-08 expirations of the Office of Secretary of FSSA, OMPP, and other division and legalizes their actions after that date. Sen. Miller. Passed from Health, 7-0.

**SB 171**—Crimes against persons with disabilities. Sen. Lanane. Assigned to Corrections, Criminal and Civil Matters.

**SB 220**—Employment of unauthorized aliens. Sen. Simpson. Assigned to Pensions/Labor.

**SB 240**—Purchasing preference for recycled components. Sen. Waterman. Assigned to Commerce.

**HB 1054**—Mandates health coverage for dependents to age 24. Rep. C. Brown. Assigned to Public Health.

Please turn to "Bills of Interest," page two

## Job Postings

**St. Vincent New Hope** is seeking applicants for their medically fragile group home. This role is responsible for all aspects of caring for the individuals in an efficient manner. The ideal applicant will have excellent communication and organizational skills as well as previous supervisory experience. Interested candidates should apply online and refer to job opening ID# 26543

**Janus Developmental Services, Inc.** is seeking applicants for Day Services Manager. An ambitious and detailed day services manager is needed for a management role at a growing not-for-profit. Looking for programming professional with experience in meeting CARF and BQIS standards. Excellent supervisory, analytical, interpersonal and communication skills are required. A degree in social service or a related field or 3 years experience required. No nights or weekends, generous and affordable benefits package available. Please send cover letter and resume to Attention: Director of Center Based Programs, Janus Developmental Services, Inc., 1555 Westfield Road, Noblesville, IN 46062 or fax to 317-773-8798.

**Janus Developmental Services, Inc.** is seeking applicants for Manufacturing Production Manager. An ambitious and detailed production manager is needed for a management position at a growing not-for-profit. Looking for a production professional with experience in MODAPTS or time study piece rate and hourly rate development, as well as an ability to market for contracted bids. Excellent analytical, interpersonal and communication skills are required. A degree or three years experience required. No nights or weekends, generous and affordable benefits package available. Please send cover letter and resume to Attention: Director of Center Based Programs, Janus Developmental Services, Inc., 1555 Westfield Road, Noblesville, IN 46062 or fax to 317-773-8798.

**Janus Developmental Services, Inc.** is seeking applicants for Resource Development Manager. Responsible for all fund development and public relations efforts including donor cultivation and development, major gifts solicitation, grant research, proposal writing and management, planning and conducting special events and securing corporate and foundation gifts. Minimum requirements: a Bachelors degree, three years experience in fund development and a proven track record of successful fund-raising and development skills. E-mail resume, references and salary requirements to Denice Hansen, Director of Operations: dhansen@janus-inc.org, fax (317)-773-8798.

**Indiana MENTOR** is seeking a Director of Health Services. We are seeking a leader in the nursing profession to assist us by ensuring the quality of healthcare services we provide in multiple program service lines meet professional medical standards and maintain optimal health and development of the individuals we serve. We support persons with developmental disabilities, children and seniors across Indiana. Required skills and qualifications include BSN (MSN preferred), current Indiana RN license, 3 years nursing supervisory experience, strong communication skills, knowledge of applicable Federal and State regulations, and a valid driver's license and current auto insurance. We provide a competitive compensation package including medical, dental, vision, life and short-term disability insurance, as well as paid vacation and 401K. For consideration, forward a resume to Michael Smith, Human Resources Director, Indiana MENTOR, 8925 North Meridian Street, Suite 200, Indianapolis, 46260.

### INARF Calendar of Events January 2008

- *Tuesday, January 15 - Human Resource Professional Interest Section*, from 10:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at Easter Seals Crossroads
- *Thursday, January 17 - Community Supports Professional Interest Section*, from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. at St. Vincent New Hope
- *Wednesday, January 23 - Financial Management Professional Interest Section*, from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at Easter Seals Crossroads
- *Thursday, January 24 - State Use Provider Meeting* from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at Easter Seals Crossroads
- *Friday, January 25 - Board of Directors Meeting/INARF Member Forum* from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. at Easter Seals Crossroads. A session on **Medical Malpractice and Legal Liability** for INARF members will immediately follow the INARF Member Forum.
- *Tuesday, January 29 & Wednesday, January 30 - INARF Presents: "Wage and Hour" Workshops*, from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. on Jan. 29 and 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. on Jan. 30.