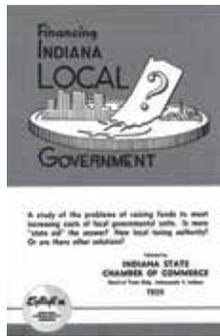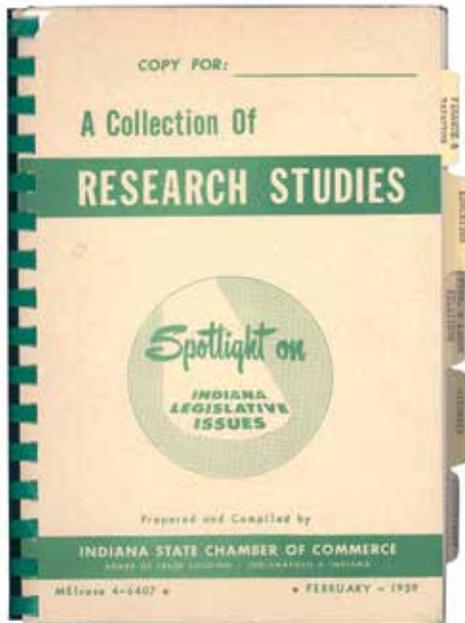# BACK IN THE WINTER OF '59

Venturing back into the Indiana Chamber annals reveals a 1959 collection of research studies titled "Spotlight on Legislative Issues," which was prepared by the Chamber and provided to state legislators.

It's interesting to read that the Chamber was waging the battle for more efficient local government spending back then; it's no secret that challenges remain, particularly with the current township structure. One paragraph reads:

"There appears to be no assurance that the local government finance problem will correct itself in the immediate future if present practices and laws are unchanged. The continuing and growing desire of people to 'live out,' the construction of community shopping centers away from downtown areas, the rapid improvement in highway transportation and movement of traffic, and the decentralization trend in industry all point to further complications. These complications are the result of the shifting from one local government unit to another of responsibility for administration and financing of specific governmental services while the taxable property which normally might be expected to bear a part of the cost of these services is in another taxing unit."
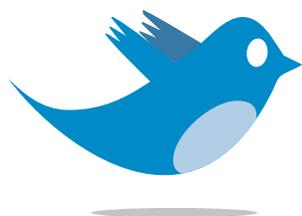
County highway funding was also a major issue then. Legislators and the business community were considering the most efficient ways to keep Hoosiers moving:

"Need for improvement in the administration of county highways in Indiana will be one of the major problems confronting the 1959 Legislature. The importance of this issue cannot be discounted when it is realized that state-collected highway tax funds amounting to $40 million will be expended by the counties this year. Rural residents who use county roads as 'farm to market' or 'job to home' routes know and appreciate the fact that safer and more durable county roads are needed. County roads constitute approximately 77 per cent of the road and street mileage in Indiana. This rural road mileage is highly essential to the welfare of a large segment of the state's population."

# What's Chirping on Tweet Street?

The Indiana Chamber has nearly 10,000 followers. Are you on the list? Here are some examples of recent activity:

## @IndianaChamber

VIDEO: Mass transit, Common Core standards return to center stage. Chamber Pres. Brinegar provides overview ow.ly/tahPI #INLegis

School Choice Week: Hoosier businessman Fred Klipsch guest blogs on importance of choice in #education ow.ly/t7OFR

Chamber's @dredelman1: We don't believe SB 91 prohibits components or all of #CommonCore from being adopted by State Board, DOE #INLegis

Our PAC @IBRG has endorsed @basslerINsenate in Senate District 39 primary. He's a Washington (Ind.) financial advisor http://ow.ly/sZ4Bl

Great biz minds @wechsler, @schpok & @santiagojara discussing new Launch Indiana SBDC effort on @IIB. Climate is hot for Hoosier start-ups!

Kudos to @Tysonfoods & @TeamRubicon on this partnership to enhance disaster relief efforts VIDEO: http://ow.ly/sVlu2 #veterans

## What others are saying to – or about – the Indiana Chamber:

@WIBC_EricBerman: @IndianaChamber: not thrilled with requirement that corporate tax cover 10% of #transit cost, but still supports advancing bill.

@heycori: Adding a link to @IndianaChamber's "Contact Your Legislator" app in the #CheatSheet; the #INlegis widget is broken. indy.st/1erJvRt

@ScottElliott_IN: Derek Redelman from @IndianaChamber says he supports Common Core and strongly supports SB277.

@CPHorizon: @ConnerPrairie's @museummaven discusses education, STEM in roundtable for @IndianaChamber's BizVoice mag ow.ly/sNPEn

@IndyExec_FBO: Enjoying an update from @IndianaChamber President at the Hamilton County Chamber Legislative breakfast.

@JessicaDFraser: Check out the latest issue of @IndianaChamber's BizVoice, where I talk about the need for #middleskill credentials! ow.ly/seXTB