

It's Time for Just the Facts

There is nothing like an opportunity to set the record straight, clear up misperceptions, dispel inaccurate myths. No matter your favorite phrase, you get the picture.

Opinion: The Indiana Chamber of Commerce represents big business.

Fact: Yes, a number of large businesses belong to our organization for the legislative advocacy and many other programs and benefits we offer. But more than two-thirds of our members have fewer than 100 employees. They are in all 92 counties, in a variety of industries. Our nearly 5,000 member companies employ 800,000 working Hoosiers.

Opinion: The Chamber is politically biased toward Republicans.

Fact: There is not enough space in this column for me to fully address this one. Our political action committee, Indiana Business for Responsive Government (IBRG), endorses and assists legislators who vote with the business community on bills that support our pro-economy, pro-jobs agenda – regardless of political party. During legislative deliberations, our issue experts work closely with Republicans and Democrats in both the House and Senate. In addition, a new IBRG initiative is focused on increasing bipartisanship in all of our efforts. I welcome the opportunity to explain in greater detail to anyone who desires more information.

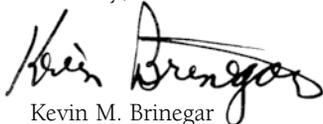
Opinion: You guys don't care about the environment.

Fact: We care about striking the right balance between protecting our environment and not limiting companies' abilities to do business, provide jobs and contribute to the well-being of their communities. Environmental initiatives must be the product of sound science with incentives (not mandates) typically the best way to achieve progress without creating unintended consequences.

For the second consecutive year, the Chamber devotes this edition of *BizVoice*® to "green" programs, projects and products. Indiana companies and their employees throughout the state are working to take care of business, as well as the world we all live in.

Fact: We appreciate the support of all Indiana Chamber members and encourage those not engaged to learn more about our programs and services.

Sincerely,



Kevin M. Brinegar



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To inform and influence

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