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Bills pass Senate as session nears close

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Bridgeway Church hosts prom night event



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Regulators call in 'big five' energy providers for investigation

LESLIE BONILLA MUÑIZ
INDIANA CAPITAL CHRONICLE

In response to growing customer outrage over high energy bills, the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission announced Wednesday that it will conduct an investigation into affordability for the state's "big five" investor-owned utility companies next month.

It's an uncharacteristic move for the typically restrained IURC to take, new Chair Andy Zay admitted during a news conference at the agency's headquarters in

downtown Indianapolis. "We're a regulatory agency. ... It's not typically our style as a commission to get involved in these issues," Zay said. He cited an influx of complaints from customers and leaders.

The IURC is charged with ensuring that utilities provide safe, reliable service at just and reasonable rates. By law, it serves as an impartial arbiter between customers and providers.

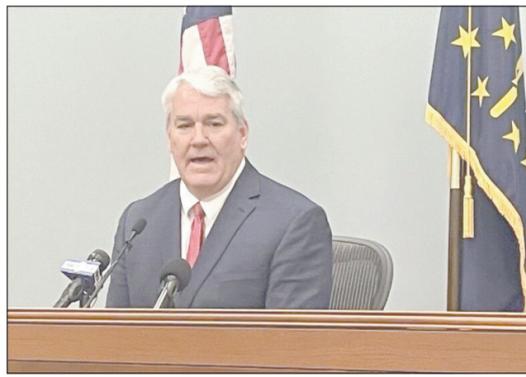
"That balance feels dramatically out of whack right now for many, many Hoosiers and today is the beginning of a process that we are

labeling an investigative inquiry," Zay said. "... We're asking our five investor-owned utilities that we regulate on a week-in, week-out basis ... to come to this room and have an open dialog about affordability."

Those include AES Indiana, CenterPoint Energy Indiana, Duke Energy Indiana, Indiana Michigan Power Company, and the Northern Indiana Public Service Company.

"We're going to ask questions on the rates, on the transparency of billing, and also on reflection, to

See **ENERGY** on A2



Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission Chair Andy Zay announces an affordability inquiry into the "big five" electric providers during a news conference on Wednesday.

Leslie Bonilla Muñiz | Indiana Capital Chronicle

Man arrested in shooting that killed wife, injured infant

KIM DUNLAP
KOKOMO TRIBUNE

Police arrested a Kokomo man after they say his wife was killed and his infant was injured in a shooting Tuesday night on the city's southwest side.

Cameron Tomlinson, 21, is now facing preliminary felony charges of reckless homicide and criminal recklessness, according to a Kokomo Police Department media release.

Those charges stem from an investigation that began around 7 p.m. Tuesday when law enforcement was dispatched to an apartment in the 400 block of West Lincoln Road in reference to a shooting.

Officers say they were advised by a caller at that location that a female — later identified as 21-year-old Jessica M. Tomlinson — was reportedly handling a firearm and suffered a self-inflicted gunshot wound to her upper torso while holding her 1-month-old infant, per the release.

Police say the infant also sustained a gunshot wound and significant trauma to the hand. The child was transported to Community Howard Regional Health before being transported to Riley Children's Hospital in Indianapolis for additional treatment.

The infant is currently in stable condition, per police.

Jessica Tomlinson, however, succumbed to her injuries.

Formal charges have not yet been filed in the case, and police have also not released additional details as to what caused them to arrest Cameron Tomlinson.

He is being held without bond at the Howard County Jail, and his initial hearing is pending.

This case remains under investigation and anyone with additional information is asked to call the KPD Hotline at 765-456-7107 or submit a tip anonymously by calling Central Indiana Crime Stoppers at 1-800-262-TIPS, downloading the "Kokomo PD" mobile app or texting TIPKPD to 847411.

STATE OF THE UNION



Matt Rourke | Associated Press

President Donald Trump delivers the State of the Union address to a joint session of Congress in the House chamber at the U.S. Capitol in Washington on Tuesday.

In longest-ever SOTU address, Trump declares America is 'winning'

WILL WEISSERT, MICHELLE L. PRICE AND MATT BROWN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump declared during a marathon State of the Union Tuesday that "we're winning so much" — insisting he'd sparked an economic boom at home and imposed a new world order abroad in hopes it can counter his sliding approval ratings.

Trump's main objective was stressing that the economy is stronger than many believe, and that they should vote for more of the same by backing Republicans during November's midterm elections. In all, Trump spoke for a record 108 minutes, breaking — by eight minutes — the previous time mark from his address before a joint session of Congress last year.

As he did during such addresses in his first term, Trump relied on a series of surprise special guests



Kenny Holston | Pool The New York Times

Members of the United States' Olympic hockey team, goalie Connor Hellebuuck in front, attend President Donald Trump's State of the Union address.

to dramatically punctuate his message. They included U.S. military heroes and a former political

prisoner released after U.S. forces toppled Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro.

Trump drew some of the loudest applause of the night when he invited the Olympic gold medal-winning U.S. men's hockey team into the House chamber.

The hockey players, wearing their medals and "USA" sweaters, drew a bipartisan standing ovation. Trump pointed to the Democratic side of the chamber and quipped, "That's the first time I ever I've ever seen them get up."

In a made-for-TV moment, the president announced he would be awarding the Presidential Medal of Freedom, America's highest civilian honor, to the hockey team's goaltender, Connor Hellebuuck.

He also bestowed the Purple Heart on Andrew Wolfe — a National Guard member who was shot while deployed on the streets of the nation's capital. Wolfe made his first public appearance since then during the speech.

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WEATHER



Morning flurries, then sun.

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Full forecast on A8.

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