## NORTHERN INDIANA ADVOCATES



Northern Indiana Advocates (NIA) Update

## Advocating for Northern Indiana: Updates, Alliances, and Future Endeavors

November 2023

Dear Northern Indiana Advocates.

We are delighted to bring you the latest updates and key developments in our ongoing mission to advocate for the prosperity of Northern Indiana.

In November, Northern Indiana Advocates (NIA) hosted two impactful legislative receptions, creating a valuable platform to engage with Northern Indiana legislators, business leaders, and community representatives. These well attended events included twenty Indiana legislators and 150 influential business and community leaders, and several regional mayors.

Legislator's insights into the upcoming 2024 legislative session were shared, with expectations of a brief, non-budgetary focus on targeted issues carried over from the previous session.

NIA emphasized our core mission, addressing historical challenges in securing an equitable share of state resources for infrastructure and quality of life. Despite local initiatives, the allocation of public funds and state board and commission appointments continues to disproportionately favor Central Indiana.

We highlighted that NIA is actively addressing these issues and celebrating successes within our short tenure. We've successfully formed alliances with our region's thirty-seven state legislators and established a strategic partnership with the Governor's office. This collaboration focuses on identifying and endorsing qualified Northern Indiana candidates for state boards and commissions.

Looking ahead, NIA's focus will be on advocating in the executive and legislative branches for a richer allocation of resources, appointments, and local control. NITDC has a strategic plan to position Northern Indiana for a more influential advocacy voice and fair representation.

Our shared goal is to unite and work towards enhancing the economic prosperity of our region, striving to make Northern Indiana the best version of itself.

Thank you for your continued support. Together, we can bring about positive change for Northern Indiana!

Best regards, Dan Bearss





Dan Bearss, Executive Director <a href="mailto:dbearss@nitdc.com">dbearss@nitdc.com</a>
(574) 238 – 3535