2026 D.C. INsider – September 15-16

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September 15 – Day 1

Location: Embassy Suites by Hilton D.C. Convention Center
900 10th Street NW, Washington, D.C.

10:30 a.m. Registration

11:30 a.m. Welcome and Opening Comments
Vanessa Green Sinders, President and CEO, Indiana Chamber of Commerce

11:45 a.m. Buffet Lunch

12 p.m. Agriculture Policy Update
Ricki Schroeder, Senior Advisor to the Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture

12:30 p.m. The Future of Drones, Autonomous Systems and National Security
Michael Robbins, President and CEO, Association for Uncrewed Vehicle Systems International (AUVSI)

1 p.m. Break

1:15 p.m. Policy Roundtable With Indiana's Senate Senior Staff
Staff will provide updates on the congressional calendar, federal policy priorities and where Indiana's interests align with current debates. (Moderated by Vanessa Green Sinders)

2 p.m. Policy Roundtable With Indiana House Senior Staff
Staff will provide updates on House priorities, federal agency oversight and policy issues important to Indiana employers. (Moderated by Vanessa Green Sinders)

2:45 p.m. U.S.-Canada Trade and Economic Partnership
Carlos Vanderloo, Minister-Counsellor, Economic and Trade Policy, Embassy of Canada in Washington, D.C.

3:15 p.m. Federal Technology, Energy and Innovation Policy
John Connell, Vice President, Government Affairs and Public Policy, U.S. and Canada, Google and Megan Jackson, Staff Director, House Energy and Commerce Committee (Moderated by Vanessa Green Sinders)

4 p.m. Programming Concludes

4:30 p.m. Depart for Indiana University Reception

5 p.m. Indiana University Hosted Reception
Join fellow attendees and guests for informal conversation, appetizers and drinks.
Location: IU Capital Campus
1619 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington, D.C.

6:30 p.m. Depart for Evening Tour of The Capitol

7 p.m. Evening Tour

8:30 p.m. Shuttle Back to Embassy Suites

8:30 p.m. Late Night Unwind Reception
Continue the conversation with fellow attendees over snacks and drinks.
Location: Embassy Suites Bar

September 16 – Day 2
Location: Embassy Suites

8 a.m. Breakfast With Indiana Congressional Delegation Members
Moderated by Gerry Dick, Inside INdiana Business

9:15 a.m. Fireside Chat: Key Matters Impacting Hoosier Employers
U.S. Sen. Todd Young
Gerry Dick

10 a.m. Defense Remarks
Dr. Jerry Hendrix, Associate Director for Shipbuilding Programs, Office of Management and Budget

10:15 a.m. Fireside Chat: Defense Industry Future
U.S. Sen. Jim Banks
The Honorable Michael Dodd, Assistant Secretary of War for Critical Technologies

11 a.m. Looking Ahead to 2026
Jessica Taylor, Senate and Governors Editor, The Cook Political Report with Amy Walter

11:45 a.m. Closing Comments
Vanessa Green Sinders

12 p.m. Adjourn