

Kasich names head of workers' comp bureau

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WAUSEON, Ohio (AP) — Ohio Gov.-elect John Kasich says he wants a veteran state lawmaker to reform the state Bureau of Workers' Compensation.

Kasich made known his choice to direct the agency on Tuesday in Wauseon, the hometown of state Sen. Steve Buehrer, a Republican.

Kasich says the system in place at the agency for injured workers is too expensive and inefficient and costs the state jobs. He says employers pay too much in premiums and are never certain what costs will be from year to year.

Buehrer has represented northwest Ohio in the state legislature since 1999. Before that, he worked in the workers' compensation agency for three years.

A scandal over the investment of bureau funds contributed to the 2006 near-sweep of state offices by Democrats. The GOP won all statewide seats this year.
