



**Friday, February 20th, 2026**

## Week Seven Overview

As third reading deadlines approach and the end of session draws near, the General Assembly has entered the home stretch. Bills are starting to move through final votes in both chambers and, in some cases, are heading to the Governor's desk. Conference committees will begin next week for bills being dissented on upon returning to the chamber of origin. Floor sessions remain busy while lawmakers work to finalize legislation and resolve remaining differences before adjournment.

Please see below for additional details on committee activity and highlighted legislation from this week.

### Elections

The Senate Elections Committee met this week to discuss several bills related to voting and municipal elections. **HB 1055**, Municipal Elections, sponsored by Sen. Eric Koch (R-Bedford), would allow cities and towns to adopt an ordinance providing that all elected officials are elected in even-numbered years. Amendment #7, added and taken by consent, would move town elections to even-numbered years, as a general rule, and allow towns with a population of more than 10,000 to pass a resolution to opt out of that general rule. Opposition to HB 1055 included small communities that worried a change in election process might confuse voters and be an unnecessary burden. The bill passed as amended, 6-3.

**HB 1359**, Scanning Ballots, sponsored by Sen. Mike Gaskill (R-Pendleton), would establish a process by which certain counties may scan voted ballot cards during both the early voting period and on Election Day. Amendment #2 adopted by the committee would reduce the number of early voting days from 28 to 16. Supporters of the amendment argued this provision would save money and time during elections, while opposition expressed concerns on voter access. HB 1359 passed as amended, 7-2.

**HB 1377**, Straight Ticket Voting, sponsored by Sen. Tyler Johnson (R-Leo), would eliminate counting straight party votes for at-large district elections. Amendment #3 was adopted, specifying how votes are counted for a straight ticket paper ballot. Concerns were voiced that removing straight ticket voting could confuse voters and may impact voter turnout. The bill passed 7-2.



**HB 1342**, County Commissioner Districts, sponsored by Sen. Gaskill, would require Indiana county executives to divide their counties into three contiguous and reasonably compact commissioner districts that meet specified geographic and population standards. The bill also updates procedures and exceptions related to redistricting, elections, and local governance to ensure compliance and enhance transparency. Opposition to HB 1342 was expressed by county commissioners, who contended that the bill needlessly disrupts established and equitable districting practices and creates undue burdens for rural areas. State officials and citizens supported the bill citing improved representational fairness and pragmatic reforms. The bill passed, 7-2.

## Health

The House Public Health Committee met twice this week to consider several measures related to prescription monitoring, pharmacy regulation, and health care oversight. **SB 262**, INSPECT Program, sponsored by Rep. Lori Goss-Reaves (R-Marion), would remove the current 72-hour reporting exemption within the INSPECT prescription drug monitoring database, further define prescription drug monitoring data, and authorize data sharing between the INSPECT program and the Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA). The measure is intended to strengthen oversight of controlled substance prescriptions and help combat opioid and prescription drug abuse. The committee adopted Amendment #2, which would require patients to opt into an opioid treatment program before being permitted to access certain INSPECT program components. Supporters testified that the INSPECT system has been an effective tool in reducing overprescribing and expressed support for enhanced interagency data coordination, while others raised questions regarding patient privacy and potential stigma concerns. SB 262 passed as amended, 11-0.

The committee also heard **SB 282**, Compounding Drugs; Registration of Medical Spas, sponsored by Rep. Barrett (R-Richmond). The bill would revise regulations governing pharmacy compounding practices and establish registration requirements for medical spas. Following testimony earlier in the week and additional discussions, the committee adopted Amendment #14. The amendment would remove a previously proposed provision that raised concerns about limiting compounding practices, clarify pharmacy quality standards, and provide additional support for complaint review and enforcement by pharmacy regulators. It would establish a January registration requirement for medical spas, define what qualifies as a medical spa, require identification of the supervising physician, and direct any discipline toward the provider rather than the facility. The amendment would also narrow adverse event reporting requirements to cases involving death or inpatient hospitalization and extend the reporting timeline to 15 days. In addition, it would require a study of compounding practices and biannual reporting to the legislature. SB 282 passed as amended, 12-0.



## Education

The House Education Committee met on Wednesday to discuss several matters.

**SB 88**, Various Education Matters, sponsored by Rep. Martin Carbaugh (R–Fort Wayne), revises requirements for civics education by mandating that instruction be grounded in research-based actions. Amendment #20, redefining “good citizenship” language, and Amendment #12, clarifying application to charter schools were adopted by the committee. Supporters of SB 88 highlighted the value of updated civics curriculum for student benefit, while opposition voiced concerns about potential government overreach and lack of clarity in implementation. The bill passed 7-3.

**SB 200**, Public School Matters, sponsored by Rep. Garrett Bascom (R–Lawrenceburg), would prohibit automatic renewal provisions in school contracts. Amendment #5, adopted, codifies the prohibition on contracts automatically rolling over. Amendment #4, adopted, would extend the same protections to charter schools. Amendment #10, adopted, would reduce organizational access to schools, from biannually to annually, maintaining the appeals process. Amendment #6, adopted, would ensure the military services equal recruitment access when universities are allowed to recruit. Opposition testimony focused on concern that the “dollar law” would create burdens for school districts and legislators by tying up property in legal and administrative limbo. The bill passed as amended 7-3.

**SB 239**, Various Education Matters, sponsored by Rep. Jake Teshka (R–North Liberty), would modify timelines and procedures for school building transfers and school building reporting. Amendment #13, adopted by the committee, would move operational dates up, delay reporting requirements to 2027, repeal a provision for county executive appointments to charter boards, and remove the 25% tuition support penalty for late school building reporting. Support for HB 239 argued that the changes would improve efficiency and reduce punitive measures, while opponents cited concerns about the fairness and continued impact of the “dollar law”, especially for local school boards. The bill passed as amended, 7-4.

**SB 254**, Ivy Tech Community College, sponsored by Rep. Danny Lopez (R–Carmel), would mandate the establishment of an education to employment research program by the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) to strengthen workforce training and labor market alignment. Amendment #2, adopted by committee vote, would specify implementation details, including employing existing funding and philanthropic support for this initiative. The bill passed 11-0.



## Judiciary

The Senate Judiciary Committee met this week to discuss several bills. **HB 1115**, Homeowners Association Governance, sponsored by Sen. Spencer Deery (R–West Lafayette), would enact new limits on homeowners’ association fees and fines and changes the default quorum requirements for special meetings. Amendment #7, adopted, would require HOA’s to set a cap on fines imposed on homeowners, ensuring a predictability for residents. Amendment #3, adopted, would lower the quorum for special meetings from 75% to two-thirds of owners, further clarification explained the provision only applies going forward. Amendment #6, also adopted, would prohibit HOA’s and management companies from charging fees beyond annual dues except for special assessments. HB 1115 passed as amended, 10-1.

**HB 1193**, Civil Rights Commission, sponsored by Sen. Cyndi Carrasco (R–Indianapolis), updates the commission scope, clarifying authority to investigate discrimination claims under state and federal law without creating new substantive rights. Amendment #5 was adopted, which would specify coordination with other agencies, allow retaliation claims, and a firm jurisdiction over Title VI, VII, and IX cases only when agreement with federal partners exist. Some opposition highlighted concern about commission funding and allocation of claims. The bill passed, 9-2.

**HB 1033**, Various Judicial Matters, sponsored by Sen. Carrasco, would restructure Marion County’s Superior Court administration by creating a chief judge role, creating new executive committee responsibilities, and changing the judicial selection process. Amendment #6, adopted, would clarify the appointment process for the chief judge, and a chairwoman’s amendment further ensured correct statutory references. Testimony highlighted concerns about diversity, and loss of local control. The bill passed as amended, 7-4.

**HB 1417**, Causes of Action and Damages, sponsored by Sen. Scott Baldwin (R–Noblesville), would restrict civil actions for public nuisance by limiting eligible plaintiffs, capping allowable damages, and precluding money damages for potential future harm, while also increasing the cap on attorney fee awards in qualified settlement offer cases from \$5,000 to \$100,00. Amendment #9 was adopted, specifying limitations on public nuisance actions and revising language concerning awards of attorney’s fees. Amendment #10 was also adopted, removing the qualified settlement offer language and establishing a tort reform task force, with membership details still being discussed. Opposition for the bill stemmed in concerns that the bill would drastically limit the ability of municipalities or the state to bring public nuisance lawsuits, particularly in major public health cases. The bill passed as amended, 7-4.



**HB 1001**, Housing Matters, sponsored by Sen. Chris Garten (R–Charlestown), aims to address Indiana’s housing shortage by relaxing local zoning and permitting requirements, establishing statewide permitted uses for residential and mixed-use development, and extending residential TIF. Amendment #5, adopted, would make most provisions opt-out for local governments. Testimony showed opposition from city officials to the bill’s limitation of local control. Support from construction and development stakeholders expressed the flexibility and expansion in development this bill would allow. The bill passed as amended, 6-5.

The House Judiciary Committee met this week to move two bills. **SB 171**, Family and Children Matters, sponsored by Rep. Julie McGuire (R–Indianapolis), seeks to promote stability and continuity in adoption and child welfare decision making. The bill would require the Department of Child Services (DCS) to consider several factors when determining whether an out-of-home-placement is in a child’s best interest, such as parenting style and proximity to the child’s birth parents. The bill would also provide that a caregiver with whom a child has resided for at least 12 months is presumed to have a significant relationship with the child. SB 171 passed out of committee, 12-0.

**SB 256**, Foreign Agent Registration and Foreign Terrorist Organizations, sponsored by Rep. Matt Commons (R-Williamsport), would require agents engaging in political activity on behalf of hostile foreign countries to register with the Attorney General. The bill would require foreign agents to describe the nature of their relationship with the foreign country and register within 30 days of beginning the activity. Supporters stressed the need to fight against foreign influence in state politics. SB 256 passed out of committee, 12-0.

## Roads and Transportation

The House Roads and Transportation Committee met to consider **SB 179**, the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) agency bill, sponsored by Rep. Jim Pressel (R–Rolling Prairie). The bill would fulfill federal requirements related to the state’s waiver of sovereign immunity under the National Environmental Policy Act, allowing Indiana to assume additional environmental review authority. It would also direct updates to INDOT’s GIS mapping systems, clarify that single-trip permits must be used within five days, move up the distribution date for certain local road and bridge matching grant funds to June 30, and provide an additional \$75 million for the Community Crossings program to address high demand from prior applications.



The committee adopted Amendment #12 which would establish a \$50 million state match proposal for Indianapolis infrastructure projects, expand allowable trailer length for certain dump trucks hauling construction materials, provide additional clarification to the Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF) regarding township capital improvement plans, and include new provisions aimed at advancing asset management practices. Testimony reflected support for the proposed infrastructure match, as well as concerns regarding its potential impact on local planning and funding flexibility. SB 179 passed as amended, 7-4.

## Utilities

The House Utilities, Energy and Telecommunications Committee met this week to discuss one bill. **SB 6**, Extension of Waste or Wastewater Mains, sponsored by Rep. Hal Slager (R–Schererville), is a transparency law that would require public utilities companies to give notice on their website before any condemnation of land when extending a water or wastewater main. Amendment #4, adopted by committee, aims to limit the applicability of notice requirements regarding proposed condemnation for waste or wastewater main extensions to only those pursued by municipally owned utilities outside municipal corporate boundaries or existing service territories, require written notice and an opportunity for landowners or county plan commissions to request meetings, clarify excluded entities, and mandate annual reporting by the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) on any resulting delays, complaints, or disputes. The bill passed as amended, 12-0.

## Commerce and Technology

The Senate Commerce and Technology Committee met to consider measures related to public records access and food sales regulations. **HB 1360**, Access to Public Records, sponsored by Sen. Liz Brown (R–Fort Wayne), would allow public agencies to establish electronic portals for public records requests with safeguards such as CAPTCHA verification, address confirmation, and automated tracking of suspected phishing or data scraping activity. The bill would permit agencies to decline electronic requests suspected of data scraping or phishing and require reporting of those declined requests to the Public Access Counselor. It would also allow agencies to collect supplemental fees from non-Indiana residents and prioritize requests from Indiana residents and those made for civic, journalistic, academic, or personal use. The committee adopted Amendment #2 by consent, which would prohibit the use of data scraping for litigation purposes. Amendment #3 was also adopted by consent and would make technical changes to clean up language. HB 1360 passed as amended, 10-0.



The committee also heard [HB 1424](#), Farm and Homestead Food Sales, sponsored by Sen. Brian Buchanan (R–Lebanon). The bill would repeal current home-based vendor regulations and limit additional state and local requirements on small farms and homestead vendors beyond those required under federal law. It would permit certain food and meat sales, provide exemptions from some public building regulations, and allow rulemaking related to time and temperature control for food safety. The committee adopted Amendment #9, which would restore farmers market language to preserve home-based market operations, codify a complaint response process, and allow shipping of home-based food products with proper certification. A verbal amendment was also adopted by consent to remove specified language and prevent recommittal. HB 1424 passed as amended, 10-0.

## Local Government

The House Local Government committee met to deliberate on three bills. [SB 228](#), Midwest Continental Divide Commission, sponsored by Rep. Teshka, would make several changes in law regarding the Midwest Continental Divide Commission. This bill would clarify that a "land use and zoning plan" refers only to a plan, not an overlay district, and would require the Midwest Continental Divide Commission to ensure that any zoning changes or variances within a half-mile of commission-approved trail projects align with the established plan, helping to maintain cohesive land use policy near key developments. The bill passed, 10-0.

[SB 232](#), Real Property Appraisals, sponsored by Rep. Julie Olthoff (R–Crown Point), would allow the City of Gary to hire an appraiser to conduct evaluations of property to assist the city with the disposing of the city's real property. This bill would also prohibit a city employee or elected official from purchasing the property that would be appraised. The bill passed, 13-0.

[SB 270](#), Township Mergers, sponsored by Rep. Slager, addresses township consolidation by refining the process for reorganizing designated townships, specifically those with significant overlap in population and geography with municipalities. Amendment #11, adopted by committee vote, clarifies that designated townships will reorganize under the provisions outlined in HB 1315, rather than merge immediately. In addition, this amendment adjusts the timeline for townships at risk of consolidation, enhances appeal and reporting procedures, and establishes new fire coverage reporting requirements. Opposition for the bill centered on concerns about the top-down imposition of township consolidation using a points-based system, potential lack of sufficient local input or notification, threats to local control, and uneasiness with processes that could force outcomes on communities that might not support them. HB 270 passed as amended, 11-2.



## Appropriations

The Senate Appropriations Committee met this week to discuss several bills. **HB 1025**, sponsored by Sen. Sue Glick (R–LaGrange), would remove the requirement in Indiana counties that deputy prosecutors and public defenders must live in the county in which they serve. Supporters emphasized that current requirements for deputy attorneys are arbitrary and only worsen the attorney shortage in Indiana, especially in rural counties. The bill is designed to ease the burden on court personnel. HB 1025 passed out of committee, 12-0.

**HB 1343**, Public Safety Matters, sponsored by Sen. Scott Baldwin (R–Noblesville) would allow the Indiana National Guard to establish a military police force under its control. The National Guard police force could be activated at the Governor’s discretion to address public safety emergencies. The police force would also be required to complete police occupational training and receive instruction from law enforcement. Supporters emphasized the need for the Governor to quickly respond to public safety threats, while others raised concern the bill gives the Governor too much power. HB 1343 passed out of committee, 8-3.

**HB 1145**, Thirteenth Check, sponsored by Sen. Buchanan, would provide a thirteenth check in calendar year 2026 for certain public employees. The bill would provide a thirteenth check in 2026 for beneficiaries of the Indiana State Teachers’ Retirement fund, public employees’ retirement fund, and other public retirement funds. This additional payment is estimated to cost the State \$33.6 million. HB 1145 passed out of committee, 8-4.

**HB 1038**, Relocation of Gaming Operations, sponsored by Sen Justin Busch (R–Fort Wayne), would establish a process to approve an inland casino in Northeast Indiana. The bill would allow the legislative body of an eligible county to place a public question on the 2026 general election ballot seeking approval of a casino. The Indiana Gaming Commission would be required to review applications and issue a final decision by April 15, 2027. The bill would additionally require county applicants to commit at least \$500 million in development investment to accompany the project. Amendment #33, which would remove Wayne County from consideration and stipulates that the license terminates if the casino closes, was adopted, 8-5. This amendment would also eliminate casino approval via ballot referendum, which drew criticism from those that want to hear from locals. A new casino in Northeast Indiana could create an estimated \$15 to \$45 million of State revenue. HB 1038 passed out of committee, 8-5.



## Ways and Means

The House Ways and Means Committee met a total of 3 times this week to move many bills. House Resolution 28, Recognizing the Seriousness of the U.S. National Debt and its Threat to National Security, authored by Rep. Tim O'Brien (R-Evansville) was considered first. State Comptroller Elise Nieshalla testified in strong support of the resolution. Comptroller Nieshalla complemented the fiscal discipline of Indiana while expressing concern for the nearly \$40 trillion national debt. HR 28 passed out of committee, 21-0.

**SB 1**, Human Services Matters, sponsored by Rep. Brad Barrett (R-Richmond), would seek to counteract fraud in Indiana's welfare programs. SB 1 would require FSSA to verify eligibility for Medicaid recipients twice a year and would establish immigration eligibility requirements for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Supporters stressed the need to protect welfare programs for the vulnerable and prevent waste. Opposition expressed concern that these reforms will create food insecurity for the children of illegal aliens. Amendment #8, which makes some technical corrections, was adopted by consent. SB passed as amended, 13-9.

**SB 163**, Various Property Tax Matters, sponsored by Rep. Craig Snow (R-Warsaw), would repeal the expiration of county option circuit breaker tax credits and make them permanent. SB 163 would also require the DLGF provide information to an interim study committee on the topic of electronic county payment systems. The bill also repeals the current \$240,000 assessed value cap for property tax deductions for veterans over the age of 62. Amendment #13, which includes some clarifying and technical changes, was adopted by consent. SB 163 passed as amended, 22-0.

**SB 243**, Various Tax Matters, sponsored by Chairman Jeff Thompson (R-Lizton), would adopt at the state level deductions featured in Congress's One Big Beautiful Bill Act. The bill allows no Indiana state tax on tips, overtime, or vehicle loan interest for the 2026 tax year. SB 243 accomplishes this by allowing adjusted gross income deductions for up to \$25,000 in each of these categories. The bill also addresses the recent penny phaseout by the U.S. Treasury by requiring state and local taxes, fines, and fees to be rounded down to the nearest \$0.05. Amendment #7, which clarifies the technical details of this rounding, was adopted, 13-9. Many on the Committee expressed opposition to the penny phase out on grounds it could incentivize raising prices before the law takes effect, impacting poor Hoosiers. SB 243 passed as amended, 12-10.



**SB 78**, Wireless Communications Device Policy, sponsored by Rep. Teshka, would require schools to adopt comprehensive policies limiting student access to wireless devices during the school day. Supporters stressed that phones disrupt the critical learning environment, while others expressed concern about individual school choice on cell phone policy. The bill passed out of committee, 21-3.

**SB 270**, Township Mergers, sponsored by Rep. Slager would require the DLFG to evaluate township governments using a performance-based point system and designate certain townships for mandatory mergers. Townships assigned at least four points would be required to merge with a township assigned three or fewer points, subject to an appeal process, with mergers completed by January 1, 2028. Many expressed concern that mandatory township mergers would take too much power away from local communities. SB 270 passed out of committee, 18-6.

The Committee met Thursday to consider **SB 27**, Stadium Authority, sponsored by Rep. Todd Huston (R–Fishers). The bill would establish the Northwest Indiana Stadium Authority for the purpose of acquiring and financing certain facilities, including a proposed professional football stadium in Hammond. Supporters described the proposal as a transformational economic development opportunity for northwest Indiana. Testimony highlighted a projected \$2 billion investment by the Chicago Bears organization, with financing structured through state-supported bond issuance, local revenue sources in Lake County, and related tax mechanisms. Under the proposal, bonds would be repaid through designated local taxes, including adjustments to the Lake County food and beverage tax, innkeeper’s tax provisions, and a Hammond admissions tax. Additional tools would include the creation of a professional sports development area and a stadium development district to capture incremental tax revenue.

The committee adopted Amendment #11 by consent. The amendment would revise provisions establishing the Northwest Indiana Stadium Authority and create a Northwest Indiana Stadium Board to finance, construct, equip, operate, and maintain the project. It would outline the board’s composition, powers, and bonding authority; amend related provisions affecting the Indiana Finance Authority; authorize certain local tax mechanisms; and adjust distribution requirements for the Indiana Sports Corporation. The amendment would also require the INDOT to present specified infrastructure projects to the Budget Committee before seeking certain federal approvals. SB 27 passed as amended, 24-0.



## Rules and Legislative Procedures

**HB 1003**, Boards and Commissions, sponsored by Sen. Randy Maxwell (R–Guilford), was heard in the Senate Rules and Legislative Procedures Committee. The bill would restructure and eliminate numerous state boards and commissions as part of a broader government reform effort. The committee adopted Amendment #19, which would substantially revise the bill by reducing its length, shifting the approach from allowing boards to expire to expressly repealing specified boards and commissions, and moving most effective dates to July 1, 2027. The amendment would also clarify that building codes remain published in the Indiana Administrative Code and transfer certain duties to existing entities. Amendment #20, a technical correction for a typo, was also adopted by consent.

Testimony in support emphasized efforts to streamline government structure, improve transparency, and reduce administrative layers while maintaining core functions. Stakeholders representing agriculture, business, construction, and regulatory interests expressed support for the amended version, particularly provisions preserving key boards and consolidating others for efficiency. Representatives from the medical community voiced appreciation that the Medical Licensing Board would remain intact while noting the importance of maintaining distinct missions and funding structures for medical education-related boards under the consolidation framework. Members discussed potential fiscal impacts and legislative oversight of boards and commissions, mentioning that precise cost savings of the consolidation are difficult to quantify but that the focus of the legislation is structural reform and administrative clarity. HB 1003 passed as amended, 11-0.

## Courts and Criminal Code

The House Courts and Criminal Code Committee met this week to discuss several bills. **SB 250**, Regulation of Hemp, sponsored by Rep. Bascom, would harmonize state hemp and THC statutes with evolved federal law while maintaining state authority over substance scheduling. The bill would also ban sellers of hemp products from making health claims in advertisements and appealing to minors. Amendment #5, which would ban the sale of hemp and CBD products, while still allowing them to be manufactured in the State, was adopted, 8-5. Some on the committee emphasized the benefits of hemp and THC and the need for individual freedom. SB 250 passed as amended, 8-5.

**SB 261**, Criminal Vandalism, sponsored by Rep. Bascom, would recategorize “criminal mischief” in the Indiana code to “criminal vandalism.” The bill addresses concerns that the current crimes of institutional criminal mischief, cemetery mischief, railroad mischief, and others are better classified together as vandalism. SB 261 passed, 13-0.



**SB 148**, Indiana Crime Guns Task Force, sponsored by Rep. Chris Jeter (R–Fishers) would add LaPorte and Porter Counties to the Indiana Crime Guns Task Force. The task force works to reduce violent crime by seizing illegal weapons. The bill seeks to fight back against trends of violent crime in Northwest Indiana. Supporters see the bill as a proactive measure, noting that guns have no borders. SB 148 passed out of committee, 13-0.

### Tax & Fiscal

The Senate Tax and Fiscal Policy Committee met this week to discuss several bills. **HB 1177**, Child Care Assistance, sponsored by Sen. Buchanan, would expand eligibility for the employer childcare expenditure income tax credit. The bill would allow entities who employ up to 500 individuals to be eligible for the tax credit and allow entities to write off expenditures. The bill passed out of committee, 12-0.

**HB 1210**, Department of Local Government Finance, sponsored by Sen. Travis Holdman (R–Markle) would expand the partners the DLGF can work with for updating the Indiana transparency website. Notably, the bill would also eliminate levy increases that certain municipalities can petition for to fund emergency and fire services. Amendment #91, which clarifies that counties may use money in a stabilization fund in conjunction with a maximum levy increase for purposes of funding their operations, was adopted, 13-0. HB 1210 will increase the number of claims for the credit and is therefore expected to cost the State up to \$2.5 million. The bill passed out of committee, 13-0.

**HB 1406**, Property Tax Billing Statements, sponsored by Sen. Holdman, would reduce administrative burdens for county treasurers by allowing them the option not to send property tax statements when there is no tax liability, unless the county elects to use the property tax statement as a notice of assessment. The committee adopted Amendment #2, which made technical corrections by reorganizing provisions related to the sending of property tax statements. HB 1406 passed as amended, 13-0.



## Session Floor Highlights

With regular committee deadlines now complete and the final third reading deadline for the second half of session approaching, bills are moving fully to the floor in each chamber. As bills are amended in the second chamber, they may return to their chamber of origin for a concurrence vote, which is a vote to agree with the changes made by the other chamber. If the originating chamber concurs, the bill advances to the Governor's desk for signature or veto. If the originating chamber does not concur, the bill may be sent to conference committee for further negotiation.

Further updates will be provided as legislation is taken up on the floor and in conference committees. Please see the bills listed below that passed the opposite chamber this week, along with final vote totals and any concurrence votes

A complete list of legislation that remains eligible for consideration this session can be found here: [Bills for 2026 Session](#)

### **Bills Passed in the Senate:**

- HB 1018, School Age Child Care – Sen. Donato (R-Logansport). Passed, 45-0.
- HB 1019, Constitutional Amendment Ballot Question – Sen. Koch (R-Bedford). Passed, 44-0.
- HB 1029, Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia Education – Sen. Charbonneau (R-Valparaiso). Passed, 44-0.
- HB 1042, Regulation and Investment of Cryptocurrency – Sen. K. Walker (R-Indianapolis). Passed, 35-10.
- HB 1052, Various Administrative Law Matters – Sen. Alting (R-Lafayette). Passed, 37-8.
- HB 1062, Wake Board and Wake Surfing – Sen. Glick (R-LaGrange). Passed, 34-11.
- HB 1098, Work Based Learning Liability – Sen. Rogers (R-Granger). Passed, 44-1.
- HB 1116
- HB 1147, Licensure of Certified Public Accountants – Sen. Rogers (R-Granger). Passed, 43-2.
- HB 1152, Homeowners Association Matters – Sen. K. Walker (R-Indianapolis). Passed, 41-4.
- HB 1153, Auto Dealer Matters – Sen. Doriot (R-Goshen). Passed, 45-0.
- HB 1155, Traffic Enforcement – Sen. Charbonneau (R-Valparaiso). Passed, 31-15.
- HB 1176, Education Matters – Sen. Rogers (R-Granger). Passed, 31-15.
- HB 1195, High School Equivalency Programs – Sen. Raatz (R-Richmond). Passed, 45-0.
- HB 1202, Various Public Safety Matters – Sen. Crider (R-Greenfield). Passed, 45-0.
- HB 1230, Professional Licensing Agency – Sen. Rogers (R-Granger). Passed, 45-0.
- HB 1242, Education Reports – Sen. Deery (R-West Lafayette). Passed, 45-0.



- HB 1248, Advanced DNA Testing for Cold Cases – Sen. Carrasco (R-Indianapolis). Passed, 46-0.
- HB 1249, Juvenile Court Jurisdiction – Sen. Freeman (R-Indianapolis). Passed, 46-0.
- HB 1250, Public Safety Procedures – Sen. Carrasco (R-Indianapolis). Passed, 46-0.
- HB 1252, Broker Companies – Sen. Alexander (R-Muncie). Passed, 45-0.
- HB 1254, Various Dental Matters; Respiratory Care – Sen. L. Brown (R-Fort Wayne). Passed, 44-1.
- HB 1273, Requirements for Proxy Advisors – Sen. Baldwin (R-Noblesville). Passed, 41-4.
- HB 1278, Nursing Matters; Education Programs – Sen. Busch (R-Fort Wayne). Passed, 45-0.
- HB 1307, Department of Child Services Ombudsman – Sen. Donato (R-Logansport). Passed, 44-1.
- HB 1325, Special Education – Sen. Goode (R-Terre Haute). Passed, 45-0.
- HB 1357, Child Services Provider Background Checks – Sen. Walker (R-Columbus). Passed, 44-0.
- HB 1358, Indiana Department of Health – Sen. Charbonneau (R-Valparaiso). Passed, 40-4.
- HB 1408, Education Matters – Sen. Raatz (R-Richmond). Passed, 44-0.

## **Bills Passed in the House:**

- SB 3, Constitutional Amendment Ballot Language – Rep. Jeter (R-Fishers). Passed, 63-22.
- SB 5, Suspension of Permit – Rep. Steuerwald (R-Avon). Passed, 87-0.
- SB 23, Alcoholic Beverage Permits for County Fairs – Rep. Shonkwiler (R-Noblesville). Passed, 66-22.
- SB 59, Notice of Annexation Outreach Meetings – Rep. Slager (R-Schererville). Passed, 89-0.
- SB 71, Various Probate Matters – Rep. Jeter (R-Fishers). Passed, 89-0.
- SB 89, Three-Way Permits – Rep. VanNatter (R-Kokomo). Passed, 79-10.
- SB 90, Consent for Pelvic, Prostate, and Rectal Exams – Rep. McNamara (R-Evansville). Passed, 90-0.
- SB 176, Shooting Ranges – Rep. Smaltz (R-Auburn). Passed, 66-24.
- SB 191, Electronic Record of Confidential Address – Rep. Bascom (R-Lawrenceburg). Passed, 91-0.
- SB 226, Indiana Department of Administration – Rep. Lehman (R-Berne). Passed, 91-0.
- SB 2, Bail Procedures – Rep. Jeter (R-Fishers). Passed, 76-12.
- SB 9, Victim Impact Statements – Rep. King (R-Middlebury). Passed, 90-0.
- SB 12, Prohibition of Ranked Choice Voting – Rep. Wesco (R-Osceola). Passed, 58-30.
- SB 14, Pension Matters – Rep. Teshka (R-North Liberty). Passed, 90-0.



- SB 15, Foster Youth – Rep. Lopez (R-Carmel). Passed, 85-0.
- SB 92, Community Corrections Trust Funds – Sen. Steuerwald (R-Avon). Passed, 88-0.
- SB 113, Election Matters – Rep. Culp (R-Rensselaer). Passed, 87-1.
- SB 140, Public Safety – Rep. Zimmerman (R-North Vernon). Passed, 88-0.
- SB 160, Public Safety – Rep. Lopez (R-Carmel). Passed, 88-2.
- SB 199, Various Education Matters – Rep. Behning (R-Indianapolis). Passed, 67-28.
- SB 214, Department of Workforce Development – Rep. Lawson (R-Greenfield). Passed, 90-0.
- SB 245, Tip Pooling – Rep. VanNatter (R-Kokomo). Passed, 90-0.
- SB 246, Redaction of Court Records – Rep. Bascom (R-Lawrenceburg). Passed, 88-0.
- SB 91, Syringe Exchange Program – Rep. Clere (R-New Albany). Passed, 70-22.
- SB 185, Alcohol and Tobacco Matters – Rep. VanNatter (R-Kokomo). Passed, 90-0.
- SB 171, Family and Children Matters – Rep. McGuire (R-Indianapolis). Passed, 94-0.
- SB 233, Powers and Duties of the Election Commission – Rep. K. Pierce (R-Anderson). Passed, 92-0.
- SB 256, Foreign Agent Registration, Foreign Terrorist Organizations, and Foreign Adversaries – Rep. Morris (R-Fort Wayne). Passed, 94-0.

### **Concurrences:**

- HB 1002, Electric Utility Affordability – Rep. Shonkwiler (R-Noblesville). Passed, 94-2.
- HB 1036, Children in Need of Services – Rep. Garcia Wilburn (D-Indianapolis). Passed, 94-0.
- HB 1044, Insurance Coverage for Public Safety Employees – Rep. Pressel (R-Rolling Prairie). Passed, 93-0.
- HB 1048, VFD Clothing and Automobile Allowances – Rep. Novak (D-Michigan City). Passed, 91-0.
- HB 1116, Virtual Currency Kiosks – Rep. McNamara (R-Evansville). Passed, 94-1.
- HB 1161, Local Government Matters – Rep. Lawson (R-Greenfield). Passed, 93-1.
- HB 1150, Local Regulation – Rep. Pressel (R-Rolling Prairie). Passed, 72-19.
- HB 1336, Securities and Investment Adviser Representatives – Rep. Carbaugh (R-Fort Wayne). Passed, 94-0.
- HB 1355, Confined Feeding Operations – Rep. Culp (R-Rensselaer). Passed, 73-22.
- HB 1389, Adoption and Foster Care Matters – Rep. Lindauer (R-Jasper). Passed, 84-12.



### Looking Ahead

Tuesday, February 24, marks the final day for House bills to pass third reading in the Senate and for Senate bills to pass third reading in the House. Following that deadline, legislators will have up to three days to resolve remaining differences through conference committees, with Sine Die currently anticipated for February 27. Remaining legislative deadlines for the 2026 session can be found here: [2026 Legislative Deadlines](#)

Thank you for allowing us to work with you during the 2026 legislative session. Please feel free to contact any member of our legislative team if you have questions, would like full copies of bills or amendments, or need additional information on matters pending before the Indiana General Assembly.



Please feel free to contact a member of our legislative team should you have questions regarding the happenings in the Indiana General Assembly!

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