

# Indiana General Assembly 2025 Session

## Digest of New Laws Relevant to K-12 School Governance

Prepared by: Indiana School Boards Association  
June 2, 2025

**HEA 1001 STATE BUDGET** (THOMPSON J) Among other provisions, HB 1001 appropriates money for Fiscal Years 2026 and 2027 for capital expenditures, the operation of the state, K-12 and higher education, the delivery of Medicaid and other services, and various other distributions and purposes. Repeals the Governor's Workforce Cabinet. Makes conforming changes. Requires the Department of State Revenue to establish an amnesty program for taxpayers who have unpaid tax liability for a listed tax that was due and payable before January 1, 2023. Increases the cigarette tax by \$2 per pack on cigarettes weighing not more than three pounds per 1,000 and by a proportionate amount on cigarettes weighing more than three pounds per 1,000. Increases the tax rate imposed on the sale of closed system cartridges, open system electronic cigarettes, moist snuff, alternative tobacco products, other tobacco products, and cigars. Specifies penalties for the underpayment of certain estimated taxes for passthrough entities. Increases the amount of the public utility fee from 0.15% to 0.175% of the public utility's annual gross intrastate operating revenue and transfers the public utility fee revenue and certain payments to the state general fund (not the public utility fund under current law). **Adds purposes related to the Stop the Bleed program and the purchase of bleeding control kits to the allowable purposes for which a secured school fund matching grant may be used. Makes certain eligibility changes for the On My Way Pre-k program and the CCDF program.**

***Current Status:*** Public Law 213

***Comments:*** Various effective dates by section, refer [here](#).

Note: The appropriation for the K-12 tuition support formula is \$9,370,000,000 in FY 2026 and \$9,650,000,000 in FY 2027; Foundation funding per student is \$6,967 in FY 2026 and \$7,071 in FY 2027.

**HEA 1002 VARIOUS EDUCATION MATTERS** (BEHNING R) Removes and repeals various education provisions and expired education provisions, including provisions concerning the following: (1) Secretary of education criteria. (2) Certain department of education (department) requirements. (3) The advisory committee on career and technical education. (4) Use of hearing examiners by the state board of education (state board). (5) Credit for retaking a virtual course during certain time periods. (6) Children's social, emotional, and behavioral health plans. (7) Family friendly school designations. (8) The Indiana civic education commission. (9) Discretionary directives to the department. (10) The program for the advancement of math and science. (11) Access to telecommunication services. (12) Elementary school counselors, social workers, and school psychologists program and fund. (13) Grants for mental health counselor licenses for school counselors. (14) The arts education program. (15) The geothermal conversion revolving fund. (16) Clause requirements for certain charter school organizer

documents. (17) Required acknowledgment by a current authorizer regarding a proposal by an existing charter school to another authorizer. (18) Requirements regarding a governing body of a school corporation (governing body) providing a noncharter school. (19) Charter requirements, including minimum year and annual performance target requirements. (20) Certain notice requirements from an authorizer to an organizer that is not in compliance. (21) Indiana school for the arts. (22) Allowing the board of trustees of Vincennes University to establish a grammar school. (23) Designation of certain committees by a governing body. (24) Governing body use of funds for associations. (25) Developing and reviewing evidence-based plans with parents for improving student behavior and discipline. (26) Township trustees and the sale of schoolhouses. (27) School health advisory councils and adoption of a school corporation policy on child nutrition and physical activity. (28) Certain agreement requirements regarding joint programs. (29) Certain requirements regarding the transfer of a student to another school. (30) Freeway school corporation and freeway school program. (31) Policies, programs, and reports regarding criminal organization activity. (32) Transportation program discretion. (33) Recommendations regarding certain powers and duties of the department. (34) Culturally responsive methods. (35) Certain training and professional development requirements. (36) Certain teacher leave requirements. (37) Ineligibility for state funds for adopting residence requirements. (38) Certain compensation included in computing a teacher's retirement benefit. (39) Penalty for failing to comply with working schedule requirements. (40) Discretionary modification of graduation plan. (41) Required course on safety education. (42) Compilation of leaflets regarding hygiene, sanitary science, and disease prevention. (43) Making a violation regarding teaching certain disease information an infraction. (44) Certain elective courses and teachings. (45) Voluntary summer school program and joint summer school program requirements. (46) Technology preparation curriculum. (47) Community or volunteer service programs. (48) Nonsession school activities. (49) Requirements regarding Indiana academic standards. (50) Strategic and continuous improvement and achievement plans. (51) Cultural competency. (52) Student educational achievement grants. (53) Remediation grant program. (54) Postsecondary workforce training program remediation reduction. (55) Requirement to provide an enrollment form for the twenty-first century scholars program to certain students. (56) Governor's scholars academy. (57) Seminary township school fund. (58) Dual credit teacher stipend matching grant fund. (59) Student enrichment grants. (60) The study of ethnic and racial groups as a semester elective course. (61) Requirements regarding proposed charter school economic interest statements. (62) Certain charter requirements for adult high schools. (63) Required policies on contacting employment references. (64) Certain requirements concerning staff performance evaluations. (65) Authorizer responsibility for charter school compliance with applicable legal standards. (66) Certain nondiscrimination provisions regarding students who transfer from charter schools to public noncharter schools. Merges and amends provisions regarding fund distribution upon the termination of a charter and the cessation of a charter school.

**Amends the age eligibility for a member of a governing body from 21 to 18 years of age (see SECTION 79 of law). Amends the time period by which a governing body must organize by electing officers to not more than 30 days**

**(rather than 15 days) after the commencement date of the members' terms of office** (see SECTION 77 of law). Establishes information that must be included in a consolidated audit by an organizer. Provides adult high schools are excluded from all cohort-based graduation rate calculations except to the extent required under federal law. Amends the termination and notice requirements with regard to terminating a transportation program. Relocates and amends a provision regarding classroom instruction curriculum in teacher preparation programs. Provides that the secretary of education (instead of the governor) shall appoint the director of special education. Amends required frequency of child abuse and neglect training. Requires the department to make a list of best practices and guidelines regarding classroom behavioral management strategies and a list of best practices to reduce student discipline. **Permits the governing body of a school corporation or an organizer of a charter school to assess and collect a reasonable fee for certain supplies and materials** (see Note below). Amends certain financial statement filing requirements regarding school trusts to pool assets for insurance coverage. Repeals a provision regarding requiring certain CSA participating entities to provide evidence of certain unencumbered assets. Makes technical and conforming changes.

**Current Status:** **Public Law 214**

**Comments:** Effective 7/1/2025

Note: SECTION 94 of law adds a new subsection (c) to IC 20-26-12-1 that says "This section does not prohibit a governing body of a school corporation or an organizer of a charter school from assessing and collecting a reasonable fee for supplies and materials that:

(1) are not curricular materials; and

(2) supplement the instruction in a particular course of study."

**HEA 1016** **SCHOOL SAFETY COMMISSION** (COMMONS M) Provides for the appointment of a fire chief, or the fire chief's designee, to a county school safety commission.

**Current Status:** **Public Law 27**

**Comments:** Effective 7/1/2025

**HEA 1064** **SCHOOL TRANSFERS** (CRISWELL C) Removes language prohibiting certain students from enrolling into a school corporation primarily for athletic reasons.

**Current Status:** **Public Law 153**

**Comments:** Effective 7/1/2025

**HEA 1098** **YOUTH, FAMILY, AND CAREGIVER ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVE** (DEVON D) Provides that the commission on improving the status of children in Indiana (CISC) must create and provide staff support to a statewide youth, family, and caregiver engagement initiative to carry out certain duties. Adds that CISC must provide staff to the statewide juvenile justice oversight body.

**Current Status:** **Public Law 221**

**Comments:** Effective 7/1/2025

**HEA 1102** **CONTRACTING FOR PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS** (COMMONS M) Removes language restricting school corporations from entering into a contract with a religiously affiliated nonprofit preschool program.

*Current Status:* **Public Law 31**

*Comments:* Effective 7/1/2025

**HEA 1134** **EXECUTIVE SESSIONS** (SMALTZ B) Allows meetings of a state or local agency governing body concerning the following topics to be held in executive session: (1) Employee health care options with respect to special exceptions to coverage. (2) Employee specific compensation or employment matters of individual employees (excluding general discussion of employee compensation during a budget process). (3) Employee handbook changes. (4) Review of negotiations on the performance of publicly bid contracts, when public knowledge may result in increased costs. (5) Solicitation of contract proposals containing a bidder's proprietary information.

*Current Status:* **Public Law 158**

*Comments:* Effective 7/1/2025

**HEA 1198** **LOCAL PUBLIC WORK PROJECTS** (LAWSON E) Changes the amount of a public work project that a board may perform using its own workforce, without awarding a contract, from an estimated cost of less than \$250,000 to an estimated cost of less than \$375,000, adjusted annually to account for inflation. Provides that the department of local government finance shall annually publish the adjusted cost estimate threshold on the department's website. **Removes the distinction between a political subdivision that is a school corporation and a political subdivision that is not a school corporation for the cost of a public work project that is not subject to certain procedures.** Provides that if a federal grant is to be issued to fund a portion of the construction on a public work project, the successful bidder has 90 days to proceed with the contract. Provides that plans and specifications approved by an architect or engineer are not required for certain public work on a public building.

*Current Status:* **Public Law 86**

*Comments:* Effective 7/1/2025

**HEA 1253** **CHILD CARE** (HEINE D) Provides that a granted waiver or variance expires three years after the date that the waiver or variance becomes effective. Removes the requirement that a child receiving childcare from a school must be the child of a student or employee of the school. Provides that, not later than June 30, 2026, the division of family resources (division) shall establish an organizational license category for multi-site childcare centers operating under one owner and specifies obligations of the division with regard to the new license category. Provides that, subject to exceptions, certain properties may not be required to comply with a new or different set of building, fire safety, or equipment laws than were originally enforced by the department: (1) before July 1, 2025; or (2) two years after the earlier of the date of the: (A) initial inspection; or (B) plan review. Allows a childcare home that was licensed to operate a Class 2 structure before July 1, 2025, to continue operating in the structure

notwithstanding the building, fire safety, or equipment laws and regulations.

**Current Status:** Public Law 160

**Comments:** SECTION 4 effective 5/1/2025; SECTIONS 1-3 effective 7/1/2025

**HEA 1285 EDUCATION MATTERS (CASH B)** Prohibits a school corporation from doing the following: (1) Removing a student's property without providing the student's parent with the opportunity to collect the student's property if the student has died, transferred, dropped out, or otherwise withdrawn from enrollment in the school corporation for any reason. (2) Adopting a policy or otherwise preventing a parent of a student from recording a meeting concerning the student's individualized education program. Requires each school corporation to ensure at least one employee in each school building that is used for classroom instruction: (1) has obtained nonviolent crisis intervention training; and (2) is present in the school building during the school year while school is in session. Establishes requirements regarding the employee. Requires the department of education to review nonviolent crisis intervention training programs and make recommendations to school corporations regarding the training of employees.

**Current Status:** Public Law 165

**Comments:** Effective 5/1/2025

**HEA 1348 NONACCREDITED NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS (WESCO T)** Provides that a high school diploma (diploma) or credential issued by a nonaccredited nonpublic school (school) is legally sufficient to demonstrate that the recipient of the diploma or credential has met the requirements to complete high school. Provides that a state or local agency or institution of higher education in Indiana may not reject or otherwise treat a person differently based solely on the source of a diploma or credential. Provides that a person who administers a school has the authority to execute any document required by law, rule, regulation, or policy to provide certain evidence regarding a child's education.

**Current Status:** Public Law 61

**Comments:** Effective 7/1/2025

**HEA 1376 EMERGENCY MEDICATION (BOY P)** Amends the definition of "emergency medication."

**Current Status:** Public Law 105

**Comments:** Effective 7/1/2025

Note: School boards that have adopted policies allowing the administration of emergency medication may want to update their policies to allow the administration of any FDA-approved opioid overdose reversal medication.

**HEA 1412 REPORTING OF CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT (CASH B)** Provides that an individual's duty to report suspected child abuse or neglect may only be delegated to another person if certain conditions are met. Requires that if a report of suspected child abuse or neglect alleges that a staff member, youth coach, or volunteer of an

institution, school, facility, organization, or agency is the abuser, law enforcement shall investigate to determine whether the institution, school, facility, organization, or agency knew that the alleged abuse was happening and failed to report the alleged abuse. Allows law enforcement to consider certain facts when determining whether the institution, school, facility, organization, or agency knew about the alleged abuse. Provides that a child is not a child in need of services due to a parent, guardian, or custodian referring to and raising a child consistent with the child's biological sex. Makes conforming changes.

***Current Status:*** Public Law 168

***Comments:*** Effective 7/1/2025

#### **HEA 1427**

**DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE (SNOW C)** Among other provisions, removes the sunset of provisions that authorize the sale of bonds at a negotiated sale. Amends provisions pertaining to the investment of public funds in certain depositories. Requires the fiscal officer (rather than the executive) of a political subdivision to upload certain contracts to the Indiana transparency website (website). Permits the political subdivision to identify an individual other than the fiscal officer to upload contracts to the website. Provides that the change to the agricultural base rate in Senate Bill 1 does not apply for the January 1, 2025, assessment date to land in inventory. Repeals the increase in the personal property tax exemption for the 2025 assessment in Senate Bill 1, but retains the increase of the personal property tax exemption to \$2,000,000 for the 2026 assessment date and thereafter. Removes an exception to provisions added in Senate Bill 1 exempting depreciable personal property placed in service after January 1, 2025, from the 30% minimum valuation floor if property tax revenue that is attributable to the depreciable personal property is pledged as payment for bonds, leases, or other obligations. Repeals the local property tax credits for veterans enacted in Senate Bill 1 and reinstates the property tax deductions in current law for veterans that were expired under Senate Bill 1. Provides, for particular calendar years, that all or part of a building is deemed to serve a charitable purpose and is exempt from property taxation if it is owned by certain nonprofit entities. Establishes a maximum entry fee per unit that may be charged by a continuing care retirement community to qualify for the property tax exemption. Provides that the DLGF may (as opposed to shall) adopt certain rules with respect to property of an exempt organization used in a nonexempt trade or business. Amends the requirements that must be satisfied to receive a property tax exemption for property used by a for-profit provider of early childhood education. Establishes a partial property tax exemption for an employer that provides childcare on the employer's property for the employer's employees and certain other employees. Amends certain notice and procedural provisions applicable to proceedings before the Indiana board of tax review. Clarifies the deadline for submitting amended certified net assessed value amounts. Specifies the calculation of the maximum permissible property tax levy for certain units that fail to comply with certain budget and tax levy review and adoption procedures. Adds provisions that: (1) require the DLGF to increase the maximum permissible property tax levy for certain qualifying municipalities for property taxes first due and payable in 2025 to include all debt service levies of the qualifying municipality for

property taxes first due and payable in 2025; (2) specify that the adjustment is a one time and permanent increase; (3) modify the: (A) local income tax trust account threshold percentage of a county that contains a qualifying municipality (for purposes of determining whether the county shall receive a supplemental distribution); and (B) certified share allocation determination for a qualifying municipality; and (4) prohibit the use funds from the state general fund to make up certain local income tax related shortfalls. Provides temporary one time increases for the maximum permissible ad valorem property tax levies for Shelby County and the Shelby County solid waste management district. Provides that the county treasurer is not required to mail or transmit a statement for property that is exempt from taxation and does not have a reported assessed value. Requires the DLGF, in a manner determined by the DLGF, to include on the coupon page of each property tax statement educational information regarding the eligibility and procedures for various property tax benefits available to certain taxpayers. Provides that a tract or item of real property owned by a political subdivision may not be sold at a tax sale. Removes a provision requiring the county executive to provide an annual report to the legislative council concerning certain tax sales. Provides that property tax assessment board of appeals members' terms must be staggered for a two-year period and begin on January 1.

***Current Status:*** **Public Law 230**

***Comments:*** Various effective dates by section, refer [here](#).

**[HEA 1498](#)** **SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY** (BEHNING R) Repeals certain provisions regarding statewide assessment scores and the establishment of categories or designations of school performance. Requires the state board of education to establish a new methodology for designating school performance. Extends the expiration of certain provisions regarding the posting of school information. Provides that the proposals to align diploma waiver statutes with new diploma requirements may include a proposal to eliminate diploma waivers.

***Current Status:*** **Public Law 231**

***Comments:*** Effective 7/1/2025

Note: The State Board of Education will open a public comment period in June on the proposed rule to establish a new methodology for the A-F school and school corporation grade designations. Please monitor the announcement of the rule and opening of the public comment period [here](#).

**[HEA 1499](#)** **EDUCATION MATTERS** (BEHNING R) Provides that certain students have the opportunity to retake the determinant evaluation of reading skills at least twice in the summer before grade 3 retention requirements apply. Requires the department of education to establish a registration process for schools to exempt certain English language learners from compliance with grade 3 retention requirements until the beginning of the 2027-2028 school year. Allows required career fairs to be held off school property if the school provides transportation. Amends agreement requirements regarding the employment aid readiness network (EARN) Indiana program. Makes a technical correction.



**Current Status: Public Law 177**

**Comments:** Effective 7/1/2025

**HEA 1509** **APPOINTED OFFICIALS** (CLERE E) Requires disclosure of the appointing authority and term of an appointed public officer: (1) in the meeting notice and agenda of the board on which the public officer is appointed to serve; and (2) on the board's website or appointing authority's website, if any. Provides that if the appointing authority or board does not have a website, the information must be published on the Internet through the computer gateway administered by the office of technology.

**Current Status: Public Law 65**

**Comments:** Effective 7/1/2025

**HEA 1515** **EDUCATION AND HIGHER EDUCATION MATTERS** (BEHNING R) Provides that accredited nonpublic schools are eligible to participate in the following: (1) The establishment of police departments. (2) The science, technology, engineering, and mathematics teacher recruitment grants. (3) The principal institute. Provides that charter schools are eligible to receive science, technology, engineering, and mathematics teacher recruitment grants. Establishes, for three school years: (1) a centralized school facilities pilot program; and (2) a student transportation pilot program. Allows: (1) not more than three applications, as selected by the department of education (department), to participate in the centralized school facilities pilot program; and (2) not more than three applications, as selected by the department, to participate in the student transportation pilot program (pilot programs). Establishes a: (1) local centralized school facilities board; and (2) local student transportation board; for participating school corporations and schools and grants the local boards certain powers and duties. Allows school corporations and schools to opt out of the pilot programs by providing a one year notice. Requires the department of local government finance, in consultation with the department, to prepare and submit reports that include certain recommendations. Establishes a mastery-based education pilot program administered by the department. Establishes the Indianapolis local education alliance and requires the alliance to conduct a school facilities assessment and establish a school facilities and transportation implementation plan. Allows a parent of a choice scholarship student or an eligible choice scholarship school on behalf of a parent to petition the department to reconsider the eligibility of a choice scholarship student enrolled in the school if the parent has reason to believe that the student was determined ineligible due to enrollment data inaccuracies reported by a school. Provides that a student must be withdrawn from enrollment in a school corporation's virtual education program if the student accumulates 10 consecutive or 18 cumulative unexcused absences (instead of the number of unexcused absences sufficient to result in the student's classification as a habitual truant). Amends eligibility requirements for the high value workforce ready credit-bearing grant. Establishes the: (1) county deputy prosecuting attorney and public defender scholarship program; and (2) county deputy prosecuting attorney and public defender scholarship fund. Provides that a land use application for any approval that is required by a unit for a public or nonpublic school may not be denied for the sole reason that the requesting entity is seeking to establish



a public or nonpublic school. Provides that, if Vigo County transfers or gifts any unencumbered funds to a school corporation, the county executive may establish a local board to have oversight and manage the use of the funds. Provides that the expenses of the local board shall be paid by the county. Requires certain individuals and certain schools to ensure that an AED is operational and present at certain events, and that individuals present at certain events are aware of the location of the AED and emergency plans regarding the use of the AED. Adds a requirement regarding certain school emergency action plans for sudden cardiac arrest. Removes certain sudden cardiac arrest training and certificate of completion requirements. Establishes requirements regarding a standardized admissions test for state educational institutions that offer certain health education programs. Requires a public school provide written notification to an employee and parent of a student not later than 14 days regarding certain unsubstantiated or otherwise dismissed allegations. Requires the department to submit a report to the general assembly on the academic readiness of students who enroll in a virtual school or program. Provides that the state board shall adopt rules regarding financial reporting and oversight required by a school corporation and a vendor who enter into or renew a contract relating to the operation of a dedicated virtual education school. Resolves conflicts.

***Current Status:*** **Public Law 232**

***Comments:*** SECTIONS 7 and 33 effective 5/6/2025; SECTIONS 1-6 and 8-32 effective 7/1/2025

**HEA 1634** **MATH EDUCATION** (TESHKA J) Requires each school corporation and charter middle school to automatically enroll a student who meets certain conditions in a middle school advanced math course. Allows a parent of a student to opt out of automatic enrollment. Requires the department of education to submit a report to the legislative council that includes certain middle school advanced math course student percentage information. Establishes requirements regarding: (1) mathematics screening, evaluation, and intervention; and (2) teacher preparation program math curriculum and content.

***Current Status:*** **Public Law 180**

***Comments:*** Effective 7/1/2025

**HEA 1637** **SCHOOL AND PUBLIC SAFETY MATTERS** (BARTELS S) Among other provisions, establishes the office of school safety within the department of homeland security (department) for the purpose of coordinating and administering school security and safety resources. Changes the composition of the secured school safety board. Requires a school corporation or charter school to comply with certain safety related requests by the office of school safety. Provides that a school resource officer who has completed Tier I or Tier II basic training has statewide jurisdiction. Provides that a school resource officer may pursue a person who flees from a school resource officer after the school resource officer has, by visible or audible means, including the operation of the school resource officer's siren or emergency lights, identified themselves and ordered the person to stop. Repeals the provision establishing the department of education's division of school building physical security and safety. Makes conforming amendments.

**Current Status:** Public Law 238

**Comments:** Various effective dates by section, refer [here](#).

**HEA 1641 COUNTY GOVERNMENT MATTERS** (MELTZER J) Allows an executive session to be held to communicate with an attorney, subject to the attorney client privilege. Excludes conveyances to a unit from the definition of a "conveyance document". Amends requirements for local ordinances concerning the operation of a golf cart or an off-road vehicle. Provides that if a body is to be transported by common carrier, the person in charge of interment shall secure a burial transit permit in duplicate from certain individuals. **Provides that the governing body of a school corporation may enter into a public-private agreement for the construction or renovation of school buildings under the statutes governing public-private agreements.** Provides that certain fees collected by the county recorder are deposited in the county recorder's records perpetuation fund. Provides that a fee for recording a mortgage assumption is the same as the fee for recording a mortgage. Prohibits a county employee from taking action on a county contract, unless permitted by a county ordinance. Amends the definition of "residential property" used for an allocation area established after June 30, 2025. Provides that, after June 30, 2025, no action shall be brought with respect to jail or prison conditions under state law by an offender until such administrative remedies as are available are exhausted.

**Current Status:** Public Law 181

**Comments:** Section 10 effective 5/1/2025; All other SECTIONS effective 7/1/2025

**HEA 1660 EXCUSED ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL** (BAIRD B) Provides that the governing body of a school corporation or the chief administrative officer of a nonpublic school system shall authorize the absence and excuse of a school student if the student participates in certain events offered by the National FFA Organization, the Indiana FFA Association, or a 4-H club. Provides that a student's excused absences may not exceed six days in a school year. Provides that the student must be in good academic standing.

**Current Status:** Public Law 97

**Comments:** Effective 7/1/2025

Note: School boards must amend their attendance policies to include this new category of excused absence.

**HEA 1679 VARIOUS ELECTIONS MATTERS** (WESCO T) Among other provisions, requires a county, city, town, township, or school to provide to an employee of a local government office who requests leave to serve: (1) on primary election day or general election day; and (2) as a precinct election officer; a paid day of leave to serve as a precinct election officer. Specifies an exception. Requires certain redistricting authorities to redistrict election districts or recertify existing election districts within the statutory deadlines and withholds payment to a member of a redistricting authority for failure to do so. Provides that a person must: (1) be at least 18 years of age at the next general, municipal, or special election; (2) be a United States citizen; and (3) reside in a precinct continuously before a general, municipal, or special election for at least 30 days; to register to vote

in that precinct and may, upon making a proper application, register to vote in that precinct. **Requires a write-in candidate for a school board office to file a declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate with the county election board. Provides, for purposes of stating a candidate's affiliation with a political party in a declaration of candidacy, that if a candidate cast a nonpartisan ballot at an election held at either of the two most recent primary elections in which the candidate voted, a certification by the county chairman is required.** Provides that, under certain circumstances, a county election board is not required to compile: (1) the addresses of persons for whom declarations of candidacy have been filed; or (2) information concerning precinct committeemen or state convention delegates. Specifies that a circuit court clerk who is required to conduct a special election is not required to publish the address of a candidate.

**Requires candidates for school board office and their candidate's committees to file required instruments with the county election board.** Provides that a petition for a recount or contest may not be filed earlier than noon 10 days after election day. Specifies, regarding filling a candidate vacancy for a local office, that an authorization to fill vacancies given to a county chairman or a county committee expires at the time of the next election for precinct committeemen for the party with which the county chairman or county committee is affiliated. Provides that action to fill an early candidate vacancy must be taken not earlier than May 8 after the primary election if the vacancy exists on a general or municipal election ballot. Provides that if only one person seeks to fill a vacancy in a local office held by a major political party, a caucus vote is not required, and the county chairman may select that person to fill the vacancy.

**Current Status: Public Law 240**

**Comments:** SECTIONS 6 and 7 effective 5/6/2025; SECTIONS 1-5 and 8-38 effective 7/1/2025

## **SEA 1**

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE** (HOLDMAN T) Places restrictions on the issuance of certain general obligation bonds. Amends a capitalization rate percentage under the statewide agricultural land base rate determination. Provides that the percentage cap used to determine the maximum levy growth quotient is 4% in 2026. Provides that, notwithstanding any growth in a political subdivision's assessed value (AV) in the previous year, a political subdivision's ad valorem property tax levy shall not exceed the ad valorem property tax levy for its last preceding annual budget, unless the fiscal body of the political subdivision adopts an affirmative tax rate and tax levy increase by ordinance following a separate public hearing. Requires a resulting decrease in tax rates for each political subdivision in which there was an increase in the political subdivision's AV in the previous year, subject to any affirmative tax rate and tax levy increase adopted by the fiscal body of the political subdivision. Phases out the authority for the department of local government finance (department) to permit an excess tax levy that is based on AV growth, school transportation costs, and other circumstances. Retains the provisions that permit an excess tax levy if the civil taxing unit cannot carry out its governmental functions in the case of annexation, a natural disaster, an accident, or an emergency. Phases in an increase in the acquisition cost threshold for the business personal property tax exemption from \$80,000 to \$2,000,000. Provides that the 30%

minimum valuation limitation does not apply to business personal property placed in service after January 1, 2025. Phases down the homestead standard deduction over five years to zero beginning for taxes due and payable in 2031. Phases in an increase in the supplemental homestead deduction to 2/3 of the AV of the homestead. Phases in an AV deduction for all property that is subject to the 2% circuit breaker credit for excessive property taxes for assessment dates beginning in 2025 up to a 1/3 AV deduction for taxes due and payable in 2031, and each taxable year thereafter. Expires certain property tax deductions allowed in current law, and instead allows a credit against local property taxes in certain instances. Makes certain changes to the qualification requirements and credit amount for the over 65 circuit breaker credit. Provides a supplemental homestead tax credit for property taxes for a person's homestead if the person qualifies for a standard homestead deduction for the same homestead property. Provides that specified referendums may be placed on the ballot only at a general election. Amends the ballot language for controlled project, school operating, and school public safety referendums. Provides that a school corporation may not adopt a resolution to place a controlled project referendum on the ballot during the second calendar year after the final calendar year in which a previously approved controlled project referendum levy is imposed. Modifies the threshold amounts used for determining whether a political subdivision's project is a controlled project and whether the petition and remonstrance process or the referendum process applies based on the political subdivision's total debt service tax rate. Adds provisions to authorize a county fiscal body to adopt an ordinance to establish a property tax payment deferral program (program). Provides that a qualified individual participating in the program may defer the payment of part of the property taxes that would otherwise be due on a homestead. Provides that property taxes deferred under the program are due after the occurrence of a deferral termination event. Provides that the maximum amount of taxes that may be deferred cumulatively year over year may not exceed \$10,000. Increases, beginning in 2028, the maximum local income tax (LIT) expenditure rate for all counties to 2.9%. Authorizes a city or town to impose a municipal LIT rate beginning in 2028 not to exceed 1.2%. Provides that within a county's total expenditure rate, the county may adopt: (1) up to a 1.2% rate for county general purpose revenue; (2) up to a 0.4% rate for fire protection and emergency medical services; (3) up to a 0.2% rate for nonmunicipal civil taxing unit general purpose revenue; and (4) up to 1.2% for certain cities and towns that are not eligible to adopt a municipal LIT rate. Eliminates provisions that provide for a distribution of LIT expenditure rate revenue to schools and civil taxing units in counties that imposed a rate under the prior county adjusted gross income tax. Authorizes a county fiscal body to impose a local income tax expenditure rate to provide property tax relief for property tax liability attributable to homesteads in the county before January 1, 2028. Expires the authority to impose a property tax relief rate under the LIT and repeals the levy freeze rate. Provides that, in order to continue to impose an expenditure tax rate after 2027, each county must adopt a new ordinance on or before October 1, 2027, to impose the rate. Provides that, for counties that fail to adopt an ordinance to renew an existing expenditure tax rate in 2027, the expenditure tax rate for the county in 2028 shall be the minimum tax rate necessary for existing debt service. Specifies that this

does not prevent the county from renewing, imposing, or modifying an expenditure tax rate in subsequent years. Eliminates local income tax councils beginning July 1, 2027, and instead provides that the county fiscal body is the adopting body in all counties for purposes of the county LIT, and the city or town fiscal body is the adopting body in the case of a municipal LIT. Establishes the state and local income tax holding account within the state general fund for purposes of LIT distributions. Requires the budget agency to maintain an accounting for each county imposing a county LIT based on annual returns filed by or for county taxpayers (same as current law). Requires undistributed amounts so accounted to be held for purposes of the state and local income tax holding account beginning after December 31, 2026. (Under current law, undistributed amounts are required to be held in reserve separate from the state general fund.) Requires the budget agency to present each December to the budget committee a report of the following: (1) An estimate of the monthly certified distribution amounts for the immediately succeeding calendar year. (2) A description of the method used to determine the monthly estimates. Beginning in 2028, requires the budget agency to make monthly transfers to the state and local income tax holding account of the amount determined for the month in the budget agency's report to the budget committee. Repeals a provision that requires the budget agency to adjust the certified distribution of a county for the succeeding year following a tax rate change. Requires the department to develop and maintain a property tax transparency portal through which taxpayers may: (1) compare the property tax liability in their current tax statement compared to their potential property tax liability based on changes under a proposed tax rate; and (2) provide taxpayer feedback to the department. Prohibits the northern Indiana commuter transportation district from issuing new bonds after May 9, 2025, that are payable in whole or in part from amounts distributed from the commuter rail service fund or the electric rail service fund. Requires all school corporations to adopt a resolution for an operating referendum tax levy that is imposed for the first time with property taxes first due and payable beginning after 2027 to share revenue with certain charter schools. Requires, beginning with distributions in 2028, that all school corporations begin sharing revenue from the school corporation's operations fund levy with certain charter schools. Provides for the phasing in of the sharing of revenue with certain charter schools from the school corporation's operations fund levy. Provides for the appointment of additional board members to the governing board of a charter school that receives property tax revenue. Sets forth additional procedures related to the closure of a charter school. Dissolves the Union School Corporation.

***Current Status:*** **Public Law 68**

***Comments:*** Various effective dates by section, refer [here](#).

### **SEA 143**

**PARENTAL RIGHTS (BROWN L)** Provides that a governmental entity may not substantially burden certain parental rights unless the burden, as applied to the parent and the child, is required to advance a compelling governmental interest and is the least restrictive means of advancing the governmental interest. Prohibits a governmental entity from: (1) advising, directing, or coercing a child to withhold certain information from the child's parent; or (2) denying a child's parent access to certain information. Allows a parent to bring an action against a governmental entity for certain

violations and provides for certain relief. Specifies that the parent of a child does not have a right to access certain medical care on behalf of the child if the child does not have an affirmative right of access to the medical care.

**Current Status:** **Public Law 101**

**Comments:** Effective 7/1/2025

**SEA 146**

**TEACHER COMPENSATION (ROGERS L)** Requires the department of education (department) to submit a report to the general assembly before November 1, 2025, that provides an analysis of the feasibility and cost of increasing school corporation employee health plan options. Creates the Indiana teacher recruitment program. Beginning June 30, 2025: (1) increases the minimum salary for a teacher employed by a school corporation to \$45,000 (current law requires \$40,000); and (2) requires a school corporation to expend an amount for teacher compensation that is not less than 65% of state tuition support (current law requires 62%). Amends the requirements for a school corporation and the department when the department determines that the school corporation cannot meet minimum teacher salary requirements (see Note below). Removes a provision that provides that the matrix rating system may not rank or compare teacher preparation programs.

**Current Status:** **Public Law 190**

**Comments:** Effective 7/1/2025

Note: If a school corporation fails to meet the minimum salary requirements, the department will send a notice to the school corporation. The school board must publicly acknowledge receipt of the notice and enter the acknowledgement in the minutes of the meeting. The school corporation must also publish the notice on its website.

**SEA 216**

**MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS (CRIDER M)** Allows certain individuals to take the examination for licensure as a social worker before having completed the bachelor's degree. Makes the following changes in regard to marriage and family therapists, mental health counselors, addiction counselors, and clinical addiction counselors: (1) Provides that an individual must be licensed as an associate before obtaining the relevant experience hours, except in certain circumstances. (2) Amends provisions concerning experience hours and the expiration of a temporary license or permit. Removes certain provisions regarding first available examinations.

**Current Status:** **Public Law 130**

**Comments:** Effective 7/1/2025

**SEA 249**

**TEACHER COMPENSATION (DEERY S)** Amends provisions that allow school corporations to provide a supplemental payment to teachers in excess of the salary specified in the school corporation's compensation plan. Makes corresponding changes.

**Current Status:** **Public Law 75**

**Comments:** Effective 7/1/2025

**SEA 255**

**EDUCATION MATTERS (DEERY S)** Requires the department of education

(department) to grant an initial practitioner license to an individual who: (1) holds a bachelor's degree with a major in any combination of science, technology, engineering, or mathematics; (2) successfully completes a total of at least nine academic credits regarding certain instruction in teaching; and (3) meets other specified requirements. Provides that the department may grant a license to teach a high school level course or grades 5 through 9 to an individual who completes a licensure pathway established by the department. Requires a principal to allow a student who is enrolled in a public secondary school to receive religious instruction for a period or periods that do not exceed the amount of time that is equivalent to attending one elective course at the public secondary school during the week. (Current law provides for a period or periods of not more than 120 minutes in total in any week.) Provides that a public secondary school may award academic credit to a student who attends religious instruction if: (1) the religious entity providing the instruction agrees to certain conditions; and (2) the governing body of the school corporation adopts a policy that allows the awarding of credit (current law only provides that a public secondary school may award academic credit to a student who attends religious instruction if the governing body of the school corporation adopts a policy that allows the awarding of credit). Changes certain requirements regarding the reporting of a bullying "incident" to the reporting of a bullying "investigation". Requires discipline rules to include a provision to make a reasonable attempt to notify both the parent of a targeted student and the parent of an alleged perpetrator that the school is investigating a possible incident of bullying or similar misconduct before the end of the next school day after the school becomes aware of the possible incident.

***Current Status:*** **Public Law 194**

***Comments:*** Effective 7/1/2025

#### **SEA 287**

**SCHOOL BOARD MATTERS** (BYRNE G) Requires a petition of nomination for a school board office to state one of the following: (1) The candidate's political party affiliation. (2) That the candidate is an independent candidate. (3) That the candidate elects not to disclose any affiliation with a political party or that the candidate is not affiliated with a political party and does not identify as an independent candidate. Specifies that unless a candidate who states a political party affiliation is challenged, the candidate's statement must be indicated on the ballot. Provides that the name of a candidate for school board office who does not run in affiliation with a political party or as an independent candidate must be printed with a blank space after the candidate's name signifying that the candidate elects not to disclose any affiliation with a political party or that the candidate is not affiliated with a political party and does not identify as an independent candidate. Specifies that a straight party vote does not count for any candidate for a school board office. Requires a school board vacancy to be filled by: (1) a caucus if the vacating member stated an affiliation with a major political party; and (2) the remaining members of the governing body if the vacating member did not state an affiliation with a major political party. Modifies the annual amount that the governing body of a school corporation may pay a member of the governing body from \$2,000 (under current law) to an amount not to exceed 10% of the lowest starting salary of a teacher employed by the school corporation.



**Current Status:** Public Law 195

**Comments:** Effective 7/1/2025

Note: To adjust school board member compensation, a school board will have to adopt a resolution during a public meeting of the board. No changes to per diem were included in SEA 287.

#### **SEA 289**

**UNLAWFUL DISCRIMINATION** (BYRNE G) Repeals provisions concerning university diversity committees. Prohibits unlawful discrimination in education, public employment, and licensure. Allows participation in public contracts by a minority business enterprise, women's business enterprise, and veteran business enterprise, as currently authorized by law. Permits scholarships based on a personal characteristic of the recipient if the scholarship is not funded by state funds or resources, and permits the renewal of specified state funded minority teaching scholarships for those recipients who were initially awarded the scholarship before July 1, 2025. Changes the criteria for certain state funded teaching scholarships from minority status to residence in an underserved county and an agreement to teach in an underserved county. Prohibits requiring as a condition of licensure that a person affirm that a person with a certain personal characteristic: (1) is inherently superior or inferior to a person with a different personal characteristic; (2) should be blamed for actions committed in the past; or (3) has a moral character that is determined by a personal characteristic of the person. Prohibits a public employer from requiring training asserting that, or implementing the theory that, a person with a certain personal characteristic: (1) is inherently superior or inferior to a person with a different personal characteristic; (2) should be blamed for actions committed in the past; or (3) has a moral character that is determined by a personal characteristic of the person. Permits a person injured by a violation to bring a civil action for actual damages, court costs, and injunctive relief.

**Current Status:** Public Law 196

**Comments:** Effective 7/1/2025

Note: The discriminatory acts prohibited by this law include taking actions against a student and/or an applicant/employee based on the person's race, religion, color, sex, national origin, or ancestry.

#### **SEA 358**

**VARIOUS EDUCATION MATTERS** (RAATZ J) Requires the department of education (department) to: (1) evaluate, approve, and publish a list of high quality curricular materials for use in English/language arts; and (2) collaborate with teachers in evaluating and approving the English/language arts curricular materials. Provides that the evaluation process for certain curricular materials must include the age appropriateness of the content. Specifies that the curriculum used by a school in which fewer than 70% of students achieved a valid passing score on the determinant evaluation of reading skills must be age appropriate. Requires, subject to available funding, certain schools to participate in the Indiana literacy cadre. Amends the definition of "eligible school" for purposes of the choice scholarship program. Provides that a parent who: (1) is an education scholarship account (ESA) participating entity; and (2) teaches a course or program only to an eligible student who is the parent's

child and does not teach a course or program to any other eligible student; may not submit a claim for reimbursement of an ESA qualified expense of tuition and fees to teach the parent's child. Establishes penalties for certain violations by an ESA participating entity.

***Current Status:*** Public Law 199

***Comments:*** Effective 7/1/2025

#### **SEA 365**

**EDUCATION MATTERS** (RAATZ J) Requires the department of education (department), in collaboration with certain other state entities, to collect and maintain certain data and to publish on the department's website timely and relevant information about secondary education programs. Provides that the department shall administer and implement the comprehensive career navigation and coaching system developed by the commission for higher education and administer the career coaching grant fund (fund). Provides certain requirements for an eligible entity to receive a grant from the fund. Requires the department to prepare a report concerning career coaching and submit the report to the governor and general assembly. Requires the department of workforce development to update wage threshold data used to categorize career and technical education programs for use in the subsequent school year. Makes conforming changes.

***Current Status:*** Public Law 134

***Comments:*** Effective 7/1/2025

#### **SEA 366**

**EDUCATION MATTERS** (ROGERS L) Requires, not later than October 1, 2025, the secretary of education to compile and prepare a report concerning school bus driver safety education training. Makes certain changes concerning the process of filling a school board vacancy (see SECTION 2). Provides that a superintendent is preferred (current law says required) to hold a master's degree from certain institutions. Provides that certain covered school buildings are not required to revert to a school corporation if the building is subject to ongoing renovations. Provides that a superintendent must discuss a plan for annual performance evaluations with teachers (instead of teachers or the teachers' representative). Requires, not later than August 1, 2025, the early learning advisory committee, in coordination with the department of education, to assess certain prekindergarten program matters and submit a report to the legislative council. Removes a provision that contracts with certain superintendents must be in a form of a regular teacher's contract.

***Current Status:*** Public Law 135

***Comments:*** Effective 7/1/2025

#### **SEA 373**

**VARIOUS EDUCATION MATTERS** (RAATZ J) Provides that the department of education (department) is the proper authority to accept federal funds appropriated to aid in the education of children with disabilities (current law provides that the state board of education is the proper authority). Removes the member of the Indiana Transportation Association from the list of nonvoting members on the state school bus committee. Provides that an individual seeking an initial practitioners license through an alternative certification path must successfully complete an applicable teacher licensing

exam as approved by the state board of education (board) (current law requires the successful completion of a Praxis Subject Assessment). Provides that summer school funding may be differentiated based on the course or length of time of the program. Moves the establishment of the division of special education from the board to the department. Changes certain duties for the secretary of education and the director of special education. Provides that the department may suspend or terminate the certification of a scholarship granting organization if the department establishes that the organization has not granted a scholarship within certain time frames.

**Current Status:** Public Law 201

**Comments:** Effective 7/1/2025

**SEA 405** **LABOR ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIP** (ROGERS L) Provides that if a governmental entity contracts with a private entity to manage or lease an asset owned by the governmental entity, the governmental entity may not require or consider, as a provision of the contract or as a condition of entering into the contract, that the employees of the private entity are members or nonmembers of a labor organization.

**Current Status:** Public Law 136

**Comments:** Effective 7/1/2025

**SEA 409** **EMPLOYEE ABSENCE FOR CERTAIN MEETINGS** (POL R) Prohibits an employer from taking an adverse employment action against an employee as a result of the employee's absence from work to attend an attendance conference or a case conference committee meeting with respect to the employee's child, except under certain circumstances. Provides that an employer is not required to pay an employee for travel or attendance time with respect to a conference or meeting. Requires certain persons to provide documentation related to a conference or meeting under certain circumstances.

**Current Status:** Public Law 109

**Comments:** Effective 7/1/2025

**SEA 442** **INSTRUCTION ON HUMAN SEXUALITY** (BYRNE G) Provides that, if a school provides instruction on human sexuality or sexually transmitted infections, the instruction must include instruction concerning consent to sexual activity and a presentation on human growth and development during pregnancy. Provides that a school maintained by a school corporation may not use curricular materials to provide instruction on human sexuality that have not been approved by the governing body of a school corporation. Requires a school corporation to include certain information concerning instruction on human sexuality in the written consent forms provided to a parent of a student or a student, if the student is an adult or an emancipated minor, before the student may receive instruction on human sexuality. Requires the governing body of a school corporation to publish a list of materials used in connection with instruction on human sexuality on the school's website and to include a link to the list of materials on electronically formatted written consent forms. Replaces references to "sexually transmitted diseases" with "sexually transmitted infections". Makes conforming changes.

**Current Status:** Public Law 204

**Comments:** Effective 7/1/2025

**SEA 448**

**HIGHER EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT MATTERS (GOODE G)**

Establishes additional duties for the governor's workforce cabinet and requires the cabinet to perform certain duties jointly with other state agencies. Requires the Indiana management performance hub, in collaboration with the department of education (department) and commission for higher education (commission), to: (1) collect and compile certain student income data; and (2) compile into a data product on the department's and commission's websites certain data. Requires the secretary of education to establish a plan to develop a market driven stackable credentials and qualifications framework and submit the plan to the general assembly. Provides that the commission shall (instead of may) approve or disapprove certain branches, campuses, centers, new colleges, new schools, degrees, or programs. Provides that before the commission approves or disapproves a degree or program, a state educational institution shall provide, and the commission shall consider, certain information regarding the degree or program. Requires the commission to: (1) review each degree or program for approval or disapproval at least one time every 10 years; (2) outline a process for degree and program monitoring, improvement, suspension, and closure; (3) publish certain information; and (4) take official action regarding the approval or disapproval of certain requests within 90 days. Requires a state educational institution to approve for admission Indiana residents who meet certain requirements. Requires the board of trustees of a state educational institution to do the following: (1) When reviewing tenured faculty members, assess and review the staffing needs of the institution based on the branches, campuses, extension centers, colleges, schools, and degree and programs of the institution. (2) Submit to the commission any review of, renewal of, or amendment to the process or criteria regarding the tenured faculty member review. Requires the commission to promptly review the process and criteria and provide feedback to a board of trustees. Requires the commission to prepare and submit an annual report to the legislative council regarding certain student enrollment data. Adds duties for the department of workforce development.

**Current Status:** Public Law 138

**Comments:** Effective 7/1/2025

**SEA 453**

**VARIOUS TAX MATTERS (HOLDMAN T)** Amends estimated quarterly tax payment provisions. Restructures tax collection requirements for kerosene to eliminate specialized tax filing. Streamlines the filing requirements for gasoline use tax to eliminate multiple filing requirements. Specifies the liability and remittance requirements for the gross retail tax, gasoline use tax, and other listed taxes in certain circumstances. Amends provisions that apply to passenger and household goods carriers. Amends the college savings tax credit. Replaces the term "college choice 529 education savings plan" with "Indiana529 plan". Makes a clarifying change to the closed system cartridge tax. Extends the renewal period from one year to two years for businesses licensed to collect the electronic cigarettes tax, closed systems cartridge tax, and other tobacco products tax. Specifies that the fiscal officer of an entity that has

adopted an innkeeper's tax, a food and beverage tax, or an admissions tax must enter into an agreement with the department of state revenue (department) before the department provides certain information to the fiscal officer as required under current law. Specifies when certain tax information may be disclosed by the department. Provides for the transfer of certain funds from the bureau of motor vehicles commission fund to the motor carrier regulation fund. Provides that a person who commits a violation involving a consumer transaction entailing the transportation of passengers or household goods commits a deceptive act that is actionable by the attorney general and is subject to certain remedies and penalties. Specifies remittance procedures for the gasoline use tax. Specifies recapture procedures for certain reduced estimated tax payments. Makes corresponding changes.

**Current Status:** Public Law 205

**Comments:** Various effective dates by section, refer [here](#).

#### **SEA 463**

**CHILD CARE MATTERS** (CHARBONNEAU E) Extends the availability of the employer childcare expenditure tax credit through July 1, 2027. Provides that under specified circumstances, an individual who: (1) is at least 15 years of age; and (2) is a student at a school corporation that operates a childcare program; may volunteer as a caregiver for the childcare program before completing the statutory requirements for individuals to act as a volunteer caregiver at a childcare program. Adds two representatives of out-of-school-time programs to the membership of the early learning advisory committee. Provides for purposes of regulation of licensed child care centers that the office of the secretary of family and social services (office) shall: (1) ensure that: (A) Indiana's staff to child ratio for a specified age range is not more stringent than the average of the staff to child ratios permitted for that age range under the laws of Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan, and Ohio; and (B) Indiana's maximum group size for a specified age range is not more stringent than the average of the maximum group sizes permitted for that age range under the laws of Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan, and Ohio; and (2) annually publish on the office's website the: (A) staff to child ratio; and (B) maximum group size; that a licensed child care center is required to maintain for the specified age ranges. Provides exceptions to the bill's group size provisions for: (1) an indoor or outdoor area of a childcare center that provides at least 75 square feet of space per child; and (2) a childcare center's cafeteria. Provides that if the office has received at least five applications from childcare providers wishing to participate in the micro center pilot program (pilot program) but has selected less than five applicants for participation in the pilot program, the office shall select additional applicants for participation in the pilot program such that at least five childcare providers are participating in the pilot program.

**Current Status:** Public Law 140

**Comments:** Effective 5/1/2025

#### **SEA 472**

**CYBERSECURITY** (BROWN L) Requires political subdivisions, state agencies, school corporations, and state educational institutions (public entities), with the exception of specified categories of hospitals and the Indianapolis department of public utilities (department), to adopt not later than December 31, 2027, a: (1) technology resources

policy; and (2) cybersecurity policy; that meet specified requirements. Provides the department is not required to report a cybersecurity incident to the office of technology (office). Requires the office to develop: (1) standards and guidelines regarding cybersecurity for use by political subdivisions and state educational institutions; and (2) a uniform cybersecurity policy for use by state agencies. Requires the office to develop, in collaboration with the department of education: (1) a uniform technology resources policy governing use of technology resources by the employees of school corporations; and (2) a uniform cybersecurity policy for use by school corporations. Requires: (1) a public entity to biennially submit to the office the cybersecurity policy adopted by the public entity; and (2) the office to establish a procedure for collecting and maintaining a record of submitted cybersecurity policies. Requires a public entity that engages a third party to conduct an assessment of the public entity's cybersecurity policy to provide the results of the assessment to the office.

**Current Status: Public Law 142**

**Comments:** Effective 7/1/2025

Note: The policies required by this law must be adopted no later than December 31, 2027.

## **SEA 482**

**ABSENTEEISM AND STUDENT DISCIPLINE (DONATO S)** Defines "chronically absent" student as a student missing ten percent or more of a school year for any reason, whether excused or unexcused. Requires the department of education (department) to do the following: (1) Create a list of best practices to reduce student discipline and absenteeism. (2) Study and prepare a report regarding the basis for the categorization of certain suspensions and expulsions. (3) Establish a categorization framework for excused absences based on the reason for the absence. (4) Collect certain information regarding absences from school corporations and charter schools and prepare and post a report regarding the information on the department's website.

**Provides that the absence policy adopted by the governing body of a school corporation must provide for the categorization of excused absences in accordance with the categorization framework established by the**

**department** (see Note below). Allows a prosecuting attorney to conduct a meeting, collaborate, and make reasonable efforts to secure appropriate support services for a child and the child's family before filing an affidavit with regard to a violation of compulsory school attendance requirements. **Amends the definition of "absent student" for purposes of the truancy prevention policy provisions** (see Note below). Requires a public school to hold an attendance conference not later than 10 instructional days (instead of five instructional days) after the student's fifth absence. Prohibits a public school from expelling or suspending a student solely because the student is chronically absent or a habitual truant.

**Current Status: Public Law 208**

**Comments:** Effective 7/1/2025

Note: SECTION 7 requires school boards to adopt an attendance policy that distinguishes between excused and unexcused absences, using the categorization framework established by the Department. School boards should amend their current

attendance policies once the Department finalizes and releases this framework. It is anticipated that the framework will be completed before the start of the 2025–2026 school year. SECTION 10 expands the definition of an “absent student” to students in Kindergarten through Grade 12 (instead of students in Kindergarten through the 6<sup>th</sup> grade).

**SEA 525**    **ANNEXATION** (CARRASCO C) Allows the Town of Plainfield in Hendricks County (town) to annex a noncontiguous residential development that meets certain requirements. Provides that the annexation is initiated by: (1) the homeowner's association board petitioning the town legislative body for annexation of the residential development; and (2) the town legislative body adopting a resolution approving initiation of the annexation process. Provides that the town may not do the following: (1) Use the annexation territory to annex additional territory. (2) Annex additional territory within the unincorporated area extending 1/2 mile from the boundaries of the annexation territory, unless the annexation is with the consent of all of the landowners within the area to be annexed. (3) Annex, under any type of annexation, within the area that extends from the boundary of the 1/2 mile area to the town. **Provides that the town's redevelopment commission may only enact a housing tax increment financing district in Liberty Township in Hendricks County if the district is approved by a resolution passed by the Mill Creek School Corporation.**

*Current Status:*    **Public Law 211**

*Comments:*    Effective 7/1/2025