

Bill Descriptions

The Chamber supported each of the following bills/votes included in this report, unless otherwise indicated.

House

HB 1001

Road Funding

Rep. Soliday, Sen. Kenley. Allocates state money for roads and highways, including mechanisms (increased taxes on fuel and cigarettes) for longer-term sustainability. **Amended version signed by Governor.**

HB 1001 (Conference Committee Report)

Road Funding

Rep. Soliday, Sen. Kenley. Allocates state money for roads and highways in the short term. **Signed by Governor.**

HB 1002

Next Generation Hoosier Educators Scholarship

Rep. Bosma, Sen. Mishler. Establishes a scholarship program of up to \$7,500 per year for top students going into the education field who will teach in Indiana for five years post-graduation.

Signed by Governor.

HB 1003

Teacher Evaluations

Rep. Behning, Sen. Mishler. Decouples the 2014-2015 ISTEP scores from teacher evaluations due to significant issues related to that year's test. **Signed by Governor.**

HB 1004

School Health and Pension Plans

Rep. Behning, Sen. Kruse. Allows flexibility for administrators to provide their teachers with a defined contribution plan as an alternative retirement benefit, provides reciprocity to teachers moving to Indiana from out-of-state, and gives school districts flexibility to provide supplemental pay for teachers for hard-to-fill positions. **Died.**

HB 1004 Amendments Opposed by the Chamber

- 2nd Reading Amendment #6 by Rep. Delaney. The Chamber opposed this amendment because it would have removed the supplemental pay provision. **Amendment defeated.**
- 2nd Reading Amendment #7 by Rep. Austin. The Chamber opposed this amendment because it would have allowed for the supplemental pay to be provided only through the collective bargaining process. **Amendment defeated.**

HB 1005

Various Education Matters

Rep. DeVon, Sen. Kruse. Provides for a second application date during the second semester for choice scholarship students. Establishes the career pathways and mentorship program to provide supplemental pay for classroom teachers who take on mentorship and advanced roles to help alleviate the teacher shortage issue in the state. Creates the dual credit teacher stipend matching grant program. Also includes language to protect students from predatory teachers in schools. **Signed by Governor.**

HB 1005 Amendments Opposed by the Chamber

- 2nd Reading Amendment #2 by Rep. Austin. The Chamber opposed this amendment because it would have allowed for the discussion for supplemental pay for career pathways and mentorship to include participation by the teacher's exclusive representative. **Amendment defeated.**
- 2nd Reading Amendment #3 by Rep. V. Smith. The Chamber opposed this amendment because it would have would make differentiated pay collectively bargained. **Amendment defeated.**

HB 1047

Court Motion Clerk Pilot Program

Rep. Washburne, Sen. Bray. Creates the circuit and superior court motion clerk pilot program to provide assistance to courts with preparing orders for complex motions. **Signed by Governor.**

HB 1053

Regulation of Packaging Materials

Rep. Bacon, Sen. Steele. Prohibits a local government from restricting the use of certain packaging materials. **Signed by Governor.**

HB 1127

Civil Proceeding Advance Payment Under UCCC (aka "Lawsuit Lending")

Rep. Lehman, Sen. Head. Reforms the practice known as lawsuit lending, including setting interest rate caps. Specifies that provisions in the Uniform Consumer Credit Code (UCCC) concerning the regular schedule of payments and maximum loan term that otherwise apply to supervised loans do not apply to these transactions. **Signed by Governor.**



Bill Waltz (left), the Indiana Chamber's vice president of taxation and public finance, discusses a bill with Rep. Tim Brown (R-Crawfordsville), chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee.

HB 1157

Methamphetamine Matters

Rep. Frizzell, Sen. Young. Requires the division of state court administration to report certain methamphetamine-related felonies to the National Precursor Log Exchange (NPLEx) so that NPLEx can generate a stop sale alert to prevent individuals convicted of those felonies from purchasing ephedrine or pseudoephedrine. **Signed by Governor.**

HB 1169

Business Personal Property Tax Exemption

Rep. Saunders, Sen. Hershman. Removes the notarization requirement attached to last year's "de minimus" personal property tax exemption. **Signed by Governor.**

HB 1263

Prescriptions and Telemedicine

Rep. Kirchhofer, Sen. Crider. Sets forth requirements that must be met before a physician, a physician assistant or an advanced practice nurse, granted prescriptive authority, may issue a prescription to a patient receiving telemedicine services. Provides that certain drugs may not be prescribed through the use of telemedicine. **Signed by Governor.**

Vote Selection Criteria and Scoring

The Indiana Chamber has well-established criteria for selecting votes to be included in the *Legislative Vote Analysis* (LVA). Bills included meet the following four criteria:

1. Votes on all subject matter used in LVA are based on and best reflect the Chamber's legislative policy as determined by the Chamber's board of directors and expressed in *Legislative Business Issues*, *Legislative Agenda* or other Chamber communications to legislators.
2. Each member of the Indiana General Assembly is informed of all bills the Chamber is following, including the Chamber's position on each, the reasons for the position and the name and contact information of the specific Chamber issue expert to contact for more information.
3. Each member of the Indiana General Assembly is informed of the Chamber's position on the issue and bill prior to the vote. This notification was provided in editions of the *Legislative Agenda* or other communications with legislators.
4. Only floor votes for which there is a public record are used.

Base scores for each legislator are calculated as a percentage of votes cast in agreement with the Chamber's position on the bills included in LVA. Select pro-economy, pro-jobs legislation has been double-weighted to reflect its importance. A modest adjustment factor (positive or negative) has been added to the LVA scoring model to factor in very important legislative activities outside of floor votes on bills the Chamber has taken a position on, including whether a legislator sponsored/ authored these bills and whether committee chairs held hearings or killed these bills. This adjustment factor is applied as a net positive or negative number of additional scored votes and is capped at +/- 10 votes.

HB 1290

Various Tax Matters

Rep. T. Brown, Sen. Hershman. Calls for various tax provisions. Includes repealing the "big box" legislation of last year and replacing it with an entirely different, more appropriate approach to the assessment of these limited purpose commercial properties. **Signed by Governor.**

HB 1300

Environmental Management Matters

Rep. Wolkins, Sen. Bassler. Corrects or resolves various issues related to the Indiana Department of Environmental Management. **Signed by Governor.**

HB 1330

Education Matters

Rep. Behning, Sen. Kruse. Provides that the Department of Education shall make timely application for any federal funds made available for schools and school corporations, and to direct the allocation and apportionment of the federal funds received fairly, equitably and in a timely manner. Also changes the composition of the Indiana Education Employment Relations Board. **Signed by Governor.**

HB 1344

Unemployment Insurance

Rep. Leonard, Sen. Boots. Abolishes the Indiana Unemployment Compensation Board and transfers those duties to the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) effective April 2016. Also, DWD is to submit an annual report concerning the status of the unemployment insurance compensation system and make recommendations for maintaining its solvency. **Signed by Governor.**

HB 1395

ISTEP Matters

Rep. Behning, Sen. Kruse. Sunsets the ISTEP assessment as of July 1, 2017 and creates a 23-person panel to discuss the future of assessments given the recent passage of the federal Every Student Succeeds Act. **Signed by Governor.**

Teacher Salary and Supplemental Payments SB 10 Amendments Opposed by the Chamber

- 2nd Reading Amendment #1 by Rep. Kersey. The Chamber opposed this amendment because it would have allowed for the supplemental pay to be collectively bargained. **Amendment defeated.**
- 2nd Reading Amendment #4 by Rep. V. Smith. The Chamber opposed this amendment because it would have prohibited the discussion of supplemental pay to take place in executive session. **Amendment defeated.**
- 2nd Reading Amendment #6 by Amendment proposed by Rep. V. Smith. The Chamber opposed this amendment because it would have removed math, reading or literacy as subject items for a master's degree. **Amendment defeated.**
- 2nd Reading Amendment #7 proposed by Rep. DeLaney. The Chamber opposed this amendment because it would have deleted provisions related to having supplemental pay in addition to a teacher's base salary.



House Education Chairman Bob Behning (R-Indianapolis) and Indiana Chamber lobbyist Cary Auslander discuss where bills stand in the final days of the 2016 session.

SB 20

Restrictions on Employer Scheduling Policies

Sen. Boots, Rep. Harman. Provides that a local governmental unit may not establish, mandate or otherwise require an employer to provide to an employee who is employed within the jurisdiction of the unit a scheduling policy that exceeds the requirements of federal or state law, rules or regulations, unless federal or state law provides otherwise. **Signed by Governor.**

SB 28

Medical Malpractice

Sen. Steele, Rep. Koch. Raises the current total medical malpractice cap from \$1.25 million to \$1.65 million. An increase to a \$1.8 million cap takes effect June 30, 2019. **Signed by Governor.**

SB 67

Local Income Tax Distributions and State Income Tax Credit Study

Sen. Hershman, Rep. T. Brown. Provides for a supplemental distribution of local income taxes when the balance in a county's trust account exceeds 15% of the distributions to be made to the county. At least 75% of distributions to be used for local road projects. **Signed by Governor.**

SB 165

Healthy Indiana Plan

Sen. Pat Miller, Rep. T. Brown. Repeals the prior Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP) statutes and makes revisions to the currently operating HIP 2.0. Repeals statutes governing the high-risk Indiana check-up plan. **Signed by Governor.**

SB 200

Measuring School and School Corporation Performance

Sen. Kruse, Rep. Behning. Decouples A-F grades for schools and school corporations from the 2014-2015 ISTEP testing year for a one-year period. **Signed by Governor.**

SB 255

Underground Petroleum Storage Tanks

Sen. Charbonneau, Rep. Wolkins. Protects the current Excess Liability Trust Fund so that it may fund the cleanup of tanks and following a state funded actuarial study, promote and allow the cleanup of the many "orphan tanks" around the state. **Signed by Governor.**

SB 256

Legitimate Use of Solid Waste

Sen. Charbonneau, Rep. Wolkins. Promotes a more effective and efficient use of solid waste materials as a "feedstock" for another industry. **Signed by Governor.**

SB 257

Distressed Water and Wastewater Utilities

Sen. Charbonneau, Rep. Koch. Expands the "distressed utility" to include both water and wastewater. Provides for greater local government involvement in the valuation of the asset to identify a fair market value for the distressed utility. **Signed by Governor.**

SB 301

Workforce Education

Sen. Kenley, Rep. Huston. Requires the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) to prepare a report regarding the expected workforce needs of employers during the next 10 years and the training and education that will be required to meet those expected workforce needs. Requires DWD, with the assistance of the Commission for Higher Education, Ivy Tech Community College and Regional Works Councils to work collaboratively on workforce education initiatives and to assist with performance measures for Ivy Tech. **Signed by Governor.**

SB 327

Transparency Portal

Sen. Bassler, Rep. Price. Requires a political subdivision to upload certain contracts to the Indiana transparency web site during each year. **Signed by Governor.**

SB 333

Road Funding and Regional Cities Program

Sen. Yoder, Rep. Tim Brown. Expanded the Indiana Regional Cities development fund and appropriates \$42 million for funding a third grant under the regional cities initiative. **Died. Passed in HB 1001.**

SB 334

Various Education Matters

Sen. Yoder, Rep. DeVon. Allowed for a second application period for choice scholarship students. Did not change eligibility standards for choice scholarship applications. **Died.**

SB 347

Water Resources

Sen. Charbonneau, Rep. Wolkins. Repeals the requirement for the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission to annually survey water utilities. Establishes certain requirements on the Indiana Finance Authority, including: 1) Requires a “water loss” audit of all utilities; 2) Conduct a quality assurance review of the water resources data; and 3) Study, analyze and report to the Legislative Services Agency regarding the statewide infrastructure needs of water utilities. **Signed by Governor.**

SB 352

Marion Superior Court Judges

Sen. Young, Rep. Frizzell. Provides for the selection of Marion Superior Court judges. Establishes the 14-member Marion County Judicial Selection Committee. **Died.**

SB 366

Solid Waste Management Districts

Sen. Brown, Rep. Lehman. Changes the “shall” to “may” have a solid waste management district (SWMD). Establishes specific conditions to allow dissolution of a SWMD. **Signed by Governor.**

SB 375

Prequalification for Public Works Projects

Sen. Hershman, Rep. Torr. Makes necessary fixes to the common construction wage repeal enacted in 2015. **Signed by Governor.**

Senate

HB 1001

Road Funding

Rep. Soliday, Sen. Kenley. Allocates state money for roads and highways in the short term; establishes a task force to further assess the state’s longer term need. **Amended version signed by Governor.**

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HB 1004 (2nd Reading Amendment #4)

School Health and Pension Plans

Amendment offered by Sen. Becker. The Chamber opposed this amendment because it would have allowed for the supplemental pay (for newly hired teachers in hard-to-fill positions) to be provided only through the collective bargaining process.

Amendment defeated.

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Sen. Raatz, Rep. Cook. Allowed for supplemental pay for teachers outside of the collective bargaining agreement. **Died.**

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SB 302

State and Local Finance

Sen. Kenley, Rep. Torr. Expands the Indiana Regional Cities development fund and appropriates \$42 million for funding a third grant under the regional cities initiative. **Died. Passed in HB 1001.**

SB 307

Consolidation of School Administration Functions

Sen. Kenley, Rep. Behning. Provided that the governing body of each school corporation situated in the same county may consolidate administrative functions while continuing the historical legacy of their respective school corporations. **Died.**

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Transparency Portal

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