



## **Midpoint Legislative Summary: Technology, Innovation and Entrepreneurship Initiatives Making Progress**

**Bill # and Title:** HB 1001 – Biennial Budget

**Author:** Rep. Tim Brown, R-Crawfordsville

**Status:** Passed the House 68-29; referred to the Senate.

**Position:** Support

**Recap:** The budget bill for the next two years contains several positive things to enhance Indiana's future job creation through technology and innovation. The bill presently makes the venture capital investment tax credit transferrable so it can be useful to attract out-of-state venture capital investment in qualified Indiana firms. It also removes the sunset date of 2021, which provides more certainty for investors.

Also included are ingredients of the state's "\$1 billion over 10 years" initiative to invest in innovation and entrepreneurship. While the House cut the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Research and Development Fund by \$10 million a year to \$20 million annually, we hope to restore that amount in the Senate. Also included is \$20 million of funding over the two years for the Indiana Biosciences Research Institute. The bill creates an investment board of advisors who would set investment policy to invest up to 50% of the \$500 million Next Generation Trust Fund from Major Moves (to be named the Next Level Trust Fund) into promising Indiana companies and funds that invest in them.

The original bill had \$5 million per year to fund an agreement with one or more airlines to provide direct overseas flights to Indiana public airports, but that was removed by the House. The bill also had basic language to codify the Management Performance Hub (MPH), but that was also taken out and addressed in HB 1470 below. However, the budget does include \$7.5 million per year to fund MPH.

**Bill # and Title:** HB 1470 – Management of Government Data

**Author:** Rep. David Ober (R-Albion)

**Status:** Passed the House 93-0 and now goes to the Senate Commerce and Technology Committee.

**Position:** Support

**Recap:** The language in this bill evolved during its time in the House. Representative Ober successfully worked with leaders in the administration, Legislature and business community to improve this bill, which codifies an integrated data system of state agency data. The goal is to achieve maximum utility by the executive and legislative branches of state government, external partners and researchers and Indiana citizens.

**Bill # and Title:** HB 1601 – Certified Technology Parks

**Author:** Rep. Todd Huston (R-Fishers)

**Status:** Passed the House 87-0 and assigned to the Senate Commerce and Technology Committee.

**Position:** Support

**Recap:** Requires a certified technology park be recertified every three years, starting January 1, 2018. (Under current law, a certified technology park is required to be recertified every four years.) Requires the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to develop metrics for measuring the performance of a certified technology park during a review period. Requires the metrics to include: (1) the criteria to be used to analyze and evaluate each category of information furnished by a certified technology park to the IEDC during the course of a review; and (2) a set of minimum threshold

requirements for performance to be achieved regarding each category of information. Provides that a certified technology park must meet the minimum threshold requirements for performance set forth in the metrics before it may be recertified.

This bill will help firm up the criteria to measure the success of Indiana's Certified Technology Parks and help with the review of those parks for recertification.

**Bill # and Title:** HB 1157 – Small Business Duplicative Reporting

**Author:** Rep. Doug Miller (R-Elkhart)

**Status:** Passed the House 94-0 and now to be considered by the Senate Commerce and Technology Committee.

**Position:** Support

**Recap:** This common sense bill requires the Indiana Economic Development Corporation to: (1) develop a means for small business reporting of duplicative state reporting requirements through the Office of Technology Computer Gateway; and (2) annually report the received information to the House of Representatives' standing committee responsible for government reduction.

The Chamber believes this bill has the potential to make things even easier for new business start-ups and make their required interactions with the state more friction-free.

**Bill # and Title:** SB 213 – Support Structures for Wireless Facilities

**Author:** Sen. Brandt Hershman (R-Buck Creek)

**Status:** Passed the House 46-3 and eligible for action by a Senate committee.

**Position:** Support

**Recap:** This bill makes some changes concerning local permitting of wireless support structures to enhance the ability of communities to adapt for faster mobile technology. It defines "small cell facility" that impacts the size of cell antennas and wireless support structures.

The Chamber supports this bill as it allows for a more rapid deployment of small cell technology in communities around Indiana and enhances the prospect of bringing in 5G mobile technology sooner.

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