



## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE 123<sup>RD</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2024

### Week Four Overview

This week, the Senate met for session on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday while the House met on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Additionally, the House's deadline for 2nd Reading of House bills was Thursday, February 1st. The Senate's deadline for 2nd Reading of Senate bills is on Monday, February 5<sup>th</sup>. Below is a digest of bills that were heard in committee this past week.

### Committee Highlights

#### HEALTH

**House Public Health:** The committee met on Tuesday morning to hear a multitude of bills related to public health concerns. HB 1414, Managed Care Organization Reimbursement – Rep. Michael Karickhoff (R – Kokomo) was the first bill to be amended and voted on. Amendment #6 (Rep. Karickhoff) was adopted by consent before the bill details were heard. Amendment #6, among other things, proposes allowing managed care organizations to set their rates at the same level as Medicaid and would require the Office of the Secretary of Family and Social Services (FSSA) to be notified if any reimbursement agreements are entered. HB 1414 proposes allowing a managed care organization and a Medicaid provider to enter a value based health care reimbursement agreement in writing providing for a reimbursement rate that is different than an established, reimbursement rate for that service. HB 1414 passed committee as amended, (10-0), and moved to the House for second reading.

The committee also heard HB 1327, Health and Insurance Matters – Rep. Donna Schaibley (R – Carmel). Amendment #6 (Rep. Schaibley) was adopted by consent prior to the bill's details being heard. Amendment #6, among other things, proposes streamlining ownership reporting language, and requires entities to report certain ID numbers to better identify companies/individuals. HB 1327 aims to expand transparency by requiring entities such as hospitals, group practices, insurers, and third party administrators to, among other things: (1) report ownership information (2) conduct minimum quarterly pharmacy benefit management audits. The bill also

would prohibit a third part administrator, health plan, or pharmacy benefit manager from charging a fee if the plan sponsor opts out of an additional offered service. HB 1327 passed committee as amended (10-0).

**Senate Family and Children Services:** On Monday, the Committee of Family and Child Services heard SB 169, Child Caring Institutions and Group Homes – Sen. Greg Walker (R – Columbus). The bill would set forth requirements for residential child care facilities regarding minimum qualifications for employees and the maintenance of personal records. SB 169 would also, among other things, mandate residential child care facilities to obtain health records and immunizations for each attending child, and the facilities must follow a specified process when administering medical care to children within the facility. Sen. Walker proposed Amendment #1 which would modify staffing ratios within facilities limiting one caseworker to supervise a maximum of fifteen children. The amendment was adopted by consent in committee and passed (8-0).

**Senate Appropriations:** SB 10, Community Cares Grant Initiative Pilot Program – Sen. Scott Baldwin (R – Noblesville) would establish the community cares initiative grant pilot program to assist in the costs of starting or expanding mobile integrated health care programs and mobile crisis teams across the state. The bill would also create the community cares initiative fund to finance the pilot program. Amendment #1 (Sen. Mishler), Chair of Senate Appropriations modifies the bill requiring the division of mental health and addiction to annually report information concerning the grant pilot program and the grants offered to eligible entities to the legislative council instead of the general assembly. The amendment was adopted by consent, and the SB 10, as amended, was passed in committee (13-0).

SB 139, Psilocybin Treatment Program – Sen. Ed Charbonneau (R – Valparaiso) seeks to help those suffering with mental health issues. The bill will not legalize psilocybin, but will establish the therapeutic psilocybin research fund to provide financial assistance to research institutions in Indiana to study the use of psilocybin in treating mental health and other medical conditions. Sen. Ryan Mishler, Chair Appropriations Committee (R – Mishawaka) added Amendment #4 which allocates funds to the therapeutic psilocybin research fund. The amendment was adopted by consent, and SB 139 passed the Appropriations Committee (14-0).

### EDUCATION

**Senate Education and Career Development:** The committee met on Wednesday afternoon to hear several bills aimed at strengthening education. SB 48, State Educational Institutions – Sen. Blake Doriot (R – New Paris) aims to increase degree transparency by requiring state educational institutions to publish certain information on the institution’s website regarding Bachelor’s, Master’s, or Doctoral degrees, including the job placement rate, the average salary range, and career path recommendations. Amendment #2 (Sen. Doriot) was adopted by consent. Amendment

#2 proposes allowing institutions to publish data they already collect via federal mandate, rather than requiring the Commission on Higher Education to collect the information. Several entities testified in support of the bill, saying that publishing degree information provides more transparency to the cost of the degree and future career opportunities the degree can be applied towards. SB 43 passed committee as amended, (10-0).

SB 128, Human Sexuality Instruction – Sen. Gary Byrne (R – Byrnesville) garnered passionate testimony during hearing. The bill proposes requiring schools that teach human sexuality to publish certain information concerning the curriculum, including the grade level, course or class in which students will receive instruction, the gender makeup of the course, and whether the course will be taught by a male or female instructor. Schools would also be required to hold a public school board meeting to allow community members to hear and discuss the proposed curriculum. Amendment #1 (Sen. Byrne) was adopted by consent. Amendment #1 proposes adding a requirement to the bill that the human sexuality curriculum be posted on the school’s website, as well as in a conspicuous place on school grounds. Organizations that represented Indiana school boards and family values testified in support of the bill, saying that SB 128 increases transparency and encourages parental involvement in school curriculum. Several organizations, including those representing teachers and creators of health education programs, testified against SB 128, citing worry the bill would pose practical challenges to educators, including the fact that the gender of the instructor of the course must be determined before July 1 each school year. SB 128 passed committee as amended (8-5), with all Democrats opposed.

The committee also heard SB 214, Student Mental Health Resources – Sen. Scott Alexander (R – Muncie). Amendment #1 (Sen. Alexander) was adopted by consent prior to hearing the bills details. Amendment #1 proposes the Department of Education works in consultation with the Office of the Secretary of Family and Social Services (FSSA) to approve student mental health resources. SB 214 would require the Department of Education and FSSA to approve and make available student mental health resources for public and charter schools. Senators heard unanimous supportive testimony for the bill, with supporters saying the bill provides clarity for schools on providing mental health resources. SB 214 passed committee as amended, (12-0).

**House Ways and Means:** The committee met on Tuesday to hear HB 1304, Education Matters – Rep. Bob Behning, Chair of the House Education Committee (R – Indianapolis). HB 1304 would build off of HEA 1558, Science of Reading – 2023 by, among other things, proposing a definition for “literacy coach”, providing for the ability of certain grants for literacy coaches, and establishing an optional mastery based program administered by the Department of Education. The estimated fiscal impact for the involved schools is \$110 million appropriated from the State, as well as Lily Endowment dollars. Amendment #11, authored by Rep. Jeff Thompson, Chair

of House Ways and Means (R – Lizton) was adopted by consent. Amendment #11, among other things, would provide that a school corporation and charter school may use a math assessment system to screen student progress toward grade level math. Amendment #9, proposed by Rep. Behning was adopted by consent. Amendment #9 proposes that the Department of Education may grant certain individuals a waiver that exempts them from the literacy endorsement requirements, provided a report is submitted to the Legislative Council. The amendment also would provide funding to support training expenses by ensuring that the \$10 million appropriated to the Department of Education for this purpose will not be reverted. HB 1304 passed committee as amended, (21-0).

**Senate Appropriations:** SB 8, Higher Education Matters – Sen. Jean Leising (R – Oldenburg) was heard in committee after being recommitted from the Committee on Education and Career Development last week. Amendment #5 (Sen. Leising) was adopted by consent prior to the bill's details being discussed. Amendment #5 proposes removing Section 3 of the bill, which relates to school funding for academic performance grants. Among other things, SB 8 proposes that, beginning with the 2025-2026 school year, each high school must offer the Indiana College Core or submit a college core implementation plan to the Commission for Higher Education (commission). The Indiana College Core is a block of 30 college-level credit hours that can be transferred between all Indiana Public colleges. The bill would also require the commission, in coordination with the Department of Education and institutions, to maintain and post lists and syllabi for each eligible college core course. SB 8 passed committee as amended, (13-0).

Another bill recommitted to the committee from Education and Career Development was SB 270, Various Education Matters – Sen. Linda Rogers (R – Granger). Amendment #3 (Sen. Rogers) was adopted by consent prior to the bill being discussed. Amendment #3, among other things, requires the Department of Education to submit a report relating to regional clearinghouse to the legislative council rather than the General Assembly. A clearinghouse is a financial institution formed to facilitate the exchange of payments, securities, or derivatives transactions. Among other things, SB 270 proposes that charter schools must only file one school financial report for state or federal funding programs, and proposes that school districts using referendum tax levies that have been put in place after May 10, 2024 must share any revenue with charter schools that (1) have students that reside in the attendance area of the school corporation, and that (2) elect to participate in the referendum. Opponents of the bill worried that requiring all school corporations to share referendum dollars with charter schools will not allow for transparency. There was voiced support for the dollar law intent in the bill. SB 270 passed committee as amended, (11-2), with all Democrats opposed.

## GOVERNMENT

**House Veterans Affairs and Public Safety:** The committee heard HB 1302, Emergency Medical Services – Rep. Timothy O’Brien (R – Evansville) on Monday. The bill would require county executives to submit their EMS data and plans to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), who would then analyze the data and create a report to explore ways to improve EMS services and address workplace shortages. Amendment #1, authored by Rep. O’Brien, was adopted by consent. Amendment #1 proposes extending the effective date of the bill, the date EMS reports are due, and changes the “may” provision to a “shall” provision in relation to providers sharing requested information with DHS. The committee only heard supportive testimony, with proponents of the bill celebrating the fact that all types of providers are included in data reporting, and the data will be easily accessible for review. HB 1302 passed committee as amended, (12-0).

**Senate Judiciary:** The Senate Judiciary Committee met on Wednesday to discuss a variety of bills. The committee heard SB 243 Landlord-tenant Relations – Sen. Andrea Hunley (D – Indianapolis). The bill outlines the deadlines a landlord has to notify a tenant in the case of property sale. While various amendments were proposed, the bill failed in committee (5-5). Senators in opposition to the bill cited how state legislators should not legislate local matters, specifically on matters pertinent solely to Marion County.

Stemming from the passage of SJR 1 in last year’s legislative session which generated discussion on bail reform, SB 70, Bail and Release Review Commission – Sen. Eric Koch (R – Bedford) would establish a bail and release review commission. The newly established commission would be responsible for reviewing, among other things, bail, bail reform, and pretrial release. The bill passed the Senate Judiciary Committee (8-0) and has been moved to second reading.

**House Judiciary:** HB 1209 Rule Against Perpetuities – Rep. Dave Heine (R – Fort Wayne) would extend the period of time for which certain non-vested property interests are valid from 90 years to 360 years after the interest is created. Additionally, the bill extends the period of time for which certain powers of appointment are valid under specified conditions from 90 years to 360 years. Currently, trust income is not distributed to Indiana resident beneficiaries, and subjects all trusts to Indiana’s gross income tax. Amendment #1 (Rep. Jeter) was introduced defining the required date as the date when the second power is created - the trustee’s power to alienate. Additionally, the amendment says the trustee has full unrestricted power to alienate the trust property. Overall, the amendment attempts to extend the period of time to increase alienation. Amendment #1 was adopted by consent, and the bill passed committee (10-0).

**Senate Appropriations:** Originally referred to the Senate Committee on Homeland Security before being referred to Appropriations, SB 190, State Disaster Relief Fund – Sen. Cyndi Carrasco (R – Indianapolis) would modify the requirements for an eligible entity to receive financial assistance from the state’s Disaster Relief Fund by changing the calculation used to determine the amount of financial assistance an eligible entity may receive from the relief fund with more money being given to communities that have implemented disaster prevention measures. The bill intends to incentivize the implementation of disaster preparation and mitigation measures by increasing the amount of aid a county can receive in a disaster. SB 190 passed committee (13-0).

SB 275, Pension Matters – Brian Buchanan (R – Lebanon) would remove a provision that sets a maximum employer surcharge for the legislators' defined benefit plan, state excise police, gaming agent, gaming control officer, and conservation enforcement officers' retirement plan, public employees' retirement fund, and Indiana state teachers' retirement fund. Among other things, the bill would also require the board of trustees of the Indiana public retirement system to develop the technological and administrative capabilities sufficient to categorize fund members into separate groups in which members receive a service based thirteenth check if retiring before July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 or a cost of living adjustment if retiring after July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025. Amendment #2 (Sen. Mishler) was introduced and would allow a state employee to enroll in the deferred compensation plan prior to the auto enroll date on day 31 of the state employee's employment, and the amendment changes the effective date from upon passage to July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025. The amendment was adopted by consent, and the bill ultimately passed committee (11-2).

### **ECONOMIC & BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT**

**House Commerce, Small Business and Economic Development:** HB 1019, Child Operated Refreshment Stands – Rep. Blake Johnson (D – Indianapolis) was heard before the committee on Tuesday. As presented, the bill states that local health departments, a county or municipality, or a township may not adopt or enforce laws, rules, or ordinances that prohibit or regulate the sale of lemonade or other nonalcoholic beverages from a stand on private property by someone under the age of 18. HB 1019 would also restrict homeowners associations from prohibiting or regulating these stands and limit the operation of these stands to two days per week or a maximum of eight days per month. Limiting the stand to only be open eight days per month, as Rep. Johnson mentioned in committee, would keep the stand from becoming a full blown business. Concern was expressed about the lack of language regarding time sensitive products, such as dairy products, that can go bad, so an amendment addressing the issue may be forthcoming. Ultimately, the bill passed committee unanimously (11-0).

## BUDGET & TAXES

**House Ways and Means:** The committee heard HB 1387, Housing Development – Rep. Doug Miller (R – Elkhart). HB 1387 proposes various changes to the residential housing infrastructure assistance program, proposes expanding the definition of “economic development facilities” to include housing facilities, and it proposes expediting the process to get housing through the marketplace by, among other things, requiring 70% of housing funds to be made available to political subdivisions. HB 1387 passed committee (20-0).

**Senate Tax and Fiscal Policy:** The committee met on Tuesday morning to discuss the fiscal components of several bills heard throughout various committees last week. SB 33, Distributions of Public Safety Income Tax Revenue – Sen. Rick Niemeyer (R – Lowell) was amended by Amendment #2 (Sen. Niemeyer) prior to discussion of the bill. Amendment #2, which passed (10-0), proposes limiting courtroom costs to include costs for only the court reporter, court bailiff, and court administrator, and proposes that the local income tax may comprise no more than 50% of the county total staffing expenses related to courtroom costs. Amendment #1, authored by Sen. Niemeyer, was adopted by consent. Amendment #1 proposes that a county adopting body may, instead of shall, adopt a resolution under the provisions of the bill. SB 33 proposes that a qualified township and various fire entities may apply to the county adopting body for a distribution of local income tax revenue that is allocated to public safety purposes. Public safety organizations and community firefighting organizations testified in support of the bill, stating serious deficiencies in current EMS services, and championing the transparency that the bill allows. SB 33 passed committee as amended, (11-0).

SB 61, Tourism Improvement Districts – Sen. Travis Holdman, Chair of the Committee on Tax and Fiscal Policy (R – Ossian) was amended by Amendment #5 (Sen. Holdman), which passed (10-1) prior to discussion of the bill. Amendment #5, among other things, proposes creating a two pronged tests for the petition to create a tourism improvement district by providing that a legislative body may adopt an ordinance establishing a tourism improvement district if the petition has been signed by at least (1) 65% of the businesses within the proposed district that will pay the assessments ; and (2) the owners of 65% of the total net assessed value of the real property within the proposed district that will pay the assessments. Sen. Andrea Hunley (D – Indianapolis) expressed concern about the amendment, specifically in Marion County, which could lose their Economic Enhancement District funding if HB 1199, Repeal of Economic Enhancement District Law – Rep. Julie McGuire (R – Indianapolis) becomes law. HB 1199 seeks to repeal the Economic Enhancement District for Mile Square in Indianapolis. Sen. Holdman addressed Sen. Hunley’s concern, and said that there is potential for SB 61 to be amended if HB 1199 passes. SB 61 proposes that a person may circulate a petition to create a tourism improvement district within the territory of a county, city, or town, now according to

the provisions amended and described above. SB 61 passed committee as amended, (12-0).

The committee also heard SB 147, Child Care Property Tax Exemption and Evaluation – Sen. Linda Rogers (R – Granger). Sen. Rogers proposed Amendment #13 before the bill was discussed, which was adopted by consent. Amendment #13 proposes providing a partial tax exemption for employers with on-site childcare facilities, providing the space meets standards set by the FSSA and Early Learning Advisory Committee. SB 147 proposes granting a property tax exemption to for-profit providers of early child education. The bill received pushback from Democrats on the committee, who worried the bill lacked parameters, allowing large corporations to take advantage of the tax exemption. SB 147 passed committee as amended (9-4) along party lines.

SB 228, Various Tax Matters – Sen. Travis Holdman (R – Lizton) proposes amending the economic threshold for sales tax nexus to remove the number of sales transactions in the state as one of the two current triggers that require retail merchants to collect and remit sales tax. According to expert testimony by Colin Davis, the Director of Tax Policy with the Indiana Department of Revenue, this would attract sellers of low dollar items to the state of Indiana. SB 228 also, among other things, would allow the Department of Revenue to disclose a taxpayer’s name and other personal identification information with a tax preparer or tax preparer software provider in cases where the department suspects a fraudulent return has been filed. SB 228 passed committee, (14-0).

Finally, the committee heard SB 246, Assessment of Wetlands Classified as Wildlands – Sen. Susan Glick (R- Lagrange), recommitted from Senate Natural Resources. SB 246 proposes that a parcel of land that: (1) is at least ½ of an acre in size; and (2) contains wetlands, as delineated by a person certified in wetland delineation; may be classified as wildlands for purposes of property tax assessment, in order to protect mature wetlands. SB 246 passed committee (12-1), with Sen. Gaskill (R – Pendleton) opposed. He did not provide a reason for his “Nay” vote.

#### **CRIMINAL LAW**

**Senate Corrections and Criminal Law:** SB 240, Public Safety – Sen. Aaron Freeman, Chair Senate Corrections and Criminal Law (R – Indianapolis) was heard for a second time on Tuesday after being heard for a first time in committee last week. The bill defines "spinning" as the repeated or continuous operation of a motor vehicle with the intent of causing the vehicle to perform a rotational skid. Sen. Freeman introduced the bill after a recent increase in spinning events and street takeovers in Indianapolis. “Spinning” would be classified as a Class B misdemeanor or, if it endangers an individual, a Class A misdemeanor. If “spinning” causes bodily injury, the crime would be classified as a Level 6 felony, or if “spinning” results in the death of an individual, it would be a Level 5 felony. The bill passed committee (5-1) with



Sen. Pol voting “no” opposing the incremental advancement of criminal justice matters.

The committee also heard SB 151 Statute of Limitations – Sen. Scott Alexander (R – Muncie). The bill would eliminate the statute of limitations of sexual assault and sexual assault on a minor. This is the second time SB 151 is being heard by the Committee on Corrections and Criminal Code. Amendment #1 (Sen. Aaron Freeman) clarifies the bill and applies it only to sex offenses going forward and not to previous sex offenders. Those opposed to the bill were concerned with the elimination of the statute of limitations, potential harm on the judicial system, and the ability to reach a just conclusion. Amendment #4 (Sen. Freeman) eliminates the statute of limitations on Level 3 rape and child molestation. Amendment #4 was adopted by consent. The bill passed (7-0).

SB 149 Tobacco Sales – Sen. Linda Rogers (R – Granger), as introduced in committee, would provide that a tobacco sales certificate applied for after June 30, 2024 is valid for a term of one year and the application fee is no more than \$100. The bill also provides that a minor who falsely represents their age to purchase or attempt to purchase a tobacco product commits a Class C misdemeanor. Further, the person who recklessly, knowingly, or intentionally sells a tobacco product without a valid certificate commits a Class C infraction. Lastly, the bill would revoke the tobacco sales certificate of a tobacco and vaping business that illegally operates within 1,000 feet of the property of an elementary or secondary school. Amendment #9 (Sen. Freeman) was introduced allowing the bill to avoid hearing by the Appropriations committee. The amendment was adopted and the bill passed committee (5-0).

SB 170, Various Elections Matters – Sen. Kyle Walker (R – Indianapolis) would make it a Level 6 felony to intentionally influence an election worker, to obstruct or interfere with an election worker, or to injure an “election worker” as defined in the bill. Amendment #1 (Sen. Freeman) was introduced to modify language so an offender must have the intent to interfere with the election when interfering with an election worker. Amendment # 2 (Sen. Kyle Walker) was also introduced and removes from the bill provisions dealing with absentee ballots. Both amendments were adopted by consent. The bill passed committee (7-0).

 **Session Floor Highlights**

**SENATE**

SB 1, Reading Skills – Sen. Linda Rogers (R – Granger)

- Amendment #1 (Sen. J.D. Ford) – allows a parent to appeal the retention of a student; adopted by consent.

- Amendment #8 (Sen. Yoder) – mandates the Department of Education parents as early as possible that students may be retained as a result of the student’s third grade IREAD test score; adopted by consent.
- Amendment #11 (Sen. Rogers) – imposes literacy intervention and reporting measures to catch students not reading at grade level; adopted by consent.

SB 9, Notice of Health Care Entity Mergers – Sen. Chris Garten, Majority Floor Leader (R – Charlestown)

- Amendment #1 (Sen. Garten) – adds a private equity partnership seeking to enter into a merger or acquisition with an entity described in subdivisions 1 through 5 of the bill; adopted by consent.

SB 135, Redistricting Deadline – Sen. Mike Gaskill (R – Pendleton)

- Amendment #4 (Sen. Gaskill) – adjusts the period in which cities and towns can redistrict so as to not affect any elections in 2024; adopted by consent.

SB 185, Student Use of Wireless Communication Device – Sen. Jeff Raatz (R – Richmond)

- Amendment #1 (Sen. J.D. Ford) – modifies the bill allowing for the use of a wireless communication device during instructional time if such use is within the student’s individual education plan; adopted by consent.

SB 215, Medicare Supplement Insurance – Sen. Kyle Walker (R – Indianapolis)

- Amendment #1 (Sen. Walker) – creates a sunset for the bill set for January 1, 2025; adopted by consent.

SB 247, Water and Wastewater Utility Infrastructure – Sen. Eric Koch (R – Bedford)

- Amendment #1 (Sen. Koch) – makes various language changes throughout the bill including, among others, changing “petition” to “filing”; adopted by consent.

SB 284, Consumer Genetic Testing Providers – Sen. Andrea Hunley (D – Indianapolis)

- Amendment #1 (Sen. Hunley) – defines “de-identified data” as data that cannot reasonably be used to infer information about an identifiable consumer to clarify its use in the bill; adopted by consent.

SB 50, Chaplains in Public Schools – Sen. Stacey Donato (R – Logansport)

- Amendment #8 (Sen. Donato) – allows an emancipated minor or an adult to receive services from the chaplain, and a school chaplain would be mandated to disclose to a school counselor if the student’s comments to the school chaplain concern self-harm or an intention to harm others; adopted by consent.

SB 140, Logjam Removal – Sen. Jean Leising (R – Oldenburg)

- Amendment #2 (Sen. Leising) – enumerates the conditions in which a person, who does not have a permit, may remove a logjam from a river or a stream; adopted by consent.

SB 33, Distribution of Public Safety Income Tax Revenue – Sen. Rick Niemeyer (R – Lowell)

- Amendment #2 (Sen. Holdman) – specifies “courtroom costs” as staffing costs only for the court reporter, court bailiff, or court administrator.

SB 34, Occupational Licensing – Sen. Linda Rogers (R – Granger)

- Amendment #1 (Sen. Rogers) – mandates that by 2026, public agencies must conduct a review of all occupational licenses and occupational regulations under the agency’s jurisdiction.

SB 147, Child Care Property Tax Exemption and Evaluation – Sen. Linda Rogers (R – Granger)

- Amendment #1 (Sen. Rogers) – provides a technical change regarding section numbering.

SB 169, Child Caring Institutions and Group Homes – Sen. Greg Walker (R – Columbus)

- Amendment #2 (Sen. Tyler Johnson) – provides for who qualifies as a “licensed individual” as being a physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant as licensed under current state statute; adopted by consent.

SB 170, Crimes and Election Workers – Sen. Greg Walker (R – Granger)

- Amendment #2 (Sen. Pol) – adds a provision regarding threatening an election worker and classifies the offense as a Level 6 felony; adopted by consent.

SB 252, Publication of Notice – Sen. James Buck (R – Kokomo)

- Amendment #1 (Sen. Buck) – provides a technical change correcting a numbering error; adopted by consent.
- Amendment #2 (Sen. Buck) – modifies language to align SB 252 with language in a bill passed in the House; adopted by consent.

SB 260, Neighborhood and Individual Development Incentives – Sen. Vaneta Becker (R – Evansville)

- Amendment #1 (Sen. Baldwin) – adds “community based organization” to the bill defining the term as a private, nonprofit corporation whose board of directors is comprised of business, civic, and community leaders, and whose principal purpose includes the provision of low income housing; adopted by consent.

### **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

HB 1068, Unlicensed Real State Solicitors – Rep. Edward Clere (R – New Albany)

- Amendment #1 (Rep. Clere) – updates the definition of “unlicensed real estate solicitor” to include a person that offers to purchase a home with the intent to take the title to the home and record the deed to the property, and use the home as a personal residence or as an investment; adopted by consent.

HB 1073, Special Education – Rep. Becky Cash (R – Zionsville)

- Amendment #1 (Rep. Cash) – adds the provision “subject to available funding” to the bill’s proposed requirement that school corporations have electronic recording equipment in each designated special education classroom, seclusion area, and time-out area; adopted by consent.

HB 1102, Child Care – Rep. Dave Heine (R – New Haven)

- Amendment #1 (Rep. Heine) – changes the definition of “family” within the bill to align with current Indiana Code; adopted by consent.

HB 1120, Property Taxes – Rep. Jeffery Thompson (R – Lizton)

- Amendment #1 (Rep. Thompson) – changes all dates regarding to the homestead deduction from January 5<sup>th</sup> to January 15<sup>th</sup>. The amendment also includes the Innovation Network Charter School in the formula of calculating Indiana Public School’s state tuition support distribution; adopted by consent.

HB 1121, Local Income Taxes – Rep. Thompson (R – Lizton)

- Amendment #1 (Rep. Thompson) – creates a Mile Square Improvement and Services Projects Board, which has the authority to issue revenue bonds payable from the revenues generated by the tax rate imposed in HB 1121 to finance improvement and services projects. The amendment outlines membership requirements and reporting specifications for the Board; adopted by consent.

HB 1306, Live Streaming and Archiving Meetings – Rep. Ben Smaltz (R – Auburn)

- Amendment #1 (Rep. Smaltz) – removes the provision that the IURC board can “reasonably determine” what meetings should be live streamed, and instead requires live streaming of a meeting if it includes: (1) a nonprocedural discussion between one or more parties to the commission proceeding (2) questions from one or more commissioners regarding the substance of the case or (3) a contested procedural matter; adopted by consent.

HB 1310, Children in Need of Services – Rep. Ryan Lauer (R – Columbus)

- Amendment #1 (Rep. Jackson) – moves the effective date of the bill from July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to “upon passage”, and if/when an emergency has been declared; adopted by consent.

HB 1320, Building Regulation – Rep. Alex Zimmerman (R – Indianapolis)

- Amendment #1 (Rep. Miller) – adds to increase local control of the placement, aesthetics, and zoning for manufactured homes; adopted by consent.

HB 1328, Department of Local Government Finance – Rep. Craig Snow (R – Warsaw)

- Amendment #1 (Rep. Snow) – provides clarifying language for the bill which, among other things, updates the Homestead definition in the Indiana Code from the 2009 definition to the 2023 definition, and clarifies that the proposed stipend for county clerks does not replace the existing stipend, but is rather an addition to it; adopted by consent.

HB 1369, Family and Juvenile Law Matters – Rep. Julie McGuire (R – Indianapolis)

- Amendment #1 (Rep. McGuire) – narrows the scope of the bill to include adoption, foster care, children in need of services, and the termination of parent-child relationship; adopted by consent.

HB 1418, Forensic Diversion and Drug Courts – Rep. Lori Goss-Reaves (R – Marion)

- Amendment #1 (Rep. Goss-Reaves) – ensures that prosecutors will be consulted as part of the process of referral of a pregnant woman charged with a drug crime to a forensic diversion program or drug court; adopted by consent.

HB 1079, Craft Hemp Flower – Rep. Jake Teshka (R – South Bend)

- Amendment #4 (Rep. Prescott) – requires food establishments that prepare, provide, or sell food that contains low THC hemp extract shall disclose, in writing, that the food contains low THC hemp extract; adopted by consent.
- Amendment #5 (Rep. Teshka) – removes all of the craft help flower references in the bill; adopted by consent

HB 1135, Cosmetology Licensure and Apprenticeships – Rep. Timothy Wesco (R – Osceola)

- Amendment #1 (Rep. Wesco) – changes “PSI Cosmetology Test” to “Board Approved Methodology Test”, in case the Cosmetology and Barbers Board chooses a new accreditation exam in the future; adopted by consent.

HB 1243, Various Education and Workforce Related Matters – Rep. Robert Behning (R – Indianapolis)

- Amendment #3 (Rep. DeLaney) – requires charter schools to disclose on their website whether or not there’s a family or business relationship between the charter school’s organizer/owner/operator, and the owner of the building; adopted by consent.
- Amendment #8 (Rep. Behning) – adds language that, among other things, expands the parameters for teacher compensation to also include the amount the school corporation expends on dropout recovery educational services for at-risk students, and schools that have 100% virtual third-party providers; adopted by consent.

HB 1352, Inspection of Residential Onsite Sewage Systems – Rep. Robert Morris (R – Fort Wayne)

- Amendment #5 (Rep. Pressel) – adds clarifying language as to who can perform the required inspections, and sets limits on how much a health department can charge for inspections.

HB 1032, Legislative Notaries – Rep. Jerry Torr (R – Carmel)

- Amendment #1 (Rep. Clere) – removes the requirement to produce a seal in order to administer an oath; adopted by consent.

HB 1183, Foreign Ownership of Agricultural Land – Rep. Kendell Culp (R – Collegeville)

- Amendment #2 (Rep. Culp) – specifies that a closing agent, relator, or banker is not responsible in any way if the owner falsifies the affidavit affirming that he or she is not an adversary to the US. The amendment also defines a “prohibited person” as an individual or business entity that is a citizen of or owned by a foreign adversary; adopted by consent.

HB 1200, State Employee Health Plan Payment Limits – Rep. Julie McGuire (R – Indianapolis)

- Amendment #9 (Rep. McGuire) – moves the implementation date back to July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, and removes/excludes all critical access hospitals, as well as rural emergency hospitals from the bill; adopted by consent.

HB 1376, School Controlled Project Referendum – Rep. Robert Behning (R – Indianapolis)

- Amendment #1 (Rep. Behning) – limits the bill to controlled projects; adopted by consent.

HB 1092, Financial Responsibility for Aircraft – Rep. Peggy Mayfield (R – Martinsville)

- Amendment #1 (Rep. Mayfield) – reverts effective date of the bill back to July 1, 2025; adopted by consent.

HB 1414, Managed Care Organization Reimbursement – Rep. Michael Karickhoff (R – Kokomo)

- Amendment #5 (Rep. Karickhoff) – removes any potential for fiscal impacts by requiring the Budget Committee to review any proposed changes that are implemented; adopted by consent.

HB 1426, Long Acting Reversible Contraceptives – Rep. Rita Fleming (D – Jeffersonville)

- Amendment #1 (Rep. King) – changes language of the bill to ensure that a woman who has received prenatal care or is already on Medicaid still has the option of receiving the long-acting contraceptive implant prior to being discharged from the hospital.

### Looking Ahead

Looking ahead to next week, the deadline for 3<sup>rd</sup> reading of House bills in the House and the deadline for 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of Senate bills in the Senate are both on Monday, February 5<sup>th</sup>. Further, the deadline for 3<sup>rd</sup> reading of Senate bills in the Senate is on Tuesday, February 6<sup>th</sup>. The bills engrossed in the Senate will be introduced in the House next Tuesday, and House engrossed bills will be introduced in the Senate next Wednesday. Neither chamber will convene next Thursday or Friday.

Please feel free to contact a member of our legislative team should you have questions, need full copies of bills or amendments, or have any questions on matters pending before the Indiana General Assembly.

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