



Dear ISBA Members:

Here is the Week #2 ISBA Legislative Update to provide you with essential information on the latest developments of the 2023 session of the Indiana General Assembly.

Bill Tracking List

ISBA makes available to members an automated bill tracking list to assist you in following the status and progress of all the bills that the Association will be monitoring. The bill filing deadline has passed, resulting in 1,162 bills released to the public (including 673 House bills and 489 Senate bills). Of these bills, ISBA now has 218 bills on its tracking list that address local or school governance matters, taxation, children, or K-12 education policy. Overall, nearly 19% of all bills filed are on our tracking list – an enormous number! You can view the ISBA Bill Tracking List [HERE](#).

Key Bill Activity for Week #2

[SB 321](#) **School Based Health Centers** (Author: Senator Zay) was heard in the Senate Insurance and Financial Institutions Committee on Wednesday. The bill allows a school corporation to contract with a healthcare organization or community partner to establish a school-based health center that is located in

services that are provided by a school nurse. Any health services provided at the health center would require parent consent and could only be provided with the parent present. Additionally, the bill requires the State Department of Health to develop and publish on its website first aid guidelines for school emergencies. The emergency guidelines would address such incidents as (1) administering emergency assistance before medical emergency personnel arrive, (2) procedures for situations involving bleeding, chest pain, shock, concussions, heat emergencies, seizures, and poisoning, (3) instructions for managing behavioral and mental health emergencies, such as suicide risk and active shooter situations, and (4) guidelines for notifying parents of any of these incidents. Health services provided by a school corporation would have to follow these guidelines in addition to meeting all federal and state laws and applicable standard of care principles. Lastly, the bill requires parent consent for the vision and audiometer tests conducted by the school corporation. The bill was held by the committee chair as there were several questions regarding health services provided by a school corporation versus health services provided by a school-based health center. ISBA presented some concerns about the language in the bill and hopes to work with Senator Zay on necessary amendments to improve the bill.

[SB 305](#) **Indiana Education Scholarship Account Program** (Author: Senator Buchanan) was heard in the Senate Education and Career Development Committee on Wednesday. The bill amends the current ESA program for special needs students to change program eligibility to any student with legal settlement in Indiana and who is at least 5 years of age and less than 22 years of age. The list of qualified expenses is proposed to expand beyond a long list that already includes tuition to include curricular materials, expenses to attend a career or technical education center, computer hardware or other technological devices, and any other expenses approved by the Treasurer of State (the program administrator). The bill also changes the ESA grant amount an eligible student can receive in the program from 90% to 100% of the student's home school corporation's per-student Basic Tuition Support Grant for the previous school year. Senator Buchanan stated that the fiscal impact would be controlled by a funding cap that would be established if the bill passes out of the committee and is reassigned to the Senate Appropriations Committee for further review regarding the appropriation. ISBA was among a list of 14 organizations and individuals that testified in opposition to the bill. We contend that plentiful opportunities for school choice exist for Hoosier parents, including

students. A comparable number, largely parents of special needs students, testified in support of the bill. The bill was held for possible amendments and vote likely next week on Wednesday.

[HB 1002](#) **Education and Workforce Matters** (Author: Representative Goodrich) was heard in the House Education Committee on Wednesday. The bill establishes the Career Scholarship Account (CSA) program and fund, and a Credential Completion Grant. It also provides that the Department of Education, in consultation with the Governor's Workforce Cabinet, shall: (1) designate and approve course sequences, career courses, modern youth apprenticeships, and course sequences leading to certification; and (2) determine the grant amount that a career scholarship student may receive under the CSA program fund for each sequence, course, or apprenticeship. It establishes eligibility requirements to participate in the CSA program. The bill provides that the Governor's Workforce Cabinet may approve participating entities that meet certain requirements to participate in the CSA program. The bill prohibits a school corporation or charter school from receiving a career and technical education grant for a student enrolled in a career and technical education program if the student is enrolled in the CSA program. It requires the State Board of Education, in consultation with the department, to establish new high school diploma requirements. Other bill provisions relate to mandatory career fairs and student meetings with "intermediaries," employers, or labor organizations. ISBA testified with a neutral position on the bill, posed several questions, and made amendment suggestions. ISBA will be meeting with the bill author and co-author to discuss legislative intent and possible amendments to the bill.

5th Annual ISBA State House Day

Please mark your calendar for **the 5th Annual ISBA State House Day on February 21**, to be held in Indiana Ballrooms E-G at the Indianapolis Downtown Marriott, 350 W. Maryland Street, Indianapolis. We are asking board presidents and legislative liaisons for every school board to attend. If you cannot make it, please ask another board representative from your school board to attend. We are requesting only two members from every board to attend to contain costs. This will be at no charge to attendees. We will also be providing each attendee a stipend of \$35 to assist with any parking and mileage expenses. A separate email was sent last week with full details and the agenda for this event. Another comprehensive email will be sent next week, or if you

Please RSVP your attendance via email to Casey Conrad at: cconrad@isba-ind.org. We have sent a letter of invitation from ISBA to all legislators inviting them to attend, but once you know that you will be coming, please extend a personal invitation via email message or letter to your legislators to join you at your table (that will indicated by table markers by ISBA region).

In closing, do commence efforts to reach out to your area legislators to (re-)introduce yourself and offer your service as a trusted resource on K-12 public education issues during the session and on an ongoing basis. Contact information for the state legislators can be found [HERE](#). Take the opportunity to advocate for the [ISBA 2023 Legislative Priorities](#). Thank you for your efforts and contributions to engage in the ISBA Legislative Action Network and grassroots advocacy on behalf of the more than 1 million public school students and effective school board governance.

Sincerely,



Terry Spradlin

Executive Director

Indiana School Boards Association

One North Capitol Avenue, Suite 1215

Indianapolis, IN 46204-2225

(Office)317-639-3588

(Mobile)317-750-2056



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