



## Indiana School Boards Association

One North Capitol Ave. • Suite 1215 • Indianapolis, IN 46204-2225  
Phone (317) 639-0330 • Fax (317) 454-0731 • www.isba-ind.org

**Dear ISBA Members:**

*Here are the key updates for the 10<sup>th</sup> week of the 2019 budget session of the Indiana General Assembly pertaining to K-12 public education and school governance...Seven weeks of the session left if anyone is counting!*

This update spotlights a few key bills that ISBA requests your action on to impact the outcome on these legislative proposals:

[HB 1404](#) – **School Accountability** (Rep. T. Cook); ISBA position: **OPPOSE**. This bill provides that, before July 1, 2022, the SBOE shall establish new standards of measuring school performance (for Indiana’s K-12 school accountability system). This bill would require the SBOE to redesign and align a new K-12 accountability system to the Indiana Graduation Pathways, include an “on-track indicator based upon student credits,” AND include post-graduation outcome measures. While ISBA supports the alignment of the accountability system to the new Graduation Pathway requirements, and other proposed criteria, the use of post-graduation outcome measures are objectionable.

In particular, these measures would reflect outcomes 6-12 months after students graduate from high school, and the SBOE is required to consider including:

- (A)** Successful completion of at least twelve (12) credit hours at a higher education institution and a student's continued enrollment and status of good standing at a higher education institution;
- (B)** Successful completion of a high-wage, high-demand certificate as defined by the Department of Workforce Development;
- (C)** Enlistment in, and continued service in, any branch of the armed forces of the United States or their reserves, the National Guard, or the Indiana National Guard; and,
- (D)** How to account for adverse life experiences or other unique circumstances that occur after

graduation.

Schools do not control or directly determine the decisions young adults make many months removed from high school. Young adults experience many life events, financial challenges, or family matters that may interfere with long-term goal attainment, but have nothing to do with academic preparation. While this is valuable data to provide to school corporations for analysis, these metrics should not be used in a punitive manner in computing A-F letter grades.

As long as post-high school graduation metrics are included in the A-F accountability system in a potentially punitive manner, **ISBA will continue to oppose the bill.**

**CALL-TO-ACTION ALERT:**

**Please call the members of the Senate Education and Career Development Committee to ask them to:**

- 1. Remove the post-high graduation metrics from the indicators to be used for high school accountability; or,**
- 2. If the committee chooses not to take this action, ask each senator to vote “NO” on HB 1404 in committee.**

**Senate Education & Career Development Committee Members:**

- Senator Jeff Raatz, Chairman: 317-233-0930
- Senator John Crane, Vice Chairman: 317-232-9984
- Senator Brian Buchanan: 317-234-9426
- Senator Aaron Freeman: 317-232-9490
- Senator Dennis Kruse: 317-233-0930
- Senator Jean Leising: 317-232-9493
- Senator Linda Rogers: 317-234-9443
- Senator Victoria Spartz: 31-234-9441
- Senator Eddie Melton: 317-232-9491
- Senator Frank Mrvan: 317-232-9532
- Senator Mark Stoops: 317-232-9532

**[HB 1596](#) – Expenditures of redevelopment commissions** (Rep. Ed Clere); ISBA position:

**SUPPORT.** Provides that except for property tax proceeds transferred to a school corporation or public school, including a charter school, allocated property tax proceeds may be expended for projects located outside an allocation area only if the redevelopment commission adopts a declaratory resolution that finds that the expenditures: (1) will directly benefit the allocation area; or (2) will result in the creation or retention of jobs in the private sector. Adds various requirements related to expenditures under contracts between redevelopment commissions and providers of educational and training programs to establish programs designed to prepare individuals to participate in the competitive and global economy.

ISBA support efforts to increase the transparency and accountability of the use of TIF monies by local redevelopment commissions. Although HB 1166 (a bill to appoint a school board member or school corporation representative as a voting member on redevelopment commissions) died, we want to keep HB 1596 moving to provide opportunities for a larger discussion on TIF expenditures by redevelopment commissions, to focus on community and economic development projects, and restrict the loss of property tax revenues to school corporations.

**CALL-TO-ACTION ALERT:**

**Call or email Senator Jim Buck, Chairman of the Senate Local Government Committee, to ask him to here HB 1596 in this committee.**

**You can call him at: 317-232-9466, or email Senator Buck at: [Senator.Buck@iga.in.gov](mailto:Senator.Buck@iga.in.gov)**

**Please contact the members of the Senate Local Government Committee if they are your area senator to ask for their support of HB 1596. To view the committee roster click [HERE](#).**

Lastly, **the School Funding Sub-Committee of the Appropriations Committee will meet on Thursday, March 14**, upon adjournment of the Senate that day, to hear **public testimony on the state budget pertaining to K-12 school funding**, Teacher Appreciation Grants, and English Language Learner Issues. Please consider coming to Indy to offer your thoughts on K-12 public education funding needs. Do let me know if you have an interest in participating in this hearing and ISBA will reimburse school board members for parking and mileage expenses.

Have a great weekend!