



Indiana School Boards Association

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Dear ISBA Members:

NOTE to Board Presidents: *Please continue to forward the weekly legislative updates to your new board members. The ISBA school board directory and member profiles are in the process of being updated in our system, and we will continue to update you with information on this via separate correspondence. Thank you.*

The first regular session of the 121st Indiana General Assembly is now moving at a fast pace with committee hearings starting this week. The Week #2 ISBA 2019 Legislative Update is coming to you a day early due to the day-long ISBA School Safety and Cyber Security Seminar being held tomorrow that, by the way, will include Senator Travis Holdman and Representative Wendy McNamara who will be discussing their bills on school safety (SB 127 and HB 1004).

BILL FILINGS AND TRACKING

As of the time of this update, there have been about 400 Senate Bills filed and approximately 300 House bills filed for introduction. Today is the deadline for bills to be filed, so these numbers will grow over the next few session days as the bill lists are accepted in each chamber. The ISBA Bill Tracking List now includes more than 100 bills that are relevant to K-12 education, school governance, and other child-related legislation. As a reminder, ISBA offers to our members a customized bill tracking list that provides key overview information on each bill (bill number, title, authors, digest, last three bill actions, and overall bill status). This tracking list is auto-updated every session day. Click [HERE](#) to view the bill tracking list that can also be accessed on the ISBA Legislative Services page at: <https://www.isba-ind.org/legislative.html>

HOT TOPICS

House Republican Leadership announced their caucus priorities on Monday. Less than 48 hours later, on Wednesday morning, three of the 10 priority bills were heard in the House Education Committee (HB 1003, HB 1008, and HB 1009). The full House GOP press release on this

announcement and an overview page of their priorities can be accessed

here: <https://www.indianahouserpublicans.com/>

Not surprisingly, six of their 10 priority bills are K-12 education policy-related and will be bills that we are tracking. Here is the list of the six bills by bill number and title and the ISBA preliminary position on each:

- **HB 1001 – State Budget** – not filed or available as of this update;
- [HB 1002](#) – **Career and Technical Education Matters** (Rep. H. Sullivan); ISBA position – under review;
- [HB 1003](#) – **School Corporation Expenditure Targets** (Rep. D. Devon; Rep. T. Huston) – ISBA position: CONCERNS/PRELIMINARY OPPOSITION. This is a caucus priority bill and will move through the bill process. It will be the intent of ISBA to work with the bill authors to streamline the burdensome reporting procedures proposed in the bill and to align any new requirements with reporting requirements that took effect January 1, 2019, as a part of HEA 1009-2017;
- [HB 1004](#) – **School Safety** (Rep. W. McNamara); ISBA position: SUPPORT; Will be heard in the Veterans Affairs and Public Safety Committee on Tuesday, January 15, at 10:30 a.m., Room 156-D, State House.
- [HB 1008](#) – **Teacher Career Ladders** (Rep. B. Behning); ISBA position: SUPPORT;
- [HB 1009](#) – **Teacher Residency Grant Pilot Program** (Rep. D. Devon); ISBA position: SUPPORT

BILLS ALIGNED TO ISBA LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

In addition to House Bills 1004, 1008, and 1009 aligning to the 2019 ISBA Legislative Priorities, here are a few other key bills that help achieve our objectives:

- [House Bill 1034](#) – **Political Subdivision Controlled Project and Debt** (Rep. J. Thompson); This bill allows, via a “may” provision, for school corporations to include referendum ballot language specifying the net tax rate impact, if existing debt is being retired, and the overall tax rate increase will be less than what is being proposed for the Controlled Project.
- [House Bill 1166](#) – **Redevelopment Commission Membership** (Rep. T. Cook); This bill requires one member of a municipal or county redevelopment commission to be a school

board member and would be appointed by the executive of the municipality or county.

- [SB 362](#) – **Tax Credit for Classroom Supplies** (Senator J. Raatz); This bill increases the income tax credit for an individual employed as a teacher for amounts expended on classroom supplies from \$100 to \$500 per taxable year.
- [SB 368](#) – **Tax Credit for Education Donations** (Senator R. Alting) (See also SB 92 and SB 100); These bills will provide for an income tax credit for contributions to a public school education foundation or school corporation.

Please write, email, or call your area legislators to ask that they support these bills.

Sincerely,

Terry Spradlin

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