



Dear ISBA Members:

Here is your Week #6 ISBA Legislative Update for the 2022 short session of the Indiana General Assembly. As mentioned last week, remaining bills will now have to pass out of the second chamber by February 28 in the House of Representatives and by March 1 in the Senate.

Bill Tracking List

You can view the ISBA Bill Tracking List [HERE](#).

Mandatory Public Comment Bills

ISBA has continued conversation with the bill author and sponsors of [HB 1130](#) **Public Comment at Meetings** (Author: Representative O'Brien) and [SB 83](#) **Meetings of School Boards and Charter Schools** (Author: Senator Leising) in attempt to fine tune these bills that include provisions on mandatory public comment at school board meetings. HB 1130 was heard in the Senate Education and Career Development Committee on Wednesday. After public testimony, the bill was held for possible amendment and vote next week. Both the bill author and senate sponsor indicated that they are working with ISBA to

bring forth an amendment to the bill for the committee's consideration. ISBA wants to ensure that boards maintain the ability to effectively manage board meetings, including establishing policy on public comment, conduct, and reasonable time limits. ISBA has also asked that mandatory public comment only apply to regular board meetings. ISBA commends Rachel Burke, school board member for MSD Warren Township and President of the Indiana PTA, for her testimony in opposition to the current version of the bill. She stated her position was to seek an amendment to better define the term "public." She asked that the term include only residents, business owners, employees (and their direct relatives), as well as students and parents to limit who would have the right to comment at school board meetings.

Other Key Bill Information

[HB 1072](#) **School Referendum Levies** (Author: Representative Behning). This bill would require a school corporation to distribute a portion of revenue received from a school operating referendum tax levy or school safety referendum levy to each charter school in which students who receive not more than 50% virtual instruction and who have legal settlement in the school corporation attend. Provides that if a charter school receives a distribution from a school corporation from a school corporation tax levy or a school safety referendum tax levy, the charter school must post certain information on the charter school's Internet web site. Provides that a charter school that may receive money from a school corporation's tax levy or a school safety referendum tax levy may not promote a position on a referendum in the same manner as a school corporation is prohibited from promoting a position on a referendum. Provides that the governing body of a school corporation in which 10% or more of the school corporation's school buildings are occupied in whole or part by: (1) one or more innovation network schools; or (2) one or more participating innovation network charter schools; may sell a closed, unused, or unoccupied school building without first offering the school building to a charter school or state educational institution. This bill has been assigned to the Senate Appropriations Committee, but has not been scheduled for a hearing. **ISBA opposes this bill and offers you these [Talking Points](#) to use in contacting your area state senator to express your concern with this legislation.**

[HB 1134 Education Matters](#) (Author: Representative Cook). Several amendments were made to HB 1134 on second reading in the House of Representatives, but the major components of the bill continue to be: (1) a mandate to create a curricular materials advisory committee that will review all curricular material used for student instruction and all educational activities (such as assemblies, lectures, and other presentations) that are presented to students, and make recommendations to the school board; (2) a mandate to create a curriculum portal (if the school corporation's learning management system or website does not meet the required minimum transparency information) and post curricular materials and educational activities on the portal; (3) restrictions on personal analysis, evaluations, or surveys by third party vendors and by school employees; and (4) prohibitions of specific concepts in the curriculum and instructional programs related to sex, race, ethnicity, religion, color, national origin, or political affiliation. **ISBA has updated its analysis of this bill and offers you these [Talking Points](#) for your use. We have also conveyed these talking points to the bill author and sponsor.**

[SB 2 Virtual Instruction and Tuition Support](#) (Author: Senator Jeff Raatz). This bill provides that, in determining whether at least 50% of the instructional services that a student receives from a school corporation is virtual instruction for purposes of the 2021 fall count of average daily membership (ADM), the Indiana Department of Education shall review the attendance of each student on each school day from the school corporation's first day of school until the school corporation's last day of school of the 2021 fall semester. ISBA testified in support of this bill on Wednesday in the House Education Committee. We thank the bill author, legislative leaders, and Dr. Katie Jenner for bringing this bill forward to provide a solution for the significant number of student quarantines that transpired first semester that would impact tuition support funding. This bill ensures that if the student is not a virtual student more than 50% of the semester, the tuition support formula will provide 100% funding for these students. The House Education Committee did adopt an amendment to the bill that adds contents of House Bill 1252 regarding Student Enrichment

Grants to be administered by the Indiana Department of Education. Parents would receive up to \$1,000 to address math and reading tutoring for their children from a qualified provider for services outside of the school day. This program would terminate on July 1, 2025. The bill passed out of the committee with the amendment by a 12-1 vote.

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

