

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

HB 1003 # 1

DIGEST

Boards and commissions. Deletes provisions concerning: (1) the commission on supplier diversity; (2) race horse breed development; (3) the bureau of motor vehicles commission; (4) public safety communications and the statewide 911 system; (5) the certification appeal board for real estate appraisers; (6) the New Harmony and Wabash River bridge authority; (7) the Lewis and Clark expedition commission and fund; (8) the hazard mitigation council; (9) the Little Calumet River basin development commission; (10) the establishment of the commission on invasive species and pests; (11) the membership of regional planning commissions; (12) the membership of the Gary Metro Center station revitalization project board; (13) the division of mental health and addiction planning and advisory council; and (14) the membership of certain regional water, sewage, and solid waste districts.

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- 1 Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert the following:
- 2 SECTION 1. IC 2-5-1.3-13, AS AMENDED BY P.L.186-2025,
- 3 SECTION 270, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
- 4 [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 13. (a) A study committee shall
- 5 study the issues assigned by the legislative council that are within the
- 6 subject matter for the study committee, as described in section 4 of this
- 7 chapter.
- 8 (b) In addition to the issues assigned under subsection (a), the
- 9 interim study committee on roads and transportation shall advise the
- 10 bureau of motor vehicles regarding the suitability of a special group (as
- 11 defined in IC 9-13-2-170) to receive a special group recognition license
- 12 plate for the special group (as defined in IC 9-13-2-170) for the first
- 13 time under IC 9-18.5-12-4 and the suitability of a special group (as
- 14 defined in IC 9-13-2-170) to continue participating in the special group
- 15 recognition license plate program under IC 9-18.5-12-5.
- 16 (c) In addition to the issues assigned under subsection (a), the
- 17 interim study committee on corrections and criminal code shall review
- 18 current trends with respect to criminal behavior, sentencing,
- 19 incarceration, and treatment and may:
- 20 (1) identify particular needs of the criminal justice system that can
- 21 be addressed by legislation; and
- 22 (2) prepare legislation to address the particular needs found by the

1 committee.

2 (d) In each even-numbered year, in addition to the issues assigned
3 under subsection (a), the interim study committee on courts and the
4 judiciary shall review, consider, and make recommendations
5 concerning all requests for new courts, new judicial officers, and
6 changes in jurisdiction of existing courts. A request under this
7 subsection must include at least the following information to receive
8 full consideration by the committee:

9 (1) The level of community support for the change, including
10 support from the local fiscal body.

11 (2) The results of a survey that shall be conducted by the county
12 requesting the change, sampling members of the bar, members of
13 the judiciary, and local officials to determine needs and concerns
14 of existing courts.

15 (3) Whether the county is already using a judge or magistrate
16 from an overserved area of the judicial district.

17 (4) The relative severity of need based on the most recent
18 weighted caseload measurement system report published by the
19 office of judicial administration.

20 (5) Whether the county is using any problem solving court as
21 described in IC 33-23-16-11, and, if so, the list of problem solving
22 courts established in the county, and any evaluation of the impact
23 of the problem solving courts on the overall judicial caseload.

24 (6) A description of the:

25 (A) county's population growth in the ten (10) years before the
26 date of the request; and

27 (B) projected population growth in the county for the ten (10)
28 years after the date of the request, to the extent available;
29 and any documentation to support the information provided under
30 this subdivision.

31 (7) A description of the county's use of pre-incarceration
32 diversion services and post-incarceration reentry services in an
33 effort to decrease recidivism.

34 (8) If the request is a request for a new court or new courts, an
35 acknowledgment from the county fiscal body (as defined in
36 IC 36-1-2-6) with the funding sources and estimated costs the
37 county intends to pay toward the county's part of the operating
38 costs associated with the new court or new courts.

39 The office of judicial administration shall post the list of required
40 information provided under this subsection on its website.

(e) In each even-numbered year, in addition to the issues assigned under subsection (a), the interim study committee on courts and the judiciary shall review the most recent weighted caseload measurement system report published by the office of judicial administration and do the following:

(1) Identify each county in which the number of courts or judicial officers exceeds the number used by the county in that report year.

(2) Determine the number of previous report years in which the number of courts or judicial officers in a county identified in subdivision (1) exceeded the number used by the county in that particular report year.

(3) Make a recommendation on whether the number of courts or judicial officers in the county should be decreased.

The office of judicial administration shall post a list of the number of courts or judicial officers used in each county for each report year, and the number of years in which the number of courts or judicial officers in the county has exceeded the number used by the county, on its website.

(f) In addition to studying the issues assigned under subsection (a), the interim study committee on child services shall:

(1) review the annual reports submitted by:

(A) each local child fatality review team under IC 16-49-3-7;

(B) the statewide child fatality review committee under IC 16-49-4-11; and

(C) the department of child services under IC 31-25-2-24; during the immediately preceding twelve (12) month period, and may make recommendations regarding changes in policies or statutes to improve child safety; and

(2) report to the legislative council before November 1 of each interim, in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6, the results of:

(A) the committee's review under subdivision (1); and

(B) the committee's study of any issue assigned to the committee under subsection (a).

(g) In each even-numbered year, in addition to the issues assigned under subsection (a), the interim study committee on government shall do the following:

(1) Determine whether a group has met in the immediately preceding two (2) years.

(2) Review reports submitted to the committee in accordance with

IC 1-1-15.5-4.

(3) Identify all interstate compacts that have been fully operational for at least two (2) years to which the state is a party.

(4) Consider whether to:

(A) remain a party to; or

(B) withdraw from;

each interstate compact.

(5) If the committee determines that the state should withdraw from an interstate compact, identify the steps needed to withdraw.

(6) Report before November 1 to the legislative council, in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6 the committee's:

(A) recommendations for proposed legislation to repeal groups:

(i) **after determining** that **the groups** have not met during the immediately preceding two (2) years; **and or**

(ii) after reviewing a group's report under subdivision (2); and

(B) findings and recommendations regarding the interstate compacts.

As used in this subsection, "group" refers to an authority, a board, a commission, a committee, a council, a delegate, a foundation, a panel, or a task force that is established by statute, has at least one (1) legislator assigned to it, and is not staffed by the legislative services agency.

(h) In each odd-numbered year, in addition to the issues assigned under subsection (a), the interim study committee on government shall:

(1) identify each group that has been operational for at least two (2) state fiscal years;

(2) review the statutory duties and recent activities of each group identified under subdivision (1);

(3) for each group identified under subdivision (1), determine whether the group should be:

(A) retained because the group has ongoing statutory duties and it remains the most appropriate group to fulfill those duties;

(B) repealed because the group has fulfilled its statutory duties;

(C) repealed because the group's statutory duties could be more efficiently fulfilled after transferring them to another

group or state agency; or

(D) repealed because the group's statutory duties are redundant because the duties also belong to another group or state agency; and

(4) report before November 1 to the legislative council, in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6, the committee's findings and recommendations regarding the groups evaluated under this subsection.

As used in this subsection, "group" refers to an authority, a board, a commission, a committee, a council, a delegate, a foundation, a panel, or a task force that is established by statute and not staffed by the legislative services agency.

~~(h)~~ (i) In 2026 and 2027, in addition to the issues assigned under subsections (a) and (f), the interim study committee on child services shall review the report submitted by the child welfare task force under IC 2-5-55.7-8. This subsection expires December 31, 2027.

SECTION 2. IC 2-5-36-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.221-2025, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. The commission shall do the following:

(1) Study and evaluate the following:

(A) Access to services for vulnerable youth.

(B) Availability of services for vulnerable youth.

(C) Duplication of services for vulnerable youth.

(D) Funding of services available for vulnerable youth.

(E) Barriers to service for vulnerable youth.

(F) Communication and cooperation by agencies concerning vulnerable youth.

(G) Implementation of programs or laws concerning vulnerable youth.

(H) The consolidation of existing entities that serve vulnerable youth.

(I) Data from state agencies relevant to evaluating progress, targeting efforts, and demonstrating outcomes.

(J) Crimes of sexual violence against children.

(K) The impact of social networking websites, cellular telephones and wireless communications devices, digital media, and new technology on crimes against children.

(2) Review and make recommendations concerning pending legislation.

(3) Promote information sharing concerning vulnerable youth

- 1 across the state.
- 2 (4) Promote best practices, policies, and programs.
- 3 (5) Cooperate with:
 - 4 (A) other child focused commissions;
 - 5 (B) the judicial branch of government;
 - 6 (C) the executive branch of government;
 - 7 (D) stakeholders; and
 - 8 (E) members of the community.
- 9 (6) Create and provide staff support to a statewide juvenile justice
- 10 oversight body to carry out the following duties described in
- 11 section 9.3 of this chapter:
 - 12 (A) Develop a plan to collect and report statewide juvenile
 - 13 justice data.
 - 14 (B) Establish procedures and policies related to the use of:
 - 15 (i) a validated risk screening tool and a validated risk and
 - 16 needs assessment tool;
 - 17 (ii) a detention tool to inform the use of secure detention;
 - 18 (iii) a plan to determine how information from the tools
 - 19 described in this clause is compiled and shared and with
 - 20 whom the information will be shared; and
 - 21 (iv) a plan to provide training to judicial officers on the
 - 22 implementation of the tools described in this clause.
 - 23 (C) Develop criteria for the use of diagnostic assessments as
 - 24 described in IC 31-37-19-11.7.
 - 25 (D) Develop a statewide plan to address the provision of
 - 26 broader behavioral health services to children in the juvenile
 - 27 justice system.
 - 28 (E) Develop a plan for the provision of transitional services for
 - 29 a child who is a ward of the department of correction as
 - 30 described in IC 31-37-19-11.5.
 - 31 (F) Develop a plan for grant programs described in section 9.3
 - 32 of this chapter.
- 33 The initial appointments and designations to the statewide
- 34 juvenile justice oversight body described in this subdivision shall
- 35 be made not later than May 31, 2022. The chief justice of the
- 36 supreme court shall designate the chair of the statewide juvenile
- 37 justice oversight body and shall make the initial appointments and
- 38 designations to the statewide juvenile justice oversight body,
- 39 which may incorporate members of an existing committee or
- 40 subcommittee formed under the commission. The initial meeting

of the oversight body shall be held not later than July 1, 2022.

(7) Create and provide staff support to a statewide youth, family, and caregiver engagement initiative to carry out the following duties:

(A) Provide staff support and funding for commission activities provided by a:

(i) youth member of the commission appointed under section 4 of this chapter; or

(ii) youth, family, or caregiver member of a commission committee, task force, or subcommittee who has been appointed as a community member.

(B) Develop a statewide plan to support, encourage, and expand the engagement of youth, families, and caregivers in state policymaking impacting youth and children.

(C) Provide and support educational:

(i) opportunities;

(ii) convenings; and

(iii) experiences;

that facilitate increased youth, family, and caregiver participation.

(D) Support the efforts of other state agencies and community organizations that seek to support, encourage, and expand the engagement of youth, families, and caregivers in policy decisions impacting youth and children.

(E) Solicit direct feedback from youth, families, and caregivers to inform commission recommendations concerning:

(i) points of complexity and inefficiency in child serving systems;

(ii) duplication of services and potential points of consolidation; and

(iii) improving time to permanency and reducing the trauma of systems involvement.

(8) Submit a report not later than September 1 of each year regarding the commission's work during the previous year. The report shall be submitted to the legislative council, the governor, and the chief justice of Indiana. The report to the legislative council must be in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.

(9) Perform the duties of the commission set forth in IC 31-26-4.

SECTION 3. IC 4-3-21.5-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.74-2020,

SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. The task force consists of the following members:

- (1) The lieutenant governor or the lieutenant governor's designee.
- (2) The secretary of commerce or the secretary of commerce's designee.

(3) One (1) member appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

(4) One (1) member appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate.

~~(5)~~ **(5)** The following members chosen by the military assets in their geographic areas:

- (A) One (1) member representing the Southern Indiana Defense Network.
- (B) One (1) member representing Radius Indiana.
- (C) One (1) member representing greater Fort Wayne, Indiana.
- (D) One (1) member representing the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, Lawrence, Indiana.
- (E) One (1) member representing the Grissom Regional Defense Alliance.
- (F) One (1) member representing the West Central Indiana Defense Network.
- (G) One (1) member representing the Michigan City Coast Guard Station.

SECTION 4. IC 4-3-21.5-9 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. ~~Sec. 9: A member of the task force who is a member of the general assembly is a nonvoting member.~~

SECTION 5. IC 4-3-25-16 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 16. This chapter expires December 31, 2026.**

SECTION 6. IC 4-15-12-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.215-2016, SECTION 88, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) There is created the affirmative action advisory committee to assist in the effective implementation of the affirmative action policy. The committee is composed of eight (8) members. The governor shall appoint the members of the committee with the advice of the affirmative action officer. The members serve at the pleasure of the governor.

(b) A member of the committee is entitled to reimbursement for traveling expenses and other expenses actually incurred in connection

with the member's duties, as provided in the state travel policies and procedures established by the department of administration and approved by the budget agency. A member who is not an officer or employee of the state is entitled to the minimum salary per diem as provided in IC 4-10-11-2.1(b) while performing the member's duties.

(c) The committee shall select from its membership a chairperson and vice chairperson to serve for one (1) year from the date of selection. They may be reelected at the pleasure of the committee. In any instance where the chairperson or vice chairperson does not serve the chairperson's or vice chairperson's full term, the committee shall select another to serve in the chairperson's or vice chairperson's own right a full term.

(d) The affirmative action advisory committee shall:

(1) provide liaison activities with the affirmative action officer with respect to problems and suggestions concerning the affirmative action policy;

(2) advise the affirmative action officer and the governor of recommended changes in the implementation of the affirmative action policy and improved guidelines for state agency programs; and

(3) advise the governor and the affirmative action officer concerning the effectiveness and status of the total implementation of the affirmative action policy.

(e) The affirmative action advisory committee may review the affirmative action programs of state agencies for effectiveness and improvements.

(f) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 7. IC 4-22-2-0.3, AS ADDED BY P.L.220-2011, SECTION 45, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 0.3. **(a)** The adoption of any rule by a state agency without the approval of the fire prevention and building safety commission **established under IC 22-12-2-1 (before its repeal)** before July 1, 1987, is legalized and validated.

(b) The adoption of any rule by the fire prevention and building safety commission before July 1, 2026, is legalized and validated and considered a rule of the department of homeland security after June 30, 2026.

SECTION 8. IC 4-22-2.6-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.213-2025, SECTION 56, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) To readopt a rule, an agency must conduct

1 a review of the rule to consider the continued need for the rule and
 2 whether the rule, if readopted, will meet each of the standards in
 3 IC 4-22-2-19.5 and (if applicable) the requirements for fees, fines, and
 4 civil penalties in IC 4-22-2-19.6.

5 (b) In the review, the agency shall reexamine previous cost benefit,
 6 economic impact, fiscal impact, and regulatory burden statements
 7 prepared by the agency for the rule under IC 4-3-22-13, IC 4-22-2-22.7,
 8 IC 4-22-2-22.8, IC 4-22-2-28, IC 4-22-2.1-5, or an executive order and
 9 revise the statements to reflect any change in circumstances that affect
 10 the analysis. The agency shall identify any alternative methods of
 11 achieving the purpose of the rule that are less costly or less intrusive,
 12 or that would otherwise minimize the economic impact of the proposed
 13 rule on small businesses (as defined in IC 4-22-2.1-4) and other
 14 regulated entities. The agency also shall consider the following:

15 (1) The nature of any complaints or comments received from the
 16 public, including small businesses (as defined in IC 4-22-2.1-4),
 17 concerning the rule or the rule's implementation by the agency.

18 (2) The complexity of the rule, including any difficulties
 19 encountered by:

20 (A) the agency in administering the rule; or

21 (B) small businesses (as defined in IC 4-22-2.1-4) or other
 22 regulated persons in complying with the rule.

23 (3) The degree to which technology, economic conditions, or
 24 other factors have changed in the area affected by the rule since
 25 the last time the rule was reviewed.

26 **(c) In the review, the agency shall compare the requirements**
 27 **within the rule to similar requirements in Illinois, Kentucky,**
 28 **Michigan, Ohio, and any additional states designated by the office**
 29 **of management and budget for comparison.**

30 ~~(c)~~ **(d)** The agency shall prepare written findings concerning the
 31 agency's determinations under this section. **The written findings shall**
 32 **include the following:**

33 **(1) A statement identifying whether the program or subject**
 34 **matter covered by the rule is still carried out by the agency.**

35 **(2) The rationale for the agency's determination under**
 36 **subsection (a) for the continued need for the rule.**

37 **(3) The rationale for the agency's determination under**
 38 **subsection (a) that the rule, if readopted, will meet each of the**
 39 **standards in IC 4-22-2-19.5 and (if applicable) the**
 40 **requirements for fees, fines, and civil penalties in**

1 **IC 4-22-2-19.6.**

2 **(4) Either of the following:**

3 **(A) Any revisions to previously prepared cost benefit,**
 4 **economic impact, fiscal impact, or regulatory burden**
 5 **statements prepared by the agency for the rule under:**

6 **(i) IC 4-3-22-13;**

7 **(ii) IC 4-22-2-22.7;**

8 **(iii) IC 4-22-2-22.8;**

9 **(iv) IC 4-22-2-28; or**

10 **(v) IC 4-22-2.1-5;**

11 **if those previously prepared statements were published by**
 12 **the Indiana Register.**

13 **(B) If the rule did not have a prior cost benefit, economic**
 14 **impact, fiscal impact, or regulatory burden statement**
 15 **prepared by the agency for the rule under:**

16 **(i) IC 4-3-22-13;**

17 **(ii) IC 4-22-2-22.7;**

18 **(iii) IC 4-22-2-22.8;**

19 **(iv) IC 4-22-2-28; or**

20 **(v) IC 4-22-2.1-5;**

21 **published in the Indiana Register, a copy of an updated**
 22 **regulatory burden statement that meets the requirements**
 23 **of IC 4-22-2-22.7.**

24 **(5) Any alternative methods of achieving the purpose of the**
 25 **rule that are less costly or less intrusive, or that would**
 26 **otherwise minimize the economic impact of the proposed rule**
 27 **on small businesses (as defined in IC 4-22-2.1-4) and other**
 28 **regulated entities.**

29 **(6) The nature of any complaints or comments received from**
 30 **the public, including small businesses (as defined in**
 31 **IC 4-22-2.1-4), concerning the rule or the rule's**
 32 **implementation by the agency.**

33 **(7) Any difficulties encountered by:**

34 **(A) the agency in administering the rule; or**

35 **(B) small businesses (as defined in IC 4-22-2.1-4) or other**
 36 **regulated persons in complying with the rule.**

37 **(8) The degree to which technology, economic conditions, or**
 38 **other factors have changed in the area affected by the rule**
 39 **since the last time the rule was adopted, readopted, or**
 40 **amended.**

1 **(9) Whether the federal government or any of the states**
 2 **covered by subsection (c) have less restrictive requirements**
 3 **than the rule, and, if so, the evidence or unique circumstances**
 4 **that justify why the more restrictive requirements in the rule**
 5 **are necessary.**

6 **(10) The last time the substantive content of the rule was**
 7 **amended.**

8 **(11) Whether the substantive content in the rule would be**
 9 **more appropriately integrated into the Indiana Code as**
 10 **opposed to remaining as a separate administrative rule. In**
 11 **making such a determination, the agency shall consider the**
 12 **frequency of updates to the rule since its initial promulgation.**
 13 **If the substantive content of the rule has not been modified in**
 14 **the prior eight (8) years, the agency must present specific**
 15 **facts that justify keeping the substantive content in an**
 16 **administrative rule rather than the Indiana Code.**

17 **(e) The written findings in subsection (d) must be submitted in**
 18 **a form that can be easily loaded into commonly used business**
 19 **analysis software and published in the Indiana Register using the**
 20 **format jointly developed by the publisher, the office of**
 21 **management and budget, and the budget agency. The office of**
 22 **management and budget may provide more stringent requirements**
 23 **for rules with fiscal impacts and costs above a threshold amount**
 24 **determined by the office of management and budget.**

25 SECTION 9. IC 4-22-2.6-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.93-2024,
 26 SECTION 24, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 27 MAY 15, 2026]: Sec. 5. **(a) If an agency elects to readopt a rule**
 28 **under this chapter, the agency shall submit a copy of the written**
 29 **findings under section 4 of this chapter to the office of management**
 30 **and budget and the legislative council not later than the first**
 31 **regular business day in July of the year preceding the year in**
 32 **which the rule expires under this chapter.**

33 ~~(a)~~ **(b)** If an agency elects to readopt a rule under this chapter, the
 34 agency shall submit a notice of proposed readoption to the publisher
 35 not later than the first regular business day in September of the year
 36 preceding the year in which the rule expires under this chapter for
 37 publication in the Indiana Register. A separate notice must be
 38 published for each board or other person or entity with rulemaking
 39 authority.

40 ~~(b)~~ **(c)** The notice must include the following:

- 1 (1) A general description of the subject matter of all rules
- 2 proposed to be readopted.
- 3 (2) A listing of rules that are proposed to be readopted, listed by
- 4 their titles and subtitles only.
- 5 (3) A written public comment period of thirty (30) days and
- 6 instructions on how to submit written comments to the agency.
- 7 (4) A request for comments on whether specific rules should be
- 8 reviewed through the regular rulemaking process under
- 9 IC 4-22-2-23 through IC 4-22-2-36 (as modified by IC 13-14-9,
- 10 when applicable).
- 11 (5) ~~A summary of~~ The agency's **written** findings under section 4
- 12 of this chapter.
- 13 (6) Any other information required by the publisher.
- 14 ~~(c)~~ **(d)** The agency shall submit the material in the form required by
- 15 IC 4-22-2-20. The agency need not resubmit the documents required by
- 16 IC 4-22-2-21 if the publisher received a copy of the documents when
- 17 the rule was previously adopted or amended. The publisher shall
- 18 review the material submitted under this section and determine the date
- 19 that the publisher intends to include the material in the Indiana
- 20 Register. After:
- 21 (1) establishing the intended publication date; and
- 22 (2) receiving the material as required by this section;
- 23 the publisher shall provide an electronic mail authorization to proceed
- 24 to the agency and publish the material on the intended publication date.
- 25 SECTION 10. IC 4-23-6-7 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
- 26 AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
- 27 1, 2026]: **Sec. 7. This chapter expires December 31, 2026.**
- 28 SECTION 11. IC 4-23-6.5-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.56-2023,
- 29 SECTION 30, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 30 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) The board consists of seven (7) members.
- 31 The board must include the following:
- 32 (1) The commissioner of the Indiana department of health or the
- 33 commissioner's designee.
- 34 ~~(2) The chairman of the commission on forensic sciences or the~~
- 35 ~~chairman's designee.~~
- 36 ~~(3)~~ **(2)** The superintendent of the state police department or the
- 37 superintendent's designee.
- 38 ~~(4)~~ **(3)** Four (4) county coroners appointed by the governor, who
- 39 shall consider appointing coroners who are women or members
- 40 of minority groups.

(4) An attorney appointed by the governor.

(b) Not more than two (2) of the county coroner members of the board may be from the same political party.

SECTION 12. IC 4-23-7.1-39.1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.13-2013, SECTION 8, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 39.1. (a) The state library advisory council is established for the purpose of advising the board and the state librarian concerning:

- (1) general policies of the state library;
- (2) plans or programs for library development and interlibrary cooperation;
- (3) library research;
- (4) professional development for librarians;
- (5) standards and rules for library services;
- (6) administration and distribution of state and federal funds; and
- (7) other matters as requested by the board and the state librarian.

(b) The advisory council consists of not more than fifteen (15) members.

(c) The board shall appoint the members of the advisory council, with nominations for appointment from library organizations and the state librarian.

(d) Members of the advisory council shall serve two (2) year terms. However, the board shall stagger the terms of the initial appointees.

(e) Notwithstanding subsection (d), if a member misses a majority of the advisory council's meetings in a calendar year, the board may remove the member and appoint a new member to serve the remainder of the term of the member removed under this subsection.

(f) A member of the advisory council is not entitled to compensation, per diem, or reimbursement for expenses.

(g) A quorum of the members must be present for the advisory council to take any official action. A quorum of the advisory council consists of a majority of the members appointed to the advisory council. An affirmative vote by a majority of the members present is needed for the advisory council to make a recommendation or take any official action.

(h) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 13. IC 4-23-7.2-21 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. ~~Sec. 21. (a) An advisory committee is established to advise the historical bureau in establishing an oral history of the general assembly under section 20 of this chapter. The committee consists of~~

- 1 the following eight (8) members:
- 2 (1) One (1) member of the general assembly appointed by the
- 3 speaker of the house of representatives.
- 4 (2) One (1) member of the general assembly appointed by the
- 5 minority leader of the house of representatives.
- 6 (3) One (1) member of the general assembly appointed by the
- 7 president pro tempore of the senate.
- 8 (4) One (1) member of the general assembly appointed by the
- 9 minority leader of the senate.
- 10 (5) Four (4) members appointed by the governor as follows:
- 11 (A) One (1) member nominated by the Indiana library and
- 12 historical board.
- 13 (B) One (1) member nominated by the Indiana Historical
- 14 Society.
- 15 (C) One (1) member nominated by the Center for the Study of
- 16 History and Memory at Indiana University.
- 17 (D) One (1) member nominated by the board of trustees of The
- 18 History Museum in South Bend.
- 19 (b) The following apply to the governor's appointments under
- 20 subsection (a)(5):
- 21 (1) Not more than two (2) members appointed by the governor
- 22 may be members of the same political party.
- 23 (2) The appointments must be made so that the northern, central,
- 24 and southern regions of Indiana are represented on the committee.
- 25 (c) Members of the committee serve at the pleasure of the
- 26 appointing authority. If a vacancy occurs on the committee, the
- 27 appointing authority that appointed the member whose position is
- 28 vacant shall appoint an individual to fill the vacancy. An individual
- 29 appointed to fill a vacancy must have the qualifications that a member
- 30 appointed by the appointing authority must have.
- 31 (d) The:
- 32 (1) chairman of the legislative council, with the advice of the
- 33 vice-chairman, shall designate the chair; and
- 34 (2) vice-chairman of the legislative council, with the advice of the
- 35 chairman, shall designate a vice-chair;
- 36 of the committee from among the legislative members of the
- 37 committee. The chair and vice-chair of the committee serve at the
- 38 pleasure of the appointing authority.
- 39 (e) Each member of the committee is entitled to receive the same
- 40 per diem, mileage, and travel allowances paid to individuals who serve

as legislative and lay members, respectively, of interim study committees established by the legislative council.

(f) The historical bureau shall provide staff support to the committee.

(g) Expenses incurred by the committee to carry out its functions must be paid from appropriations to the Indiana library and historical board.

(h) On or before July 1, 2027, and July 1 biennially thereafter, the committee shall submit a report to the executive director of the legislative services agency, in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6, for review by the interim committee on government in accordance with IC 1-1-15.5-4 and IC 2-5-1.3-13(g). The report shall describe:

(1) official action taken; and

(2) actionable items considered;

by the committee during the preceding two (2) years.

SECTION 14. IC 4-23-12 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. (Indiana Commission for Arts and Humanities in Education).

SECTION 15. IC 4-23-24.1-0.1 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 0.1: The amendments made to section 3 of this chapter by P.L.199-2007 apply only to members of the commission appointed by the governor after December 31, 2008. A member of the commission appointed by the governor under section 3 of this chapter before January 1, 2009, may serve the entire four (4) year term to which the member was appointed, as provided in section 4(b) of this chapter.

SECTION 16. IC 4-23-24.1-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.42-2024, SECTION 42, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) The commission consists of thirteen (13) members, appointed as follows:

(1) Nine (9) members who are Indiana residents appointed by the governor. Each Indiana congressional district must be represented by at least one (1) individual appointed under this subdivision who is a resident of that congressional district. Not more than five (5) members appointed under this subdivision may be members of the same political party.

(2) (1) The commissioner of the department of administration or the commissioner's designee.

(2) The director of the Indiana housing and community development authority or the director's designee.

(3) The chief executive officer of the state museum or the chief

executive officer's designee.

(4) The state librarian or the state librarian's designee.

(5) The director of the civil rights commission or the director's designee.

(6) Four (4) members appointed by the governor in accordance with subsection (c).

(7) Four (4) members of the general assembly who are appointed under section 5 of this chapter.

(b) Members of the commission serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority.

(c) The following apply to members appointed under subsection (a)(6):

(1) Not more than two (2) of the members may be members of the same political party.

(2) At least three (3) of the members must reside in different Indiana congressional districts.

SECTION 17. IC 4-23-24.1-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.1-2025, SECTION 25, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) The governor shall annually designate one (1) of the members appointed under section ~~3(a)(1)~~ **3(a)(6)** of this chapter as chairperson of the commission.

(b) **Except as provided in subsection (c),** members of the commission appointed ~~under section 3(a)(1) of this chapter by the governor~~ serve a four (4) year term. **For a member appointed after June 30, 2026, each term expires as follows:**

~~(1) For a member appointed from an odd-numbered congressional district, December 31, 2025, and each fourth year thereafter.~~

~~(2) For a member appointed from an even-numbered congressional district, December 31, 2027, and each fourth year thereafter.~~ **December 31, 2030, and each fourth year thereafter.**

(c) This subsection applies to a member appointed by the governor under section 3 of this chapter before July 1, 2026. The term of each member expires July 1, 2026.

~~(e)(d)~~ **(d)** A member appointed **by the governor** under section ~~3(a)(1)~~ **3(a)(6)** of this chapter may be reappointed for successive terms.

~~(d)~~ **(e)** The governor shall fill a vacancy among the members appointed under section ~~3(a)(1)~~ **3(a)(6)** of this chapter. A member appointed under this subsection serves until the end of the unexpired term of the vacating member of the commission.

SECTION 18. IC 4-23-24.1-5.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.42-2024,
SECTION 45, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5.5. **(a)** The commission:

(1) shall meet at the call of the chairperson as necessary to fulfill
its duties under this chapter; **and**

(2) must meet at least two (2) times each calendar year.

(b) The chairperson may:

**(1) designate subcommittees as necessary to meet between
commission meetings; and**

**(2) require a subcommittee to report on its activities to the full
commission.**

SECTION 19. IC 4-23-24.1-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.199-2007,
SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. Seven (7) members of the commission
constitute a quorum. **The affirmative votes of at least seven (7)
members of the commission are required for the commission to
take official action.**

SECTION 20. IC 4-23-24.1-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.42-2024,
SECTION 46, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) Each member of the commission who is not
a state employee is entitled to the minimum salary per diem provided
by IC 4-10-11-2.1(b). The member is also entitled to reimbursement for
mileage, traveling expenses as provided under IC 4-13-1-4, and other
expenses actually incurred in connection with the member's duties as
provided in the state policies and procedures established by the Indiana
department of administration and approved by the budget agency.
~~Expenses incurred under this subsection and subsection (b) shall be
paid out of the funds appropriated to the civil rights commission.~~

(b) Each member of the commission who is a state employee is
entitled to reimbursement for traveling expenses as provided under
IC 4-13-1-4 and other expenses actually incurred in connection with
the member's duties as provided in the state policies and procedures
established by the Indiana department of administration and approved
by the budget agency.

(c) Each member of the commission who is a member of the general
assembly is entitled to receive the same per diem, mileage, and travel
allowances paid to members of the general assembly serving on interim
study committees established by the legislative council. Per diem,
mileage, and travel allowances paid under this subsection shall be paid
from appropriations made to the legislative council or the legislative

1 services agency.

2 **(d) Expenses incurred under subsections (a) and (b) shall be**
 3 **paid out of the funds appropriated to the civil rights commission.**

4 SECTION 21. IC 4-23-24.1-8 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 5 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. The civil rights
 6 commission shall furnish the necessary staff **and administrative**
 7 support for the commission.

8 SECTION 22. IC 4-23-24.1-11 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
 9 CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 10 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 11. Funding for the commission**
 11 **is derived from money appropriated to the civil rights commission.**
 12 **Money appropriated to the civil rights commission for the purposes**
 13 **of this chapter does not revert to the state general fund at the end**
 14 **of a state fiscal year, but remains available to the civil rights**
 15 **commission until the purpose for which the money was**
 16 **appropriated is fulfilled.**

17 SECTION 23. IC 4-23-24.1-12 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
 18 CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 19 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 12. (a) The Dr. Martin Luther**
 20 **King, Jr. holiday commission special fund is established to provide**
 21 **money for special projects of the commission.**

22 **(b) The treasurer of state shall administer the fund.**

23 **(c) Expenses of administering the fund must be paid from**
 24 **money in the fund.**

25 **(d) The fund consists of gifts, contributions, and money donated**
 26 **to the commission.**

27 **(e) The treasurer of state shall invest money in the fund not**
 28 **needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same manner as**
 29 **other public funds may be invested. Interest on investments made**
 30 **under this subsection accrues to the fund.**

31 **(f) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not**
 32 **revert to the state general fund.**

33 **(g) Money in the fund is continuously appropriated for the**
 34 **purposes described in subsection (a).**

35 SECTION 24. IC 4-23-25 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
 36 2026]. (Indiana Commission for Women).

37 SECTION 25. IC 4-23-26-10 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
 38 CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 39 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 10. This chapter expires**
 40 **December 31, 2026.**

SECTION 26. IC 4-23-27-9 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 9. This chapter expires December 31, 2026.**

SECTION 27. IC 4-23-28 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. (Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs).

SECTION 28. IC 4-23-31 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. (Commission on the Social Status of Black Males).

SECTION 29. IC 4-23-32 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. (Native American Indian Affairs Commission).

SECTION 30. IC 4-23-35 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]:

Chapter 35. Indiana State Historical Records Advisory Board

Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "board" refers to the Indiana state historical records advisory board established by section 3 of this chapter.

Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "NHPRC" means the federal National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

Sec. 3. The Indiana state historical records advisory board:

(1) initially established under Executive Order 06-01; and

(2) continued under Executive Order 13-13 and 17-06;

is established under the Indiana department of administration. The board is a continuing board. The purpose of the board is to carry out the duties under section 8 of this chapter.

Sec. 4. (a) The board consists of seven (7) voting members.

(b) At least four (4) members of the board must have recognized experience in the administration of government records, historical records, or archives.

(c) One (1) of the seven (7) members under subsection (a) must be the state archivist. The remaining six (6) members shall be appointed by the state archivist and are lay members who:

(1) may be reappointed; and

(2) serve at the will of the state archivist.

There is no term limit for members of the board.

(d) The state archivist shall serve as state coordinator and chair of the board.

Sec. 5. (a) The term of a member appointed under section 4(a) of this chapter is three (3) years.

(b) The state archivist shall appoint a new member to fill a vacancy on the board that occurs for any reason. A member

1 appointed under this subsection serves the remainder of the
2 unexpired term of the vacating member.

3 Sec. 6. (a) This section applies to a member of the board
4 appointed under Executive Order 06-01, 13-13, or 17-06.

5 (b) An individual who serves as a member of the board on June
6 30, 2026, is appointed by operation of law to serve the remainder
7 of the member's unexpired term. A subsequent vacancy shall be
8 filled by the state archivist under section 4(c) of this chapter.

9 (c) This section expires July 1, 2030.

10 Sec. 7. (a) The board shall meet at least quarterly at the call of
11 the chair.

12 (b) The chair may call additional meetings. There is no
13 maximum number of meetings that may be called by the chair.

14 (c) A quorum consists of a simple majority of voting members.

15 Sec. 8. (a) The board shall serve as the central advisory body
16 for:

17 (1) historical records planning; and

18 (2) projects:

19 (A) funded by the NHPRC; and

20 (B) developed and carried out within Indiana.

21 (b) The board may do the following:

22 (1) Develop and submit to the NHPRC state priorities for
23 historical records programs as part of a state plan.

24 (2) Solicit or develop proposals for NHPRC grant projects.

25 (3) Review proposals by institutions in Indiana and make
26 recommendations about the proposals to the NHPRC.

27 (4) Work to preserve Indiana's documentary heritage.

28 (5) Promote practices that ensure preservation of, and access
29 to, the state's public and private records.

30 (6) Encourage adherence to archival and records management
31 principles through meetings and workshops.

32 (7) Survey repositories, support the state's records
33 management program, and promote the sharing of collection
34 information.

35 (8) Encourage the professional development of archivists,
36 curators, volunteers, and others dedicated to the task of
37 caring for Indiana's documentary heritage.

38 Sec. 9. (a) Each member of the board who is not a state
39 employee is not entitled to the minimum salary per diem provided
40 by IC 4-10-11-2.1(b). A member is, however, entitled to

1 reimbursement for expenses actually incurred in connection with
 2 the member's duties as provided in the state policies and
 3 procedures established by the Indiana department of
 4 administration and approved by the budget agency.

5 (b) The expenses of the board shall be paid in the same manner
 6 in which the board's expenses were paid under Executive Orders
 7 06-01, 13-13, and 17-06.

8 (c) The Indiana department of administration shall staff the
 9 board.

10 Sec. 10. The affirmative votes of a majority of the members
 11 appointed to the board are required for the board to take action on
 12 any measure, including final reports.

13 Sec. 11. (a) The board shall annually submit a report on its work
 14 to the governor.

15 (b) A report under subsection (a) is a public record.

16 SECTION 31. IC 4-23-36 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
 17 AS A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 18 JULY 1, 2026]:

19 **Chapter 36. Indiana Cultural Commission**

20 Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "commission" refers to the
 21 Indiana cultural commission established by section 3 of this
 22 chapter.

23 Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "Native American Indian" means
 24 an individual who is at least one (1) of the following:

25 (1) An Alaska native as defined in 43 U.S.C. 1602(b).

26 (2) An Indian as defined in 25 U.S.C. 450b(d).

27 (3) A native Hawaiian as defined in 20 U.S.C. 7517(1).

28 Sec. 3. The Indiana cultural commission is established.

29 Sec. 4. (a) The commission consists of fifteen (15) members
 30 appointed as follows:

31 (1) Two (2) members of the house of representatives
 32 appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives. The
 33 members appointed under this subdivision must be from
 34 different political parties.

35 (2) Two (2) members of the senate appointed by the president
 36 pro tempore of the senate. The members appointed under this
 37 subdivision must be from different political parties.

38 (3) One (1) individual who is not a member of the general
 39 assembly appointed by the speaker of the house of
 40 representatives.

(4) One (1) individual who is not a member of the general assembly appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate.

(5) The secretary of the family and social services administration, or the secretary's designee.

(6) The commissioner of the Indiana department of health, or the commissioner's designee.

(7) The secretary of education, or the secretary's designee.

(8) The commissioner of the department of correction, or the commissioner's designee.

(9) The director of the civil rights commission, or the director's designee.

(10) Four (4) individuals appointed by the governor in accordance with subsection (b).

(b) The following apply to members of the commission appointed by the governor under subsection (a)(10):

(1) The appointed individuals may not be members of the general assembly or state employees.

(2) The appointed individuals must represent the following:

(A) African Americans.

(B) The Hispanic/Latino community.

(C) Women.

(D) Native American Indians.

(c) If a legislative member of the commission ceases to be a member of the legislative chamber from which the member was appointed, the member ceases to be a member of the commission.

(d) A member of the commission:

(1) serves at the pleasure of the member's appointing authority; and

(2) may be removed at any time by the appointing authority.

(e) If a vacancy on the commission occurs, the appointing authority who appointed the former member whose position has become vacant shall appoint an individual to fill the vacancy. An individual appointed to fill a vacancy serves on the commission for the remainder of the unexpired term of the individual's predecessor.

Sec. 5. (a) A member of the commission may be reappointed for successive terms.

(b) The following members serve a two (2) year term that expires June 30 of an odd-numbered year:

(1) A member of the general assembly appointed to the commission under section 4 of this chapter.

(2) A member appointed to the commission under section 4(a)(3) or 4(a)(4) of this chapter.

(c) A member appointed to the commission under section 4(a)(10) of this chapter serves a term that expires December 31, 2028, and each fourth year thereafter.

Sec. 6. (a) The commission shall meet:

(1) at the call of the chairperson as necessary to fulfill its duties under this chapter; and

(2) at least once quarterly in each calendar year.

(b) The chairperson shall designate the following subcommittees to meet at least two (2) times each year:

(1) African American affairs.

(2) Hispanic/Latino affairs.

(3) Women and families.

(4) Native American Indian affairs.

Each subcommittee shall submit an annual report on its activities to the full commission.

(c) The chairperson may:

(1) designate other subcommittees to meet between commission meetings; and

(2) require a subcommittee to report on its activities to the full commission.

(d) A subcommittee designated under this section is comprised of the following:

(1) At least three (3) members of the commission appointed by the chairperson.

(2) Not more than three (3) members of the public appointed by the chairperson.

A member of public appointed to a subcommittee must be selected based on the individual's background and experience related to the subcommittee's designated purpose.

(e) A member of the public who serves on a subcommittee is not entitled to a per diem or a mileage allowance under section 9 of this chapter.

Sec. 7. (a) At the first official meeting of the commission each year, the members shall elect:

(1) a member to serve as the chairperson of the commission; and

1 (2) a member to serve as the vice chairperson of the
2 commission.

3 (b) A member elected to serve as chairperson or vice
4 chairperson of the commission shall serve for a term of one (1)
5 year. The term of office expires at the first commission meeting
6 held in the following year.

7 (c) A vacancy in the office of chairperson or vice chairperson
8 must be filled by a member of the commission selected by vote of
9 the remaining members of the commission.

10 Sec. 8. Eight (8) members of the commission constitute a
11 quorum for conducting commission business. The affirmative vote
12 of at least eight (8) members is required for the commission to take
13 official action on any measure. A member of the commission may
14 participate in a meeting by electronic means in accordance with
15 IC 5-14-1.5-3.6 as long as at least five (5) members of the
16 commission are physically present at the meeting.

17 Sec. 9. (a) Each member of the commission who is not a state
18 employee is entitled to the minimum salary per diem provided by
19 IC 4-10-11-2.1(b). The member is also entitled to reimbursement
20 for mileage and traveling expenses as provided under IC 4-13-1-4,
21 and other expenses actually incurred in connection with the
22 member's duties as provided in the state policies and procedures
23 established by the Indiana department of administration and
24 approved by the budget agency.

25 (b) Each member of the commission who is a state employee is
26 entitled to reimbursement for traveling expenses as provided under
27 IC 4-13-1-4 and other expenses actually incurred in connection
28 with the member's duties as provided in the state policies and
29 procedures established by the Indiana department of
30 administration and approved by the budget agency.

31 (c) Each member of the commission who is a member of the
32 general assembly is entitled to receive the same per diem, mileage,
33 and travel allowances paid to members of the general assembly
34 serving on interim study committees established by the legislative
35 council. Per diem, mileage, and travel allowances paid under this
36 subsection shall be paid from appropriations made to the
37 legislative council or the legislative services agency.

38 (d) Expenses paid under subsections (a) and (b) shall be paid
39 from appropriations made to the civil rights commission.

40 Sec. 10. The commission shall do the following:

1 **(1) Identify, study, and research issues affecting**
2 **underrepresented and minority groups, including the groups**
3 **described in section 6(b) of this chapter, in the following**
4 **areas:**

5 **(A) Health care.**

6 **(B) Economic and business development.**

7 **(C) Employment.**

8 **(D) Education.**

9 **(E) Social and family development.**

10 **(F) Housing.**

11 **(G) Civil rights.**

12 **(H) The justice system.**

13 **(I) Any other aspect of society identified by the**
14 **commission.**

15 **(2) Promote cooperation and understanding between**
16 **communities throughout Indiana.**

17 **(3) Assess the needs of underrepresented and minority groups**
18 **and identify recommendations to resolve those needs.**

19 **(4) Promote full participation of underrepresented and**
20 **minority groups in all aspects of society.**

21 **(5) Identify legal and social barriers to underrepresented and**
22 **minority groups.**

23 **(6) Identify measures that could facilitate easier access to**
24 **state and local government services by underrepresented and**
25 **minority groups.**

26 **(7) Make recommendations to appropriate governmental**
27 **agencies regarding issues of preservation and excavation of**
28 **Native American Indian historical and archeological sites,**
29 **including the reburial of remains of Native American Indians,**
30 **that are consistent with IC 14-21-1-25.5.**

31 **(8) Monitor legislation, policies, and other legal developments**
32 **in order to make recommendations to the general assembly**
33 **and the governor that support the commission's purposes.**

34 **(9) Gather, study, and disseminate information on**
35 **underrepresented and minority groups through publications,**
36 **public hearings, conferences, and other means.**

37 **(10) Before November 1 of each year, submit an annual report**
38 **on the commission's activities to:**

39 **(A) the governor; and**

40 **(B) the legislative council in an electronic format under**

1 **IC 5-14-6.**

2 **Sec. 11. The commission may study topics that are not described**
 3 **in section 10 of this chapter as assigned by:**

- 4 (1) statute;
- 5 (2) the governor;
- 6 (3) the legislative council; or
- 7 (4) the chairperson of the commission.

8 **Sec. 12. The commission may do the following:**

- 9 (1) Designate and appoint members to subcommittees in
 10 accordance with section 6 of this chapter.
- 11 (2) Transact business and enter into contracts that support
 12 the commission's purposes.
- 13 (3) Apply for, receive, and disburse gifts, contributions, and
 14 grants of funds or in-kind services.
- 15 (4) Adopt, rescind, and amend bylaws to regulate the conduct
 16 of the commission's business.
- 17 (5) Assign duties to the commission's officers under the
 18 commission's bylaws.

19 **Sec. 13. The commission may not study or make any**
 20 **recommendation on the following issues:**

- 21 (1) Negotiations between a Native American Indian tribe and
 22 the state or federal government concerning tribal sovereignty.
- 23 (2) Gaming on tribal land.

24 **Sec. 14. (a) The civil rights commission shall provide staff and**
 25 **administrative support for the commission.**

26 **(b) Except as provided in section 9(c) of this chapter, expenses**
 27 **incurred under this chapter shall be paid from funds appropriated**
 28 **to the civil rights commission.**

29 **(c) Money appropriated to the civil rights commission for the**
 30 **purposes of this chapter does not revert to the state general fund**
 31 **at the end of a state fiscal year, but remains available to the civil**
 32 **rights commission until the purpose for which the money was**
 33 **appropriated is fulfilled.**

34 **Sec. 15. (a) The Indiana cultural commission special fund is**
 35 **established to provide money for special projects of the**
 36 **commission.**

37 **(b) The treasurer of state shall administer the fund.**

38 **(c) Expenses of administering the fund must be paid from**
 39 **money in the fund.**

40 **(d) The fund consists of gifts, contributions, and money donated**

1 to the commission.

2 (e) The treasurer of state shall invest money in the fund not
3 needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same manner as
4 other public funds may be invested. Interest on investments made
5 under this subsection accrues to the fund.

6 (f) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not
7 revert to the state general fund.

8 (g) Money in the fund is continuously appropriated for the
9 purposes described in subsection (a).

10 SECTION 32. IC 5-1.5-2-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.259-2019,
11 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
12 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) There is established a board of directors to
13 govern the bank. The powers of the bank are vested in this board.

14 (b) The board is composed of:

15 (1) the treasurer of state, who shall be the chairman ex officio, or
16 the treasurer of state's designee;

17 (2) the public finance director appointed under IC 5-1.2-3-6, who
18 shall be the director ex officio, or the public finance director's
19 designee; and

20 (3) ~~five (5) directors~~ **one (1) director** appointed by the governor;

21 **(4) two (2) directors appointed by the president pro tempore**
22 **of the senate; and**

23 **(5) two (2) directors appointed by the speaker of the house of**
24 **representatives.**

25 (c) Each of the five (5) directors appointed ~~by the governor; under~~
26 **subsection (b)(3) through (b)(5):**

27 (1) must be a resident of Indiana;

28 (2) must have substantial expertise in the buying, selling, and
29 trading of municipal securities, in municipal administration or in
30 public facilities management;

31 (3) serves for a term of three (3) years and until the director's
32 successor is appointed and qualified;

33 (4) is eligible for reappointment;

34 (5) is entitled to receive the same minimum salary per diem as is
35 provided in IC 4-10-11-2.1(b) while performing the director's
36 duties. Such a director is also entitled to the same reimbursement
37 for traveling expenses and other expenses, actually incurred in
38 connection with the director's duties as is provided in the state
39 travel policies and procedures, established by the department of
40 administration and approved by the budget agency; and

(6) may be removed ~~by the governor~~ for cause **by the appropriate appointing authority.**

(d) Any vacancy on the board, other than by expiration of term, shall be filled by ~~appointment of the governor~~ **the appropriate appointing authority** for the unexpired term only.

SECTION 33. IC 5-2-2 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. (Law Enforcement Academy Building Commission).

SECTION 34. IC 5-13-9-12, AS ADDED BY P.L.213-2025, SECTION 63, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 12. (a) As used in this section, "board" refers to the Indiana local government investment pool board established by subsection (c).

(b) As used in this section, "investment pool" refers to the local government investment pool established by section 11(b) of this chapter.

(c) The Indiana local government investment pool board is established as a continuing board under the executive branch of state government. The purpose of the board is to establish policies for the investment of funds contributed to the investment pool.

(d) The board consists of the following seven (7) members:

(1) The treasurer of state, **or the treasurer of state's designee.**

(2) The director of the Indiana department of financial institutions.

(3) Two (2) members with practical experience with financial institutions, local government or public finance, or financial investments domiciled in Indiana, appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate.

(4) Two (2) members with practical experience with financial institutions, local government or public finance, or financial investments domiciled in Indiana, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

(5) One (1) member with practical experience with financial institutions, local government or public finance, or financial investments domiciled in Indiana, appointed by the governor.

(e) A member appointed under subsection (d)(3), (d)(4), or (d)(5) serves a term of four (4) years and may be reappointed by the appointing authority.

(f) A member appointed under subsection (d)(1) or (d)(2) who ceases to hold the office or qualification described in that subsection ceases to be a member of the board.

1 (g) ~~The governor shall designate one (1) of the members as~~
 2 ~~chairperson.~~ **The treasurer of state, or the treasurer of state's**
 3 **designee, shall serve as the chairperson of the board.** The
 4 chairperson has one (1) vote on all matters voted on by the members.

5 (h) A member of the board who is appointed under subsection
 6 (d)(3), (d)(4), or (d)(5) serves a term that ends June 30 of the
 7 odd-numbered year four (4) years after appointment.

8 (i) The board shall meet at least four (4) times a year and at the call
 9 of the chairperson.

10 (j) Five (5) members of the board constitute a quorum. The
 11 affirmative votes of four (4) members are required to take any action.

12 (k) Each member of the board who is not a state employee is entitled
 13 to the minimum salary per diem provided by IC 4-10-11-2.1(b) for each
 14 day that the member is engaged in the official business of the board.
 15 The member is also entitled to reimbursement for mileage, traveling
 16 expenses, and other expenses actually incurred in connection with the
 17 member's duties, as provided in the state travel policies and procedures
 18 established by the Indiana department of administration and approved
 19 by the budget agency.

20 (l) The expenses of the board shall be paid from the investment
 21 pool.

22 (m) The board shall establish policies regarding how the treasurer
 23 of state shall administer and invest the funds in the investment pool.
 24 The policies must provide the following:

25 (1) There is not a minimum time for which funds paid into the
 26 investment pool must be retained by the investment pool.

27 (2) There is not a limit on the number of accounts that the state or
 28 a unit of government participating in the investment pool may
 29 establish within the investment pool.

30 (3) The investment pool shall be audited at least annually by an
 31 independent auditing firm, with an electronic or paper copy of the
 32 audit provided to the state and each unit of government
 33 participating in the pool.

34 (4) Not less than fifty percent (50%) of funds available for
 35 investment shall be deposited in banks qualified to hold deposits
 36 of participating local government entities.

37 (n) The board may select and direct the treasurer of state to contract
 38 with accountants, attorneys, regulated investment advisors, money
 39 managers, and other finance and investment professionals to make
 40 investments and provide for the public accounting and legal

1 compliance necessary to ensure and maintain the safety, liquidity, and
2 yield of the investment pool.

3 SECTION 35. IC 5-16-3-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021,
4 SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
5 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. The department of homeland security shall
6 provide a safe depository for all blueprints and specifications filed as
7 provided in section 1 of this chapter and retain them for inspection and
8 loan under the conditions and restrictions as the ~~fire prevention and~~
9 ~~building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** shall
10 determine by rule. The ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~
11 **department of homeland security** may designate the librarian of the
12 state of Indiana as the custodian of any blueprints and specifications
13 filed with it, at any time, and it shall be the duty of the state librarian
14 to safely preserve the same in the state archives as public documents.

15 SECTION 36. IC 5-16-13-16, AS ADDED BY P.L.70-2023,
16 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
17 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 16. (a) As used in this section, "adequate welding
18 standards" means specifications, guidelines, tests, and other methods
19 used to ensure that all structural steel welds meet, at minimum, the
20 codes and standards for such welds established in the welding code and
21 under rules adopted by the ~~fire prevention and building safety~~
22 ~~commission under IC 22-13-2-2.~~ **department of homeland security.**

23 (b) As used in this section, "certified welding inspector" means a
24 person who has been certified by the American Welding Society to
25 inspect structural steel welding projects and conduct welder
26 qualification tests.

27 (c) As used in this section, "structural steel welding" means
28 structural welds, weld repair, the structural system, and the welding of
29 all primary steel members of a structure in accordance with the welding
30 code. The term does not include welding that is required by the
31 American Society of Mechanical Engineers to have its own
32 certification.

33 (d) As used in this section, "welding code" refers to the American
34 Welding Society structural steel welding code D1.1, as in effect on July
35 1, 2023.

36 (e) A contractor whose workers are welding the structural steel on
37 a public works project shall ensure that all of the following occur:

38 (1) The workers performing the structural steel welding have been
39 tested by, and hold a valid certification from, a facility that, or an
40 individual who, has been accredited by the American Welding

1 Society to test and certify welders and welding inspectors.

2 (2) All structural steel welds performed for the project meet
3 adequate welding standards and are listed in the project's job
4 specifications.

5 (3) All structural steel welding inspections listed in the project's
6 job specifications are completed by a certified welding inspector.

7 SECTION 37. IC 5-28-15-13, AS AMENDED BY P.L.146-2018,
8 SECTION 14, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
9 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 13. (a) There is established in each enterprise
10 zone an urban enterprise association (U.E.A.). The ~~twelve (12)~~ **ten (10)**
11 members of the U.E.A. shall be chosen as follows:

12 ~~(1) The governor shall appoint the following:~~

13 ~~(A) One (1) state legislator whose district includes all or part~~
14 ~~of the enterprise zone.~~

15 ~~(B) One (1) representative of the corporation, who is not a~~
16 ~~voting member of the U.E.A.~~

17 ~~(2) (1)~~ The executive of the municipality in which the zone is
18 located shall appoint the following:

19 (A) One (1) representative of the plan commission having
20 jurisdiction over the zone, if any exists.

21 (B) One (1) representative of the municipality's department
22 that performs planning or economic development functions.

23 (C) Two (2) representatives of businesses located in the zone,
24 one (1) of whom shall be from a manufacturing concern, if any
25 exists in the zone.

26 (D) One (1) resident of the zone.

27 (E) One (1) representative of organized labor from the
28 building trades that represent construction workers.

29 ~~(3) (2)~~ The legislative body of the municipality in which the zone
30 is located shall appoint, by majority vote, the following:

31 (A) One (1) member of the municipality's legislative body
32 whose district includes all or part of the zone.

33 (B) One (1) representative of a business located in the zone.

34 (C) Two (2) residents of the zone, who must not be members
35 of the same political party.

36 (b) Members of the U.E.A. serve four (4) year terms. The appointing
37 authority shall fill any vacancy for the balance of the vacated term.

38 (c) Members may be dismissed only by the appointing authority and
39 only for just cause.

40 (d) The members shall elect a chairperson, a vice chairperson, and

a secretary by majority vote. This election shall be held every two (2) years in the same month as the first meeting or whenever a vacancy occurs. The U.E.A. shall meet at least once every three (3) months. The secretary shall notify members of meetings at least two (2) weeks in advance of meetings. The secretary shall provide a list of members to each member and shall notify members of any changes in membership.

SECTION 38. IC 6-9-7-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.236-2023, SECTION 93, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) The county treasurer shall establish an innkeeper's tax fund. The treasurer shall deposit in that fund all money received under section 6 of this chapter that is attributable to an innkeeper's tax rate that is not more than five percent (5%).

(b) Money in the innkeeper's tax fund shall be distributed as follows:

(1) Forty percent (40%) shall be distributed to the commission to carry out its purposes, including making any distributions or payments to the Lafayette - West Lafayette Convention and Visitors Bureau, Inc.

(2) Ten percent (10%) shall be distributed to a community development corporation that serves a metropolitan area in the county that includes:

(A) Lafayette; and

(B) West Lafayette;

for the community development corporation's use in tourism, recreation, and economic development activities.

(3) Ten percent (10%) shall be distributed to Historic Prophetstown to be used by Historic Prophetstown for carrying out its purposes.

(4) Ten percent (10%) shall be distributed to the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation to assist the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation in carrying out its purposes.

(5) The following amounts shall be distributed to the department of natural resources for the development of projects in the state park on the Wabash River, including its tributaries:

(A) For distributions in calendar year 2023, ten percent (10%).

(B) For distributions in calendar year 2024, nine percent (9%).

(C) For distributions in calendar year 2025, eight percent (8%).

(D) For distributions in calendar year 2026, seven percent (7%).

- 1 (E) For distributions in calendar year 2027, six percent (6%).
- 2 (F) For distributions in calendar year 2028, five percent (5%).
- 3 (G) For distributions in calendar year 2029, four percent (4%).
- 4 (H) For distributions in calendar year 2030, three percent
- 5 (3%).
- 6 (I) For distributions in calendar year 2031, two percent (2%).
- 7 (J) For distributions in calendar year 2032, one percent (1%).
- 8 (K) For distributions after calendar year 2032, zero percent
- 9 (0%).

10 The department of natural resources is not required to provide
 11 additional state resources to the state park described in this
 12 subdivision as a result of the reduction of revenue set forth in this
 13 subdivision.

14 (6) The following amounts shall be distributed to the county fiscal
 15 body for the purposes set forth in subsection (c):

- 16 (A) For distributions in calendar year 2023, zero percent (0%).
- 17 (B) For distributions in calendar year 2024, one percent (1%).
- 18 (C) For distributions in calendar year 2025, two percent (2%).
- 19 (D) For distributions in calendar year 2026, three percent
- 20 (3%).
- 21 (E) For distributions in calendar year 2027, four percent (4%).
- 22 (F) For distributions in calendar year 2028, five percent (5%).
- 23 (G) For distributions in calendar year 2029, six percent (6%).
- 24 (H) For distributions in calendar year 2030, seven percent
- 25 (7%).
- 26 (I) For distributions in calendar year 2031, eight percent (8%).
- 27 (J) For distributions in calendar year 2032, nine percent (9%).
- 28 (K) For distributions after calendar year 2032, ten percent
- 29 (10%).

30 (7) Twenty percent (20%) shall be distributed as determined by
 31 the county fiscal body.

32 (c) Amounts distributed to the county fiscal body under subsection
 33 (b)(6) may only be used for tourism or quality of life purposes,
 34 including:

- 35 (1) mixed use development projects;
- 36 (2) quality public spaces;
- 37 (3) multiple transportation options;
- 38 (4) multiple housing options;
- 39 (5) revitalization of historic, blighted, or vacant properties;
- 40 (6) arts, culture, and creativity; and

- 1 (7) recreation and green spaces.
- 2 (d) An advisory commission consisting of the following members
- 3 is established:
- 4 (1) The director of the department of natural resources or the
- 5 director's designee.
- 6 (2) The public finance director or the public finance director's
- 7 designee.
- 8 (3) A member appointed by the ~~Native American Indian affairs~~
- 9 **Indiana cultural** commission.
- 10 (4) A member appointed by Historic Prophetstown.
- 11 (5) A member appointed by the community development
- 12 corporation described in subsection (b)(2).
- 13 (6) A member appointed by the Wabash River Enhancement
- 14 Corporation.
- 15 (7) A member appointed by the commission.
- 16 (8) A member appointed by the county fiscal body.
- 17 (9) A member appointed by the town board of the town of
- 18 Battleground.
- 19 (10) A member appointed by the mayor of the city of Lafayette.
- 20 (11) A member appointed by the mayor of the city of West
- 21 Lafayette.
- 22 (e) The following apply to the advisory commission:
- 23 (1) The governor shall appoint a member of the advisory
- 24 commission as chairman of the advisory commission.
- 25 (2) Six (6) members of the advisory commission constitute a
- 26 quorum. The affirmative votes of at least six (6) advisory
- 27 commission members are necessary for the advisory commission
- 28 to take official action other than to adjourn or to meet to hear
- 29 reports or testimony.
- 30 (3) The advisory commission shall make recommendations
- 31 concerning the use of any proceeds of bonds issued to finance the
- 32 development of Prophetstown State Park.
- 33 (4) Members of the advisory commission who are state
- 34 employees:
- 35 (A) are not entitled to any salary per diem; and
- 36 (B) are entitled to reimbursement for traveling expenses as
- 37 provided under IC 4-13-1-4 and to reimbursement for other
- 38 expenses actually incurred in connection with the member's
- 39 duties as provided in the state policies and procedures
- 40 established by the Indiana department of administration and

1 approved by the budget agency.

2 (f) The Indiana finance authority may issue bonds for the
3 development of Prophetstown State Park under IC 5-1.2-6.

4 SECTION 39. IC 7.1-4-13-7 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
5 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) The wine grape
6 market development fund is created.

7 (b) The wine grape market development fund may not be used for
8 political or legislative activity of any kind.

9 (c) The fund shall be administered by the ~~council~~ **director** and used
10 for the purpose of this chapter. The expenses of administering the fund
11 shall be paid from money in the fund.

12 (d) Money in the fund at the end of a fiscal year does not revert to
13 the state general fund.

14 SECTION 40. IC 7.1-4-13-8 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
15 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) The wine grape
16 market development council is created.

17 (b) The council shall have an odd number of members, but not less
18 than seven (7) nor more than fifteen (15) members. The following are
19 the members of the council:

- 20 (1) The director or the director's designee.
- 21 (2) The chairman of the horticulture department at Purdue
- 22 University or chairman's designee.
- 23 (3) The chairman of the food science department at Purdue
- 24 University or the chairman's designee.
- 25 (4) Other members that the director shall appoint.

26 (c) A majority of the members of the council must be wine grape
27 growers or processors of wine grape products.

28 **(d) This section expires December 31, 2026.**

29 SECTION 41. IC 7.1-4-13-9 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
30 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. (a) The council shall
31 adopt bylaws governing the terms of office, filling unexpired terms,
32 expenses, quorum, duties, and other administrative matters. The bylaws
33 may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present, if
34 a quorum is present.

35 **(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.**

36 SECTION 42. IC 7.1-4-13-10 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
37 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) The council
38 shall do the following:

- 39 (1) Elect a chairman and any other officers.
- 40 (2) Recommend expenditures from the wine grape market

development fund for the administration of the wine grape market development program and for the administration of this chapter.

(3) Perform any other necessary duties.

(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 43. IC 7.1-4-13-11 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 11. **(a)** The director shall consider the advice, recommendations, and assistance of the council for the expenditure of funds for the wine grape market development program and for the administration of this chapter.

(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 44. IC 8-1-1.1-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. As used in this chapter:

"Council" means the advisory council to the office of utility consumer counselor created under section 7 of this chapter **(before its expiration on December 31, 2026).**

"Counselor" means the consumer counselor established under section 2 of this chapter.

"Deputy consumer counselor" means the deputy consumer counselor for Washington affairs that may be established under section 9.1 of this chapter.

"Utility" means any public utility, municipally owned utility or subscriber owned utility under the jurisdiction of the commission.

SECTION 45. IC 8-1-1.1-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.53-2014, SECTION 74, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) There is created the advisory council to the office of the utility consumer counselor. The council consists of nine (9) members. Each Indiana congressional district must be represented by at least one (1) individual appointed under this section who is a resident of that congressional district. However, the reduction in membership of the council from ten (10) members to nine (9) shall be accomplished as the terms of members end and new members are appointed. Until the expiration of the term of a member who is serving on the council on January 1, 2014, and resides in the same congressional district as another member, the council consists of ten (10) members.

(b) Members of the council, including those filling vacancies occurring in the council membership, shall be appointed by the governor. All members shall be appointed to a term of four (4) years, except those who have been appointed to fill a vacancy in the council

whose term will be the unexpired portion of the term. All members shall serve until their successor has been duly appointed and qualified.

(c) The membership shall be representative of the various sectors of Indiana economy, including, but not limited to: agriculture, business and industry, labor, and local government.

(d) The members shall annually elect of themselves a chairman.

(e) Members are entitled to receive per diem and travel expense reimbursement at the standard rates provided for state employees for expenses they incur in the performance of their duties under this chapter subject to the approval of the consumer counselor.

(f) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 46. IC 8-10-9-6 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. (a) The district shall be governed by a board of directors consisting of ~~seven (7)~~ **five (5)** members, four (4) of whom are appointed by the executive of the city in which the district is formed, ~~two (2) of whom are appointed by the governor;~~ and one (1) of whom is appointed by the legislative body of the city in which the district is formed.

(b) Members of the board serve terms of three (3) years. A member's term may be extended by any partial term to which the member was appointed to fill a vacancy.

(c) ~~Five (5)~~ **Three (3)** members of the board of directors must be qualified electors of the city in which the district is formed. Two (2) members need not be residents of the city in which the district is formed but shall be representatives of property owners of land that borders waterways within the district. One (1) of the two (2) members shall be among the members appointed by the mayor. ~~and one (1) shall be among the members appointed by the governor.~~

(d) The appointing authority shall fill all vacancies of members appointed by that authority.

SECTION 47. IC 8-14-11-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. **(a)** As used in this chapter, "board" refers to the local bridge grant board established by section 9 of this chapter.

(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 48. IC 8-14-11-9 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. (a) The local bridge grant board is established to receive and review applications for grants under this chapter. The board consists of the following members:

(1) The director of the department, or the director's designee.

(2) Six (6) persons appointed by the governor, no more than three
 (3) of whom may be of the same political party, as follows:

(A) Two (2) members of a county executive.

(B) One (1) county highway engineer.

(C) One (1) mayor of a city.

(D) One (1) member of a town board of trustees.

(E) One (1) person with substantial experience or education in
 the design or construction of bridges.

A member appointed under clause (A), (B), (C), or (D) who
 ceases to hold the office described in that clause ceases to be a
 member of the board.

(b) The governor shall designate a member of the board to serve as
 chairman.

(c) Members of the board who are appointed by the governor serve
 for terms of four (4) years. The governor shall fill a vacancy on the
 board by appointing a new member to serve the remainder of the
 unexpired term.

(d) A member of the board, other than the director of the
 department, is entitled to the minimum salary per diem provided by
 IC 4-10-11-2.1(b). Each member of the board is entitled to
 reimbursement for traveling expenses and other expenses actually
 incurred in connection with the member's duties, as provided in the
 state travel policies and procedures established by the department of
 administration and approved by the budget agency.

(e) Four (4) members of the board constitute a quorum. The
 affirmative votes of four (4) members of the board are required for the
 board to take any action.

(f) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 49. IC 8-14-11-10 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) The department
 shall provide staff support to the board.

(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 50. IC 8-14-11-11 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 11. The ~~board~~
department shall establish criteria to be used in evaluating
 applications for grants from the fund. These criteria:

(1) must be consistent with the purposes of the federal local
 bridge program (23 U.S.C. 144(n));

(2) must be based on good engineering practices; and

(3) must provide for an equitable distribution of grants to counties

1 located throughout Indiana.

2 SECTION 51. IC 8-23-9-60, AS ADDED BY P.L.70-2023,
3 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
4 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 60. (a) As used in this section, "adequate welding
5 standards" means specifications, guidelines, tests, and other methods
6 used to ensure that all structural steel welds meet, at minimum, the
7 codes and standards for such welds established in the welding code and
8 under rules adopted by the ~~fire prevention and building safety~~
9 ~~commission under IC 22-13-2-2.~~ **department of homeland security.**

10 (b) As used in this section, "certified welding inspector" means a
11 person who has been certified by the American Welding Society to
12 inspect structural steel welding projects and conduct welder
13 qualification tests.

14 (c) As used in this section, "structural steel welding" means
15 structural welds, weld repair, the structural system, and the welding of
16 all primary steel members of a structure in accordance with the welding
17 code. The term does not include welding that is required by the
18 American Society of Mechanical Engineers to have its own
19 certification.

20 (d) As used in this section, "welding code" refers to the American
21 Welding Society structural steel welding code D1.1, as in effect on July
22 1, 2023.

23 (e) A contractor whose workers are welding the structural steel on
24 a project shall ensure that all of the following occur:

25 (1) The workers performing the structural steel welding have been
26 tested by, and hold a valid certification from, a facility that, or an
27 individual who, has been accredited by the American Welding
28 Society to test and certify welders and welding inspectors.

29 (2) All structural steel welds performed for the project meet
30 adequate welding standards and follow the project's special
31 provisions.

32 (3) All structural steel welding inspections listed in the project's
33 special provisions are completed by a certified welding inspector.

34 (f) If the department reasonably suspects a contractor has violated
35 this section, the department shall require the contractor to remedy the
36 violation not later than thirty (30) days after the department notifies the
37 contractor of the violation. The notification to the contractor must be
38 signed by the commissioner and sent by a method that enables the
39 department to verify receipt of the notice by the contractor. During the
40 thirty (30) day period, the contractor may continue to work on the

1 project. If the contractor fails to remedy the violation within the thirty
 2 (30) day period, the department shall find the contractor not
 3 responsible and determine the length of time the contractor is
 4 considered not responsible by the department.

5 (g) In making the determination of the length of time a contractor is
 6 not responsible under subsection (f), the department shall consider the
 7 severity of the violation. The period during which a contractor is
 8 considered not responsible:

9 (1) may not exceed forty-eight (48) months; and

10 (2) begins on the date of substantial completion of the project.

11 (h) A finding by the department under subsection (f) that a
 12 contractor is not responsible may not be used by another state agency
 13 or a political subdivision in making a determination as to whether the
 14 contractor is responsible for purposes of that state agency's or political
 15 subdivision's award of a public works contract to that contractor.

16 SECTION 52. IC 9-18.5-22-1, AS ADDED BY P.L.198-2016,
 17 SECTION 327, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 18 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. The bureau shall, with the advice
 19 of the ~~Native American Indian affairs commission established under~~
 20 ~~IC 4-23-32,~~ **Indiana cultural commission established under**
 21 **IC 4-23-36**, design and issue an Indiana Native American trust license
 22 plate as a special group recognition license plate under IC 9-18.5-12.

23 SECTION 53. IC 9-18.5-22-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.118-2022,
 24 SECTION 14, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 25 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) The Indiana Native American trust fund is
 26 established.

27 (b) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the Indiana
 28 Native American trust fund not currently needed to meet the
 29 obligations of the Indiana Native American trust fund in the same
 30 manner as other public trust funds are invested. Interest that accrues
 31 from these investments shall be deposited in the Indiana Native
 32 American trust fund.

33 (c) The bureau shall administer the Indiana Native American trust
 34 fund. Expenses of administering the Indiana Native American trust
 35 fund shall be paid from money in the Indiana Native American trust
 36 fund.

37 (d) The bureau shall distribute at least one (1) time each month the
 38 money from the fund to the ~~Native American Indian affairs commission~~
 39 ~~established under IC 4-23-32.~~ **Indiana cultural commission**
 40 **established under IC 4-23-36.**

(e) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not revert to the state general fund.

(f) The ~~Native American Indian affairs~~ **Indiana cultural** commission may use money received under this section for any lawful purpose of the ~~Native American Indian affairs~~ **Indiana cultural** commission **that impacts, studies, supports, or relates to the Indiana Native American community.**

SECTION 54. IC 9-27-5-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.56-2023, SECTION 60, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. The director of the state department of toxicology may solicit and receive aid from the following:

- (1) The office of traffic safety.
- (2) The state police department.
- ~~(3) The commission on forensic sciences.~~
- ~~(4)~~ **(3)** The Indiana Coroners Association.
- ~~(5)~~ **(4)** The Indiana department of health.
- ~~(6)~~ **(5)** The Indiana State Medical Association.
- ~~(7)~~ **(6)** Other agencies that may, in the director's opinion, make a contribution to the effectiveness of the study.

SECTION 55. IC 9-27-6-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.85-2013, SECTION 71, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) As used in this section, "advisory board" refers to the driver education advisory board established by subsection (b).

(b) The driver education advisory board is established to advise the commissioner in the administration of the policies of the commission and the bureau regarding driver education.

(c) The advisory board is composed of seven (7) individuals appointed by the commissioner as follows:

- (1) Three (3) members must be driver education professionals endorsed by the bureau under section 8 of this chapter. In the selection of individuals for membership under this subdivision, consideration must be given to driver education instruction performed in urban and rural areas.
- (2) One (1) member must be a traffic safety advocate.
- (3) One (1) member must be a representative of the bureau.
- (4) One (1) member must be a representative of higher education.
- (5) One (1) member must be a representative of the insurance industry.

(d) A member of the advisory board serves a two (2) year term. A

1 member may not be appointed to more than two (2) consecutive full
 2 terms. Each member serves until the member's successor is appointed
 3 and qualified.

4 (e) A member of the advisory board may be removed for good
 5 cause.

6 (f) A vacancy on the advisory board shall be filled by the
 7 appointment by the commissioner of an individual to fill the position
 8 to which the vacating member was appointed under subsection (c) for
 9 the vacating member's unexpired term.

10 (g) The advisory board shall:

11 (1) consult with and advise the commissioner in the
 12 administration of the policies of the commission and the bureau
 13 regarding driver education; and

14 (2) suggest rules regarding the education and training of persons
 15 to operate or drive motor vehicles or to prepare a person for an
 16 examination or validation for a driver's license.

17 (h) A member of the advisory board is not subject to liability in a
 18 civil action for bodily injury or property damage arising from or
 19 thought to have arisen from an action taken in good faith as a member
 20 of the advisory board.

21 **(i) This section expires December 31, 2026.**

22 SECTION 56. IC 9-27-7-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.85-2013,
 23 SECTION 78, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 24 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. (a) The commissioner shall appoint a five (5)
 25 member advisory board consisting of at least three (3) active
 26 motorcyclists to serve in an advisory capacity to the program.

27 (b) A member of the advisory board serves a three (3) year term. A
 28 member may not be appointed to more than two (2) consecutive full
 29 terms. Each member serves until the member's successor is appointed
 30 and qualified.

31 (c) A member of the advisory board may be removed for good
 32 cause.

33 (d) A vacancy on the advisory board shall be filled by the
 34 appointment by the commissioner of an individual to fill the position
 35 to which the vacating member was appointed under subsection (a) for
 36 the vacating member's unexpired term.

37 (e) A member of the advisory board is not subject to liability in a
 38 civil action for bodily injury or property damage arising from or
 39 thought to have arisen from an action taken in good faith as a member
 40 of the advisory board.

(f) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 57. IC 10-13-2-9 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. ~~(a)~~ The superintendent shall adopt rules necessary to accomplish the purposes of this chapter.

~~(b) In formulating the rules, the superintendent shall have the advice and assistance of the criminal justice advisory committee established by section 10 of this chapter.~~

SECTION 58. IC 10-13-2-10 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) The criminal justice advisory committee is established.

(b) The committee consists of the following persons or their designated representatives:

- (1) The superintendent, who shall act as chairman.
- (2) The attorney general.
- (3) The executive director of the criminal justice planning agency.
- (4) The commissioner of corrections.
- (5) One (1) county sheriff serving in the sheriff's second or subsequent term of office.
- (6) One (1) chief of police with at least two (2) years of experience as chief.
- (7) One (1) prosecuting attorney in the prosecuting attorney's second or subsequent term of office.
- (8) One (1) judge of a court of general criminal jurisdiction.
- (9) The executive director of the law enforcement training academy.
- (10) A criminologist or forensic scientist.

(c) A member of the committee:

- (1) must be appointed by the governor on a nonpartisan basis; and
- (2) shall serve at the pleasure of the governor.

(d) A member of the committee serves without compensation except per diem as provided by law.

(e) The committee shall meet as often as is considered necessary by the superintendent to formulate or revise rules for the statewide operation of the criminal justice data division.

(f) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 59. IC 10-13-3-4 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. ~~(a)~~ As used in this chapter, "council" means the security and privacy council established by section 34 of this chapter.

(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 60. IC 10-13-3-34 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 34. (a) There is established a security and privacy council that consists of nine (9) members selected under subsections (b) and (c).

(b) The following six (6) members shall be appointed by and shall serve at the pleasure of the governor:

- (1) A prosecuting attorney.
- (2) The police chief of a city.
- (3) The sheriff of a county.
- (4) A criminal court judge.
- (5) Two (2) citizens who are not law enforcement officers.

(c) The following persons, or their designees, also are members of the council:

- (1) The superintendent.
- (2) The attorney general.
- (3) The commissioner of the department of correction.

(d) Members of the council are not entitled to receive compensation but are entitled to receive a per diem and mileage on those days in which they are engaged in the business of the council. Per diem and mileage paid shall be that amount paid to state employees.

(e) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 61. IC 10-14-3-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.85-2015, SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. (a) The agency shall prepare and maintain a current state emergency operations plan. The plan may provide for the following:

- (1) Prevention and minimization of injury and damage caused by disaster.
- (2) Prompt and effective response to disaster.
- (3) Emergency relief.
- (4) Identification of areas particularly vulnerable to disaster.
- (5) Recommendations for:
 - (A) zoning;
 - (B) building;
 - (C) other land use controls;
 - (D) safety measures for securing mobile homes or other nonpermanent or semipermanent structures; and
 - (E) other preventive and preparedness measures designed to eliminate or reduce disaster or its impact;

that must be disseminated to ~~both the fire prevention and building safety commission~~ and local authorities.

(6) Assistance to local officials in designing local emergency action plans.

(7) Authorization and procedures for the erection or other construction of temporary works designed to protect against or mitigate danger, damage, or loss from flood, conflagration, or other disaster.

(8) Preparation and distribution to the appropriate state and local officials of state catalogs of federal, state, and private assistance programs.

(9) Organization of manpower and chains of command.

(10) Coordination of federal, state, and local disaster activities.

(11) Coordination of the state disaster plan with the disaster plans of the federal government.

(12) Other necessary matters.

(b) The agency shall take an integral part in the development and revision of local and interjurisdictional disaster plans prepared under section 17 of this chapter. The agency shall employ or otherwise secure the services of professional and technical personnel capable of providing expert assistance to political subdivisions, a political subdivision's disaster agencies, and interjurisdictional planning and disaster agencies. These personnel:

(1) shall consult with subdivisions and government agencies on a regularly scheduled basis;

(2) shall make field examinations of the areas, circumstances, and conditions to which particular local and interjurisdictional disaster plans are intended to apply; and

(3) may suggest revisions.

(c) In preparing and revising the state disaster plan, the agency shall seek the advice and assistance of local government, business, labor, industry, agriculture, civic and volunteer organizations, and community leaders. In advising local and interjurisdictional agencies, the agency shall encourage local and interjurisdictional agencies to seek advice from the sources specified in this subsection.

(d) The state disaster plan or any part of the plan may be incorporated in rules of the agency or by executive orders.

(e) The agency shall do the following:

(1) Determine requirements of the state and political subdivisions for food, clothing, and other necessities in the event of an

- 1 emergency.
- 2 (2) Procure and pre-position supplies, medicines, materials, and
- 3 equipment.
- 4 (3) Adopt standards and requirements for local and
- 5 interjurisdictional disaster plans.
- 6 (4) Provide for mobile support units.
- 7 (5) Assist political subdivisions, political subdivisions' disaster
- 8 agencies, and interjurisdictional disaster agencies to establish and
- 9 operate training programs and public information programs.
- 10 (6) Make surveys of industries, resources, and facilities in
- 11 Indiana, both public and private, necessary to carry out this
- 12 chapter.
- 13 (7) Plan and make arrangements for the availability and use of
- 14 any private facilities, services, and property, and if necessary and
- 15 if the private facilities, services, or property is used, provide for
- 16 payment for the use under agreed upon terms and conditions.
- 17 (8) Establish a register of persons with types of training and skills
- 18 important in emergency prevention, preparedness, response, and
- 19 recovery.
- 20 (9) Establish a register of mobile and construction equipment and
- 21 temporary housing available for use in a disaster emergency.
- 22 (10) Prepare, for issuance by the governor, executive orders,
- 23 proclamations, and regulations necessary or appropriate in coping
- 24 with disaster.
- 25 (11) Cooperate with the federal government and any public or
- 26 private agency or entity in achieving any purpose of this chapter
- 27 and in implementing programs for disaster prevention,
- 28 preparation, response, and recovery.
- 29 (12) Do other things necessary, incidental, or appropriate to
- 30 implement this chapter.
- 31 (f) The agency shall ascertain the rapid and efficient
- 32 communications that exist in times of disaster emergencies. The agency
- 33 shall consider the desirability of supplementing these communications
- 34 resources or of integrating these resources into a comprehensive
- 35 intrastate or state-federal telecommunications or other communications
- 36 system or network. In studying the character and feasibility of any
- 37 system, the agency shall evaluate the possibility of multipurpose use of
- 38 the system for general state and local governmental purposes. The
- 39 agency shall make appropriate recommendations to the governor.
- 40 (g) The agency shall assist political subdivisions in implementing

1 the intrastate mutual aid compact created by section 10.8 of this
2 chapter.

3 SECTION 62. IC 10-18-3-18, AS AMENDED BY P.L.9-2024,
4 SECTION 321, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
5 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 18. (a) The governor may appoint
6 a commission known as the memorial art commission.

7 (b) The commission must consist of not more than seven (7)
8 qualified persons who serve without pay. However, members are to be
9 paid necessary expenses as certified by the governor to the state
10 comptroller.

11 (c) The commission shall consider the artistic qualities of a plan for
12 a proposed memorial.

13 (d) A memorial consisting of a building, monument, statue, tablet,
14 picture, arch, or work of art of any kind may not be erected without
15 first:

- 16 (1) submitting the plans to the memorial art commission; and
- 17 (2) securing criticism and advice from the commission with
18 respect to the memorial.

19 If a state art commission is established by law, it is ex officio the
20 memorial art commission.

21 **(e) This section expires December 31, 2026.**

22 SECTION 63. IC 10-19-3-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.156-2020,
23 SECTION 50, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
24 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) Except as provided in this section, for
25 purposes of IC 4-22-2, the executive director is the authority that
26 adopts rules for the department.

27 (b) The Indiana emergency medical services commission is the
28 authority that adopts rules under IC 16-31.

29 ~~(c) Except as provided in subsection (d), the fire prevention and~~
30 ~~building safety commission is the authority that adopts rules under any~~
31 ~~of the following:~~

- 32 ~~(1) IC 22-11;~~
- 33 ~~(2) IC 22-12;~~
- 34 ~~(3) IC 22-13;~~
- 35 ~~(4) IC 22-14;~~
- 36 ~~(5) IC 22-15;~~

37 ~~(d)~~ (c) The board of firefighting personnel standards and education
38 is the authority that adopts rules under IC 22-14-2-7(c)(7) and
39 IC 36-8-10.5.

40 ~~(e)~~ (d) The executive director may adopt rules governing:

(1) emergency action plans; or
 (2) emergency response plans;
 for outdoor performances (as defined in IC 22-12-1-17.5) where
 outdoor event equipment (as defined in IC 22-12-1-17.7) is used.

SECTION 64. IC 10-19-7-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,
 SECTION 40, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) The state fire marshal appointed under
 IC 22-14-2-2 shall manage the department's administration of the
 following:

- (1) IC 22-11.
- (2) IC 22-12.
- (3) IC 22-13.
- (4) IC 22-14.
- (5) IC 22-15.

(b) In carrying out the duties under subsection (a), the state fire
 marshal shall ~~do the following~~:

- ~~(1) Provide department staff to support the fire prevention and
 building safety commission established by IC 22-12-2-1.~~
- ~~(2)~~ partner with state agencies, including the Indiana department
 of health and state educational institutions, to develop public
 safety education and outreach programs.

(c) The state fire marshal may not exercise any powers or perform
 any duties specifically assigned to ~~either of the following~~:

- ~~(1) The fire prevention and building safety commission.~~
- ~~(2)~~ the state building commissioner.

(d) The state fire marshal may delegate the state fire marshal's
 authority to the appropriate department staff.

SECTION 65. IC 11-12-4-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.56-2023,
 SECTION 82, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. (a) The department shall adopt under IC 4-22-2
 minimum standards for county jails governing:

- (1) general physical and environmental conditions;
- (2) services and programs to be provided to confined persons;
- (3) procedures for the care and control of confined persons that
 are necessary to ensure the health and safety of confined persons,
 the security of the jail, and public safety; and
- (4) the restraint of pregnant inmates. Rules adopted under this
 subdivision must be consistent with IC 11-10-3.5.

However, the department may not adopt any standard that prohibits the
 placement of more than one (1) prisoner in a prisoner cell that has

thirty-five (35) square feet or more of floor space per prisoner.

(b) The standards must be sufficiently flexible to foster the development of new and improved practices and to accommodate local needs and circumstances. The standards must be consistent with the laws of Indiana and the rules of the Indiana department of health and the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~. **department of homeland security**.

(c) The commissioner shall select a committee of not less than five (5) county sheriffs to consult with the department before and during the drafting of the proposed minimum standards. County sheriffs shall be selected from the various classes of counties to ensure that densely, moderately, and sparsely populated counties are represented. Each county sheriff is entitled to the minimum salary per diem as provided in IC 4-10-11-2.1 for each day engaged in the official business of the committee and to reimbursement for traveling and other expenses, as provided in the state travel policies and procedures established by the Indiana department of administration and approved by the budget agency.

(d) At least sixty (60) days before setting the date for a public hearing under IC 4-22-2, the department shall forward copies of the proposed minimum standards to each county sheriff and each board of county commissioners and shall solicit their views and suggestions.

SECTION 66. IC 12-7-2-34, AS AMENDED BY P.L.42-2024, SECTION 75, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 34. "Commission" means the following:

(1) For purposes of IC 12-10-2, the meaning set forth in IC 12-10-2-1.

(2) For purposes of IC 12-12-2, the meaning set forth in IC 12-12-2-1.

~~(3) For purposes of IC 12-13-14, the meaning set forth in IC 12-13-14-1.~~

~~(4) For purposes of IC 12-15-30.5, the meaning set forth in IC 12-15-30.5-2.~~

~~(5)~~ (3) For purposes of IC 12-15-33, the meaning set forth in IC 12-15-33-1.

~~(6)~~ (4) For purposes of IC 12-21-7.1, the meaning set forth in IC 12-21-7.1-1.

~~(7)~~ (5) For purposes of IC 12-28-1, the meaning set forth in IC 12-28-1-3.

SECTION 67. IC 12-7-2-44, AS AMENDED BY P.L.6-2012,

SECTION 81, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 44. "Council" means the following:

~~(1) For purposes of IC 12-9-4, the meaning set forth in IC 12-9-4-1.~~

~~(2) (1)~~ For purposes of IC 12-12-8, the meaning set forth in IC 12-12-8-2.5.

~~(3) For purposes of IC 12-13-4, the meaning set forth in IC 12-13-4-1.~~

~~(4) (2)~~ For purposes of IC 12-12.7-2, the meaning set forth in IC 12-12.7-2-2.

~~(5) (3)~~ For purposes of IC 12-21-4, the meaning set forth in IC 12-21-4-1.

SECTION 68. IC 12-7-2-87.8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.210-2015, SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 87.8. "Food retailer", for purposes of IC 12-13-14, has the meaning set forth in ~~IC 12-13-14-1(f).~~ **IC 12-13-14-1.**

SECTION 69. IC 12-7-2-142, AS AMENDED BY P.L.171-2011, SECTION 11, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 142. "Political subdivision", for purposes of the following statutes, has the meaning set forth in IC 36-1-2-13:

(1) IC 12-8.

~~(2) IC 12-13-4.~~

~~(3) (2)~~ IC 12-32-1.

SECTION 70. IC 12-8-1.5-18.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.167-2025, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 18.5. ~~(a) As used in this section, "advisory council" refers to the division of disability and rehabilitative services advisory council established under IC 12-9-4.~~

~~(b) (a)~~ As used in this section, "board" refers to the community and home options to institutional care for the elderly and disabled board established by IC 12-10-11-1.

~~(c) (b)~~ As used in this section, "commission" refers to the Indiana state commission on aging established by IC 12-10-2-2.

~~(d) (c)~~ The office of the secretary may, in collaboration with the Indiana Association of Area Agencies on Aging, study and prepare a report containing recommendations for realigning and consolidating the area agency on aging planning and service areas.

~~(e) (d)~~ If the office of the secretary elects to study and prepare the report described in subsection ~~(d); (c)~~, the office of the secretary shall

1 do the following:

2 (1) Provide notice of the election to the legislative council in an
3 electronic format under IC 5-14-6.

4 (2) In studying and preparing the report, consult with the:

5 ~~(A) advisory council;~~

6 ~~(B) (A) board;~~ and

7 ~~(C) (B) commission;~~

8 at the regularly scheduled public meetings of the ~~advisory~~
9 ~~council;~~ board and commission to receive input and feedback
10 concerning the recommendations described in subsection ~~(d)~~: **(c)**.

11 (3) Not later than two (2) years after the date on which the office
12 of the secretary provides notice under subdivision (1), submit the
13 report to the legislative council in an electronic format under
14 IC 5-14-6.

15 SECTION 71. IC 12-8-2.5-3, AS ADDED BY P.L.160-2012,
16 SECTION 17, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
17 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 3. Unless otherwise provided by a statute,
18 this chapter applies to the following:

19 (1) ~~The following advisory councils:~~

20 ~~(A) The division of disability and rehabilitative services~~
21 ~~advisory council.~~

22 ~~(B) The division of family resources advisory council.~~

23 ~~(C) The division of mental health and addiction advisory~~
24 ~~council.~~

25 (2) A body:

26 (A) established by statute for a division; and

27 (B) whose enabling statute makes this chapter applicable to
28 the body.

29 SECTION 72. IC 12-8-2.5-3.5 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
30 JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 3.5: Up to five (5) individuals appointed by~~
31 ~~the secretary to serve on an entity not described in section 3(1) of this~~
32 ~~chapter may be appointed to serve concurrently on an advisory council~~
33 ~~described in section 3(1) of this chapter. However, an individual may~~
34 ~~not serve concurrently on more than one (1) advisory council described~~
35 ~~in section 3(1) of this chapter.~~

36 SECTION 73. IC 12-9-4-9 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
37 AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
38 1, 2026]: **Sec. 9. This chapter expires December 31, 2026.**

39 SECTION 74. IC 12-9-5-3.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.131-2024,
40 SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE

JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3.5. (a) The division shall provide to the division of disability and rehabilitative services advisory council established by IC 12-9-4-2 quarterly updates regarding the implementation of the recommendations made by the services for individuals with intellectual and other developmental disabilities task force under IC 12-11-15.5 (before its expiration).

(b) This section expires December 31, ~~2027~~: **2026**.

SECTION 75. IC 12-13-4-8 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 8. This chapter expires December 31, 2026.**

SECTION 76. IC 12-13-14-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.210-2015, SECTION 36, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 1. (a) As used in this chapter, "automated teller machine" means an electronic hardware device owned or operated by or on behalf of a financial institution or retailer that is capable of dispensing currency and responding to balance inquiries through the use of a magnetic stripe card issued by or on behalf of the division for distribution of assistance through an EBT system as described in this chapter.

~~(b)~~ As used in this chapter, "commission" refers to the electronic benefits transfer commission established by this chapter.

~~(c)~~ (b) As used in this chapter, "Department" refers to the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

~~(d)~~ (c) As used in this chapter, "EBT program" means an electronic benefits transfer program.

~~(e)~~ (d) As used in this chapter, "financial institution" means a bank, trust company, savings institution, credit union, or any other organization:

(1) whose principal business activity is providing banking or financial services to the public; and

(2) that is organized, supervised, and authorized to do business in Indiana under IC 28 or Title 12 of the United States Code.

~~(f)~~ (e) As used in this chapter, "food retailer" means a retailer that:

(1) sells food items to consumers; and

(2) has been authorized under 7 CFR 278 to participate in SNAP.

~~(g)~~ (f) As used in this chapter, "person" includes any individual or entity described in IC 6-2.5-1-3.

~~(h)~~ (g) As used in this chapter, "point of sale terminal" means an electronic hardware device that is:

(1) used at a retailer's place of business where consumers pay for

goods or services; and

(2) capable of:

(A) initiating a request for authorization of a purchase of tangible personal property;

(B) disbursing currency from an account;

(C) initiating a balance inquiry for an account; or

(D) distributing assistance through an EBT system as described in this chapter.

~~(h)~~ **(h)** As used in this chapter, "primary business" means more than fifty percent (50%) of the gross retail income (as defined in IC 6-2.5-1-5) attributable to the location or premises where the business is located.

~~(i)~~ **(i)** As used in this chapter, "retailer" means a person that, in the ordinary course of business:

(1) sells or transfers tangible personal property; or

(2) provides or performs services for compensation; to consumers.

~~(j)~~ **(j)** As used in this chapter, "Secretary" refers to the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture.

SECTION 77. IC 12-13-14-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.210-2015, SECTION 38, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) The electronic benefits transfer commission is established.

(b) The commission consists of eight (8) members appointed by the secretary of family and social services as follows:

(1) Two (2) employees of the office of the secretary of family and social services.

(2) Two (2) members of the Indiana Grocers and Convenience Store Association, nominated by the chief executive officer of the Indiana Grocers and Convenience Store Association for consideration by the secretary of family and social services.

(3) Two (2) members of the Indiana Bankers Association, nominated by the chief executive officer of the Indiana Bankers Association for consideration by the office of the secretary of family and social services.

(4) Two (2) persons representing recipients of SNAP benefits or TANF benefits. One (1) person shall be nominated by the Indiana Food and Nutrition Network, and one (1) person shall be nominated by the Indiana Coalition for Human Services for consideration by the secretary of family and social services.

(c) The terms of office shall be for three (3) years. The members serve at the will of the secretary of family and social services. A vacancy on the commission shall be filled by the secretary of family and social services in the same manner the original appointment was made.

(d) The secretary of family and social services shall appoint the initial chairperson from among the members of the commission. The commission shall meet on the call of the chairperson. When the chairperson's term expires, the commission shall elect a new chairperson from among the membership of the commission.

(e) The division shall provide staff needed for the commission to operate under this chapter.

(f) The commission members are not eligible for per diem reimbursement or reimbursement for expenses incurred for travel to and from commission meetings.

(g) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 78. IC 12-13-16-3, AS ADDED BY P.L.73-2020, SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) As used in this chapter, "advisory committee" refers to the 211 advisory committee established by section 9 of this chapter.

(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 79. IC 12-13-16-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.241-2023, SECTION 8, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. (a) The 211 advisory committee is established. The advisory committee includes the following members appointed by the governor or the governor's designee:

(1) Two (2) members, each of whom represents a different Indiana United Way entity.

(2) Two (2) members, each of whom represents a different local service agency that receives referrals from 211.

(3) Seven (7) members representing the types of human services provided under this chapter.

(4) One (1) individual representing the Indiana Association of Rehabilitation Facilities.

(b) The initial members of the advisory committee serve the following terms:

(1) Three (3) members serve a term of one (1) year.

(2) Five (5) members serve a term of two (2) years.

(3) Five (5) members serve a term of four (4) years.

1 Members appointed to the advisory committee thereafter serve terms
2 of four (4) years.

3 (c) The governor or the governor's designee shall appoint the
4 chairperson of the advisory committee.

5 (d) The advisory committee shall do the following:

6 (1) Provide input and consultation regarding implementation and
7 administration of 211 services by the office of the secretary to
8 ensure compliance with any requirements or obligations under
9 this chapter.

10 (2) Advise the office of the secretary and make recommendations
11 concerning the use of and goals for 211 services.

12 (e) The office of the secretary shall staff the advisory committee.
13 The expenses of the advisory committee shall be paid by the office of
14 the secretary.

15 (f) Each member of the advisory committee who is not a state
16 employee is entitled to the minimum salary per diem provided by
17 IC 4-10-11-2.1(b). The member is also entitled to reimbursement for
18 traveling expenses as provided under IC 4-13-1-4 and other expenses
19 actually incurred in connection with the member's duties as provided
20 in the state policies and procedures established by the Indiana
21 department of administration and approved by the budget agency.

22 (g) Each member of the advisory committee who is a state employee
23 is entitled to reimbursement for traveling expenses as provided under
24 IC 4-13-1-4 and other expenses actually incurred in connection with
25 the member's duties as provided in the state policies and procedures
26 established by the Indiana department of administration and approved
27 by the budget agency.

28 **(h) This section expires December 31, 2026.**

29 SECTION 80. IC 12-15-1-14.5, AS AMENDED BY THE
30 TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS BILL OF THE 2026 GENERAL
31 ASSEMBLY, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
32 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 14.5. (a) The office of the secretary shall prepare
33 a report on the provision of Medicaid services, including Medicaid
34 home and community based waiver services, to recipients who have
35 medically complex conditions. The report must include the following,
36 categorized by whether the recipient was less than, or at least, eighteen
37 (18) years of age:

38 (1) The number of recipients, by county, who received Medicaid
39 services through:

40 (A) the state plan;

- 1 (B) a Medicaid waiver; or
- 2 (C) services under both ~~clause~~ **clauses** (A) and (B).
- 3 (2) A list of the specific services provided to the recipients, by
- 4 county, and the number of recipients who received each service.
- 5 (3) The median length of time recipients have received Medicaid,
- 6 by county, through the following:
- 7 (A) The state plan.
- 8 (B) A Medicaid waiver.
- 9 (C) Services under both ~~clause~~ **clauses** (A) and (B).
- 10 (b) Not later than September 1, 2025, and each September 1
- 11 thereafter, the office of the secretary shall submit the report described
- 12 in subsection (a) to the following:
- 13 (1) The Medicaid advisory commission, established by
- 14 IC 12-15-33-2.
- 15 (2) The Medicaid oversight committee, in an electronic format
- 16 under IC 5-14-6.
- 17 (3) The budget committee.
- 18 (4) The legislative council, in an electronic format under
- 19 IC 5-14-6.
- 20 (5) The division of disability and rehabilitative services advisory
- 21 council established under IC 12-9-4 **(before its expiration on**
- 22 **December 31, 2026).**
- 23 (c) The division of disability and rehabilitative services advisory
- 24 council established under IC 12-9-4 **(before its expiration on**
- 25 **December 31, 2026)** shall provide the following recommendations to
- 26 the division of disability and rehabilitative services to ensure the
- 27 delivery of appropriate high quality services to recipients, including an
- 28 evaluation of models of care for complex care assistants used in other
- 29 states:
- 30 (1) The potential benefits and risks to recipients and family
- 31 caregivers.
- 32 (2) Training and certification requirements.
- 33 (3) Implementation challenges and strategies to address the
- 34 challenges.
- 35 (4) Any potential fiscal impact of implementing a complex care
- 36 assistant program in Indiana.
- 37 SECTION 81. IC 12-15-1.3-15, AS AMENDED BY THE
- 38 TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS BILL OF THE 2026 GENERAL
- 39 ASSEMBLY, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 40 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 15. (a) As used in this section, "division" refers to

1 the division of disability and rehabilitative services established by
2 IC 12-9-1-1.

3 (b) As used in this section, "waiver" refers to any waiver
4 administered by the office and the division under section 1915(c) of the
5 federal Social Security Act.

6 (c) The office shall apply to the United States Department of Health
7 and Human Services for approval to amend a waiver to set an
8 emergency placement priority for individuals in the following
9 situations:

10 (1) Death of a primary caregiver.

11 (2) The primary caregiver is at least eighty (80) years of age.

12 (3) There is evidence of abuse or neglect in the current
13 institutional or home placement.

14 (4) There is evidence of other health and safety risks, as
15 determined by the division director, where other available
16 services through:

17 (A) the Medicaid program and other federal, state, and local
18 public programs; and

19 (B) supports that families and communities provide;
20 are insufficient to address the other health and safety risks, as
21 determined by the division director.

22 **(d) The office may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 necessary to**
23 **implement this section.**

24 ~~(d)~~ **(e) Before January 1, 2027**, the division shall report on a
25 quarterly basis the following information to the division of disability
26 and rehabilitative services advisory council established by IC 12-9-4-2
27 **(before its expiration on December 31, 2026)** concerning each
28 Medicaid waiver for which the office has been approved under this
29 section to administer an emergency placement priority for individuals
30 described in this section:

31 (1) The number of applications for emergency placement priority
32 waivers.

33 (2) The number of individuals served on the waiver.

34 (3) The number of individuals on a wait list for the waiver.

35 **This subsection expires December 31, 2026.**

36 ~~(e)~~ **(f) Before July 1, 2021**, the division, in coordination with the
37 task force established by IC 12-11-15.5-2 **(before its expiration)**, shall
38 establish new priority categories for individuals served by a waiver.

39 **This subsection expires December 31, 2026.**

40 ~~(f) The office may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 necessary to~~

1 ~~implement this section.~~

2 SECTION 82. IC 12-15-30.5-2, AS ADDED BY P.L.116-2019,
3 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
4 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) As used in this chapter, "commission" refers
5 to the nonemergency medical transportation commission established by
6 section 7 of this chapter.

7 **(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.**

8 SECTION 83. IC 12-15-30.5-6, AS ADDED BY P.L.116-2019,
9 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
10 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. (a) Before October 1, 2019, the office of the
11 secretary shall prepare a report containing the number of Medicaid
12 fee-for-service nonemergency medical transportation claims paid by:

- 13 (1) vehicle type;
- 14 (2) Medicaid recipient category; and
- 15 (3) whether the recipient for which the claim was paid resided in:
 - 16 (A) the community;
 - 17 (B) a health facility;
 - 18 (C) an intermediate care facility for individuals with
 - 19 intellectual disabilities;
 - 20 (D) a hospital; or
 - 21 (E) another location.

22 (b) Beginning June 1, 2016, through May 31, 2019, the claims data
23 reported in subsection (a) must be organized by month.

24 (c) The office of the secretary shall submit the report prepared under
25 subsection (a) to the commission.

26 **(d) This section expires December 31, 2026.**

27 SECTION 84. IC 12-15-30.5-7, AS AMENDED BY THE
28 TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS BILL OF THE 2026 GENERAL
29 ASSEMBLY, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
30 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) The nonemergency medical transportation
31 commission is established for the purpose of overseeing the provision
32 of nonemergency medical transportation services to ensure that
33 Medicaid fee-for-service recipients are receiving satisfactory service
34 and to ensure that brokers pay the claims of transportation providers in
35 a timely manner.

36 (b) The commission consists of the following members:

- 37 (1) Two (2) members of the senate, who may not be members of
- 38 the same political party, appointed by the president pro tempore
- 39 of the senate with the advice of the minority leader of the senate.
- 40 (2) Two (2) members of the house of representatives, who may

not be members of the same political party, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives with the advice of the minority leader of the house of representatives.

(3) One (1) representative of the office of the secretary.

(4) One (1) individual representing a broker.

(5) One (1) individual representing a transportation provider that has contracted with a broker.

(6) One (1) individual representing the Indiana Hospital Association.

(7) One (1) individual representing the Indiana Health Care Association.

(8) One (1) individual representing the Indiana Association of Rehabilitation Facilities.

(9) One (1) individual representing the Arc of Indiana.

(10) One (1) physician licensed under IC 25-22.5.

(11) One (1) individual representing dialysis providers.

(12) One (1) Medicaid fee-for-service recipient.

(13) One (1) individual representing the Indiana Association of Area Agencies on Aging.

(14) One (1) individual representing the Indiana Emergency Medical Services Association.

(c) The members of the commission described in subsection (b)(1) and (b)(2) shall serve:

(1) as nonvoting advisory members; and

(2) for a four (4) year term.

(d) The members of the commission described in subsection (b)(3) through (b)(14) shall be appointed by the governor for terms of four (4) years. The term of a member of the commission expires July 1. However, a member may continue to serve until a successor is appointed. In case of a vacancy, the governor shall appoint an individual to serve for the remainder of the unexpired term. The governor shall designate one (1) member described in this subsection as chairperson of the commission.

~~(e) The initial appointments beginning July 1, 2019, must be:~~

~~(1) made by the governor not later than October 1, 2019; and~~

~~(2) notwithstanding subsection (d), staggered as follows:~~

~~(A) Two (2) years for the members appointed under subsection~~

~~(b)(4); (b)(6); (b)(8); (b)(10); (b)(12); and (b)(14).~~

~~(B) Three (3) years for the members appointed under subsection (b)(5); (b)(7); (b)(9); (b)(11); and (b)(13).~~

~~This subsection expires July 1, 2024.~~

(f) (e) The office shall provide staff support and technical assistance to the commission, including the collection of and dissemination of data and reports required by this chapter, in order for the commission to carry out its duties under this chapter.

(f) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 85. IC 12-15-30.5-8, AS ADDED BY P.L.116-2019, SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) Each member of the commission who is not a state employee is entitled to the minimum salary per diem provided by IC 4-10-11-2.1(b). Such a member is also entitled to reimbursement for traveling expenses and other expenses actually incurred in connection with the member's duties, as provided in the state travel policies and procedures established by the Indiana department of administration and approved by the budget agency.

(b) Each member of the commission who is a state employee but who is not a member of the general assembly is entitled to reimbursement for traveling expenses and other expenses actually incurred in connection with the member's duties, as provided in the state travel policies and procedures established by the Indiana department of administration and approved by the budget agency.

(c) Each member of the commission who is a member of the general assembly is entitled to receive the same per diem, mileage, and travel allowances paid to legislative members of interim study committees established by the legislative council. Per diem, mileage, and travel allowances paid under this subsection shall be paid from appropriations made to the legislative council or the legislative services agency.

(d) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 86. IC 12-15-30.5-9, AS ADDED BY P.L.116-2019, SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. (a) The commission shall meet at least two (2) times per year at a public meeting to do the following:

(1) Review a report submitted under this chapter.

(2) Provide feedback and make recommendations to the office of the secretary concerning the provision of nonemergency medical transportation services.

(3) Approve any monies to be awarded to a broker as part of a withhold provision outlined in the contract between the office of the secretary and the broker.

(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 87. IC 12-15-30.5-10, AS ADDED BY P.L.161-2025, SECTION 19, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. **(a)** On or before July 1, 2027, and July 1 biennially thereafter, the commission shall submit a report to the executive director of the legislative services agency, in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6, for review by the interim committee on government in accordance with IC 1-1-15.5-4 and IC 2-5-1.3-13(g). The report shall describe:

- (1) official action taken; and
- (2) actionable items considered;

by the commission during the preceding two (2) years.

(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 88. IC 12-17.2-2-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.56-2023, SECTION 117, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. The division may do the following:

- (1) Prescribe forms for reports, statements, notices, and other documents required by this article or by the rules adopted under this article.
- (2) Increase public awareness of this article and the rules adopted under this article by preparing and publishing manuals and guides explaining this article and the rules adopted under this article.
- (3) Facilitate compliance with and enforcement of this article through the publication of materials under subdivision (2).
- (4) Prepare reports and studies to advance the purpose of this article.
- (5) Seek the advice and recommendations of state agencies whose information and knowledge would be of assistance in writing, revising, or monitoring rules developed under this article. These agencies, including the office of the attorney general, Indiana department of health, division of mental health and addiction, bureau of criminal identification and investigation, and ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~, **the department of homeland security**, shall upon request supply necessary information to the division.
- (6) Make the directory of licensees available to the public for a charge not to exceed the cost of reproducing the directory.
- (7) Charge a reasonable processing fee for each license application and renewal as follows:
 - (A) For a child care center license, a fee of two dollars (\$2) per

- 1 licensed child capacity.
- 2 (B) For a child care center new inquiry application packet, a
- 3 fee not to exceed five dollars (\$5).
- 4 (C) For a child care home license new inquiry application
- 5 packet, a fee not to exceed five dollars (\$5).
- 6 (D) For a child care home annual inspection, a fee not to
- 7 exceed twenty-five dollars (\$25).
- 8 (8) Exercise any other regulatory and administrative powers
- 9 necessary to carry out the functions of the division.

10 SECTION 89. IC 12-17.2-2-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.56-2023,

11 SECTION 118, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS

12 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) The division shall adopt rules

13 under IC 4-22-2 concerning the licensing and inspection of child care

14 centers and child care homes after consultation with the following:

- 15 (1) Indiana department of health.
- 16 (2) ~~Fire prevention and building safety commission.~~ **Department**
- 17 **of homeland security.**

18 (b) The rules adopted under subsection (a) shall be applied by the

19 division and state fire marshal in the licensing and inspection of

20 applicants for a license and licensees under this article.

21 SECTION 90. IC 12-17.2-2-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021,

22 SECTION 44, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE

23 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. (a) A program operated to serve migrant

24 children that is exempted under section 8(6) of this chapter and is

25 certified by the United States Department of Health and Human

26 Services shall be:

- 27 (1) granted a provisional license by the division, for a limited
- 28 period not to exceed one (1) year and that is subject to review
- 29 every three (3) months, if the division determines that the
- 30 program reasonably complies with the rules adopted by the
- 31 division; and
- 32 (2) inspected by the department of homeland security.

33 (b) The division and the ~~fire prevention and building safety~~

34 ~~commission~~ **department of homeland security** shall adopt rules under

35 IC 4-22-2 that apply only to programs operated to serve migrant

36 children that take into consideration the fact that the programs:

- 37 (1) operate in donated space;
- 38 (2) provide services for children from migrant worker families;
- 39 and
- 40 (3) are operated during a single period of less than one hundred

1 twenty (120) consecutive days during a calendar year.

2 (c) This section does not prohibit a program operated to serve
3 migrant children from applying for a license under this article.

4 SECTION 91. IC 12-17.2-2-10, AS AMENDED BY P.L.225-2013,
5 SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
6 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) The division may grant a variance or
7 waiver of a rule governing a provider. A variance or waiver granted
8 under this section must promote statewide practices and must protect
9 the rights of persons affected by this article.

10 (b) The division may grant a variance to a rule if a provider does the
11 following:

12 (1) Submits to the division a written request for the variance in
13 the form and manner specified by the division.

14 (2) Documents that compliance with an alternative method of
15 compliance approved by the division will not be adverse to the
16 health, safety, or welfare of a child receiving services from the
17 applicant for the variance, as determined by the division.

18 (c) A variance granted under subsection (b) must be conditioned
19 upon compliance with the alternative method approved by the division.
20 Noncompliance constitutes the violation of a rule of the division and
21 may be the basis for revoking the variance.

22 (d) The division may grant a waiver of a rule if a provider does the
23 following:

24 (1) Submits to the division a written request for the waiver in the
25 form and manner specified by the division.

26 (2) Documents that compliance with the rule specified in the
27 application for the waiver will create an undue hardship on the
28 applicant for the waiver, as determined by the division.

29 (3) Documents that the applicant for the waiver will be in
30 substantial compliance with the rules adopted by the division after
31 the waiver is granted, as determined by the division.

32 (4) Documents that noncompliance with the rule specified in the
33 application for a waiver will not be adverse to the health, safety,
34 or welfare of a child receiving services from the applicant for the
35 waiver, as determined by the division.

36 (e) Except for a variance or waiver of a rule governing child care
37 homes, a variance or waiver of a rule under this section that conflicts
38 with a building rule or fire safety rule adopted by the ~~fire prevention~~
39 ~~and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** is
40 not effective until the variance or waiver is approved by the ~~fire~~

~~prevention and building safety commission; department of homeland security or, with the approval of the department of homeland security, the state building commissioner.~~

SECTION 92. IC 12-17.2-2-12 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 12. (a) If the division determines that a waiver or variance expiring under section 11 of this chapter will continue to serve the public interest, the division may do the following:

(1) Renew the waiver or variance without modifications.

(2) Renew and modify the waiver or variance as needed to promote statewide practices and to protect the rights of persons affected by this article.

(b) Before taking an action under subsection (a), the division may require a licensee under this article to do the following:

(1) Apply for the renewal of a waiver or variance on the form specified by the division.

(2) Provide the information required by the division.

(c) Except for a waiver or variance of a rule governing child care homes or foster homes, before taking an action under subsection (a), the division must obtain the approval of the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** for the action if either of the following occurs:

(1) The ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** substantially changes a building rule or fire safety rule affected by the waiver or variance after the date the ~~commission~~ **department of homeland security** last approved the waiver or variance.

(2) The division substantially modifies any part of a waiver or variance that conflicts with a building rule or fire safety rule adopted by the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission;~~ **department of homeland security.**

SECTION 93. IC 12-17.2-2-14.2, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2014, SECTION 68, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 14.2. (a) As used in this section, "program" refers to the paths to QUALITY program established by subsection (b).

(b) The paths to QUALITY program is established. The program is a voluntary child care facility quality rating and improvement system implemented by the division in partnership with the following organizations under the trademark "Paths to QUALITY":

(1) Indiana Association for the Education of Young Children.

(2) Indiana Association for Child Care Resource and Referral.

(3) Indiana Head Start Collaboration Office.

(4) Department of education established by IC 20-19-3-1.

(5) Early Childhood Alliance.

(6) 4C of Southern Indiana.

(c) The program shall use four (4) levels at which a child care facility participating in the program may be rated, with Level 4 indicating the highest level of quality child care.

(d) The office of the secretary shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to administer the paths to QUALITY program rating system. The rules must include procedures that outline eligibility and application procedures for the program, the establishment of procedures relating to the rating process, and the establishment or alteration of standards used in the rating process.

~~(e) The office of the secretary shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to establish the steering council of the program to make recommendations to the division on program issues and resources. Rules adopted under this subsection must require that council members be appointed from partner organizations that assist in the implementation of the program and serve to coordinate the program plan.~~

SECTION 94. IC 12-17.2-3.5-10 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) A facility where a provider operates a child care program must have two (2) exits that:

(1) do not require passage through a:

(A) garage; or

(B) storage area;

where hazardous materials are stored;

(2) are not windows;

(3) are on different sides of the facility;

(4) are not blocked; and

(5) are operable from the inside without the use of a key or any special knowledge.

(b) A provider shall:

(1) conduct monthly documented fire drills:

(A) in accordance with the rules of the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission;~~ **department of homeland security;** and

(B) that include complete evacuation of all:

(i) children; and

(ii) adults who provide child care;

- 1 in the facility;
- 2 (2) maintain documentation of all fire drills conducted during the
- 3 immediately preceding twelve (12) month period, including:
 - 4 (A) the date and time of the fire drill;
 - 5 (B) the name of the individual who conducted the fire drill;
 - 6 (C) the weather conditions at the time of the fire drill; and
 - 7 (D) the amount of time required to fully evacuate the facility;
 - 8 and
- 9 (3) maintain a two and one-half (2 1/2) pound or greater ABC
- 10 multiple purpose fire extinguisher:
 - 11 (A) on each floor of the facility; and
 - 12 (B) in the kitchen area of the facility;
- 13 in each facility where the provider operates a child care program.
- 14 SECTION 95. IC 12-17.2-5-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
- 15 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. The ~~fire prevention~~
- 16 ~~and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security**
- 17 must provide consultation regarding the licensure of child care homes
- 18 to the division upon request.
- 19 SECTION 96. IC 12-17.2-5-6.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.134-2024,
- 20 SECTION 8, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 21 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6.5. To qualify for a license to operate a class II
- 22 child care home under this chapter, a person must do the following:
 - 23 (1) Provide all child care services on the first story of the child
 - 24 care home unless the class II child care home meets the
 - 25 exceptions to the first story requirements contained in the Indiana
 - 26 building code adopted by the ~~fire prevention and building safety~~
 - 27 ~~commission~~ **department of homeland security** in effect at the
 - 28 time the class II child care home provider applies for licensure.
 - 29 (2) Provide a smoke detection system that is:
 - 30 (A) hard wired to the building's electrical system; and
 - 31 (B) wired in a manner that activates all of the detector devices
 - 32 in the building when one (1) detector device is activated.
 - 33 (3) Provide a fire extinguisher in each room that is used to
 - 34 provide child care services.
 - 35 (4) Meet:
 - 36 (A) the exit requirements for an E-3 building occupancy
 - 37 classification under the Indiana building code adopted by the
 - 38 ~~fire prevention and building safety commission;~~ **department**
 - 39 **of homeland security**, except for any illumination
 - 40 requirements, in effect at the time the class II child care home

- 1 provider initially applies for licensure; and
- 2 (B) the illumination requirements established in section
- 3 6.3(b)(3) of this chapter.
- 4 (5) Provide a minimum of thirty-five (35) square feet for each
- 5 child.
- 6 (6) Conduct fire drills required under article 37 of the Indiana fire
- 7 prevention code adopted by the ~~fire prevention and building~~
- 8 ~~safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** in effect
- 9 at the time the class II child care home provider applies for
- 10 licensure.
- 11 (7) Apply for a license before July 1, 1996, or after June 30, 2001.
- 12 (8) Comply with rules adopted by the division of family resources
- 13 for class II child care homes.
- 14 (9) Complete the training course taught or approved by the
- 15 division concerning safe sleeping practices for a child within the
- 16 person's care as described in IC 12-17.2-2-1(10).
- 17 SECTION 97. IC 12-17.2-5-36 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
- 18 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 36. The ~~fire prevention~~
- 19 ~~and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security**
- 20 may not adopt rules that classify a child care home as an E building
- 21 occupancy classification.
- 22 SECTION 98. IC 12-17.2-6-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021,
- 23 SECTION 46, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 24 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) As used in this section, "primary use of the
- 25 building" means the occupancy classification that is:
- 26 (1) most closely related to the intended use of the building; and
- 27 (2) determined by the rules of the ~~fire prevention and building~~
- 28 ~~safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** in effect
- 29 at the time that the child care ministry is first registered.
- 30 (b) The state fire marshal shall inspect a child care ministry
- 31 registered under section 2 of this chapter to ensure that the child care
- 32 ministry complies with the requirements of subsection (c).
- 33 (c) Except as provided in the following, a registered child care
- 34 ministry shall comply with all rules of the ~~fire prevention and building~~
- 35 ~~safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** applicable to the
- 36 primary use of the building:
- 37 (1) A registered child care ministry with an occupant load of at
- 38 least fifty (50) shall do either of the following:
- 39 (A) Install and maintain a fire alarm system in compliance
- 40 with the rules of the ~~fire prevention and building safety~~

~~commission.~~ **department of homeland security.**

(B) Provide a notice on a form prescribed by the department of homeland security to the parents of each child who attends the ministry stating that the ministry does not have the same level of fire safety protection as a licensed child care center.

(2) Each registered child care ministry with an occupant load of less than fifty (50) shall do either of the following:

(A) Install and maintain in good operating condition at least one (1) battery operated smoke detector in each room and corridor used by the ministry.

(B) Provide a notice on a form prescribed by the department of homeland security to the parents of each child who attends the ministry stating that the ministry does not have the same level of fire safety protection as a licensed child care center.

(3) Each registered child care ministry shall comply with the rules of the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** concerning fire drills.

For purposes of this subsection, occupant load is determined by dividing the total square footage of the area used by the child care ministry by thirty-five (35) and rounding any result that is not a whole number up to the next whole number.

(d) The state fire marshal shall make an inspection of a child care ministry registered under section 2 of this chapter at least annually.

(e) During an inspection, the state fire marshal shall inspect the structure in which the child care ministry is conducted for fire safety and life safety with respect to the structure's primary use.

SECTION 99. IC 12-17.6-2-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.53-2014, SECTION 111, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) The office shall contract with an independent organization to evaluate the program.

(b) The office shall report the results of each evaluation to the

~~(1) children's health policy board established by IC 4-23-27-2; and~~

~~(2) interim study committee on public health, behavioral health, and human services established by IC 2-5-1.3-4 in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.~~

(c) This section does not modify the requirements of other statutes relating to the confidentiality of medical records.

SECTION 100. IC 12-17.6-2-12, AS AMENDED BY P.L.53-2014, SECTION 112, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS

[EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 12. Not later than April 1, the office shall provide a report describing the program's activities during the preceding calendar year to the:

- (1) budget committee;
- (2) legislative council; **and**
- ~~(3) children's health policy board established by IC 4-23-27-2;~~
- ~~and~~
- ~~(4)~~ **(3)** interim study committee on public health, behavioral health, and human services established by IC 2-5-1.3-4 in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.

A report provided under this section to the legislative council must be in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.

SECTION 101. IC 12-17.6-4-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.103-2009, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) The benefit package provided under the program shall focus on age appropriate preventive, primary, and acute care services.

(b) The office shall offer health insurance coverage for the following basic services:

- (1) Inpatient and outpatient hospital services.
- (2) Physicians' services provided by a physician (as defined in 42 U.S.C. 1395x(r)).
- (3) Laboratory and x-ray services.
- (4) Well-baby and well-child care, including:
 - (A) age appropriate immunizations; and
 - (B) periodic screening, diagnosis, and treatment services according to a schedule developed by the office.

The office may offer services in addition to those listed in this subsection if appropriations to the program exist to pay for the additional services.

(c) The office shall offer health insurance coverage for the following additional services if **the office determines that** the coverage for the services has an actuarial value equal to or greater than the actuarial value of the services provided by the benchmark program: ~~determined by the children's health policy board established by IC 4-23-27-2;~~

- (1) Prescription drugs.
- (2) Mental health services.
- (3) Vision services.
- (4) Hearing services.
- (5) Dental services.

(d) Notwithstanding subsections (b) and (c), the office may not impose treatment limitations or financial requirements on the coverage of services for a mental illness if similar treatment limitations or financial requirements are not imposed on coverage for services for other illnesses. Coverage for mental illness under the program must include the following:

(1) Inpatient mental health services and substance abuse services provided in an institution that:

(A) treats mental disease; and

(B) has more than sixteen (16) beds;

unless coverage is prohibited by federal law.

(2) Psychiatric residential treatment services.

(3) Community mental health rehabilitation services.

(4) Outpatient mental health services and substance abuse services, with no greater limitations on the number of units per rolling year than are required under the Medicaid program.

However, the office may require prior authorization for the services specified in subdivisions (1) through (4).

SECTION 102. IC 12-17.6-4-5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) It is a violation of IC 27-4-1-4 if an insurer, or an insurance producer or insurance broker compensated by the insurer, knowingly or intentionally refers an insured or the dependent of an insured to the program for health insurance coverage when the insured already receives health insurance coverage through an employer's health care plan that is underwritten by the insurer.

(b) The office shall ~~coordinate with the children's health policy board under IC 4-23-27~~ to evaluate the need for mechanisms that minimize the incentive for an employer to eliminate or reduce health care coverage for an employee's dependents.

SECTION 103. IC 13-20-13-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.37-2012, SECTION 33, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. A person that obtains a certificate of registration under section 3 of this chapter must do the following:

(1) Report annually to the department on the following:

(A) The number of passenger tire equivalents received at the waste tire storage site or by the waste tire processing operation.

(B) The number and manner of disposal of the passenger tire equivalents.

(2) Maintain contingency plans to protect public health and the environment.

(3) If the person operates a waste tire storage site, maintain financial assurance acceptable to the department necessary for waste tire removal, in an amount specified in rules adopted by the board under section 11(b)(3) of this chapter.

(4) Maintain a copy of the certificate of registration at the site.

(5) Comply with applicable rules and requirements established by the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** for indoor waste tire storage sites.

(6) Retain a copy of manifests received from a waste tire transporter under IC 13-20-14 for at least one (1) year and make a copy of the manifests available to the department upon request.

SECTION 104. IC 13-23-2-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. A unit of local government may not enact or enforce an ordinance that is in conflict with any of the following:

(1) This article.

(2) IC 22-12-2.6.

~~(3)~~ **(3)** Rules adopted by the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** under this article.

~~(4)~~ **(4)** Rules adopted by the board under this article.

SECTION 105. IC 13-23-3-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) To obtain a certificate under section 1 of this chapter, a person must:

(1) take an examination that is approved;

(2) achieve a passing score on the examination that is established; and

(3) pay any reasonable fees necessary to offset the costs incurred by the state fire marshal in administering the examination and certification procedures that are established;

under rules adopted by the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security**.

(b) An examination described under subsection (a) must cover the following subjects:

(1) Relevant rules adopted by the:

(A) board; and

(B) ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security**;

concerning underground storage tanks.

(2) Any other subjects approved under rules adopted by the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security**.

(c) The ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** shall adopt rules establishing the following:

(1) The number of times a person who fails an examination described under this section may take the examination again.

(2) The period of time a person who fails an examination described under this section must wait before taking the examination again.

(d) The state fire marshal may, under rules adopted by the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security**, certify a person:

(1) under section 1 of this chapter; and

(2) by reciprocity;

if the person is licensed or certified by another state that has certification requirements that are substantially similar to the requirements established under this section.

SECTION 106. IC 14-8-2-48, AS AMENDED BY P.L.251-2023, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 48. (a) "Commission", except as provided in this section, refers to the natural resources commission.

(b) "Commission", for purposes of IC 14-13-1, has the meaning set forth in IC 14-13-1-1.

(c) "Commission", for purposes of IC 14-13-2, has the meaning set forth in IC 14-13-2-2.

~~(d) "Commission", for purposes of IC 14-13-4, has the meaning set forth in IC 14-13-4-1.~~

~~(e) "Commission", for purposes of IC 14-13-5, has the meaning set forth in IC 14-13-5-1.~~

~~(f) (d)~~ "Commission", for purposes of IC 14-13-6, has the meaning set forth in IC 14-13-6-2.

~~(g) (e)~~ "Commission", for purposes of IC 14-13-9, has the meaning set forth in IC 14-13-9-2.

~~(h) (f)~~ "Commission", for purposes of IC 14-20-11, has the meaning set forth in IC 14-20-11-1.

~~(i) (g)~~ "Commission", for purposes of IC 14-28-4, has the meaning set forth in IC 14-28-4-1.

~~(j) (h)~~ "Commission", for purposes of IC 14-30-2, has the meaning set forth in IC 14-30-2-2.

1 ~~(k)~~ (i) "Commission", for purposes of IC 14-30-3, has the meaning
2 set forth in IC 14-30-3-2.

3 ~~(j)~~ (j) "Commission", for purposes of IC 14-30-4, has the meaning
4 set forth in IC 14-30-4-2.

5 ~~(m)~~ (k) "Commission", for purposes of IC 14-30.5, has the meaning
6 set forth in IC 14-30.5-1-2.

7 ~~(n)~~ (l) "Commission", for purposes of IC 14-33-20, has the meaning
8 set forth in IC 14-33-20-2.

9 SECTION 107. IC 14-8-2-59, AS AMENDED BY P.L.197-2011,
10 SECTION 47, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
11 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 59. "Corridor" has ~~the following meaning:~~

12 ~~(1) For purposes of IC 14-13-4, the meaning set forth in~~
13 ~~IC 14-13-4-2.~~

14 ~~(2) For purposes of IC 14-13-5, the meaning set forth in~~
15 ~~IC 14-13-5-2.~~

16 ~~(3) For purposes of IC 14-13-6, the meaning set forth in~~
17 ~~IC 14-13-6-3.~~

18 SECTION 108. IC 14-8-2-61 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY
19 1, 2026]. Sec. 61. "Council", for purposes of IC 14-21-1, has the
20 meaning set forth in IC 14-21-1-5.

21 SECTION 109. IC 14-9-6 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
22 2026]. (Advisory Council).

23 SECTION 110. IC 14-10-1-0.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
24 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
25 [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: **Sec. 0.5. This article expires July**
26 **1, 2027.**

27 SECTION 111. IC 14-10-1-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.78-2019,
28 SECTION 13, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
29 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. The natural resources commission is
30 established. The commission consists of ~~twelve (12)~~ **eleven (11)**
31 members as follows:

32 (1) The commissioner of the Indiana department of transportation
33 or the commissioner's designee.

34 (2) The commissioner of the department of environmental
35 management or the commissioner's designated deputy.

36 (3) The director of the office of tourism development or the
37 director's designee (before July 1, 2020) or the director of the
38 Indiana destination development corporation or the director's
39 designee (after June 30, 2020).

40 (4) The director of the department.

(5) The chairperson of the advisory council established by IC 14-9-6-1.

(6) (5) The president of the Indiana academy of science or the president's designee.

(7) (6) Six (6) citizen members appointed by the governor, at least two (2) of whom must have knowledge, experience, or education in the environment or in natural resource conservation. Not more than three (3) citizen members may be of the same political party.

SECTION 112. IC 14-13-2-32, AS ADDED BY P.L.106-2012, SECTION 19, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 32. (a) The Little Calumet River basin project advisory board is established.

(b) The advisory board consists of the following members:

(1) One (1) member appointed by the executive of each municipality located in the watershed.

(2) One (1) member appointed by the board of county commissioners of Lake County.

(c) Each member of the advisory board must have experience in:

(1) designing;

(2) constructing;

(3) maintaining; or

(4) managing;

drainage or flood control facilities in the watershed.

(d) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 113. IC 14-13-4-17 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 17. This chapter expires December 31, 2026.**

SECTION 114. IC 14-13-5-18 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 18. This chapter expires December 31, 2026.**

SECTION 115. IC 14-21-1-5 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. **Sec. 5: As used in this chapter, "council" refers to the advisory council established by IC 14-9-6-1.**

SECTION 116. IC 14-21-1-12 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 12. The division shall do the following:

(1) Develop a program of historical, architectural, and archeological research and development, including continuing

1 surveys, excavations, scientific recording, interpretation, and
 2 publication of the state's historical, architectural, and
 3 archeological resources.

4 (2) Prepare a preservation plan for the state that establishes
 5 planning guidelines to encourage the continuous maintenance and
 6 integrity of historic sites and historic structures. However, the
 7 plan is not effective until the plan has been

8 ~~(A) presented to the council for review and comment; and~~

9 ~~(B)~~ approved by the review board after public hearing.

10 (3) Undertake the action necessary to qualify the state for
 11 participation in sources of federal aid to further the purposes
 12 stated in subdivisions (1) and (2).

13 (4) Provide information on historic sites and structures within
 14 Indiana to federal, state, and local governmental agencies, private
 15 individuals, and organizations.

16 (5) Advise and coordinate the activities of local historical
 17 associations, historic district commissions, historic commissions,
 18 and other interested groups or persons.

19 (6) Provide technical and financial assistance to local historical
 20 associations, historic district commissions, historic commissions,
 21 and other interested groups or persons.

22 (7) Review environmental impact statements as required by
 23 federal and state law for actions significantly affecting historic
 24 properties.

25 SECTION 117. IC 14-21-1-13, AS AMENDED BY P.L.2-2007,
 26 SECTION 169, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 27 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 13. The division may do the
 28 following:

29 (1) Recommend the purchase, lease, or gift of historic property of
 30 archeological importance and make recommendations to the
 31 director ~~council~~, and commission regarding policies affecting the
 32 operation and administration of these sites and structures by the
 33 section of historic sites of the division of state museums and
 34 historic sites.

35 (2) Prepare and review planning and research studies relating to
 36 archeology.

37 (3) Conduct a program of education in archeology, either within
 38 the division or in conjunction with a postsecondary educational
 39 institution.

40 (4) Inspect and supervise an archeological field investigation

1 authorized by this chapter.

2 SECTION 118. IC 14-21-1-25.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.133-2012,
 3 SECTION 173, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 4 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 25.5. (a) If a Native American
 5 Indian burial ground is discovered, the department shall immediately
 6 provide notice to the ~~Native American Indian affairs commission~~
 7 ~~established by IC 4-23-32.~~ **Indiana cultural commission established**
 8 **under IC 4-23-36.**

9 (b) If Native American Indian human remains are removed from a
 10 burial ground, the department shall provide the following to the ~~Native~~
 11 ~~American Indian affairs~~ **Indiana cultural** commission:

12 (1) Any written findings or reports that result from the analysis
 13 and study of the human remains.

14 (2) Written notice to the ~~Native American Indian affairs~~ **Indiana**
 15 **cultural** commission that the analysis and study of the human
 16 remains are complete.

17 (c) After receiving written notice under subsection (b)(2), the ~~Native~~
 18 ~~American Indian affairs~~ **Indiana cultural** commission shall make
 19 recommendations to the department regarding the final disposition of
 20 the Native American Indian human remains.

21 SECTION 119. IC 14-25-2-2.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.3-2008,
 22 SECTION 102, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 23 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2.5. (a) As used in this chapter,
 24 "water utility" means:

25 (1) a public utility (as defined in IC 8-1-2-1(a));

26 (2) a municipally owned utility (as defined in IC 8-1-2-1(h));

27 (3) a not-for-profit utility (as defined in IC 8-1-2-125(a));

28 (4) a cooperatively owned corporation;

29 (5) a conservancy district established under IC 14-33; or

30 (6) a regional water district established under IC 13-26;

31 that provides water service to the public.

32 (b) A person that seeks to contract with the commission for the
 33 provision of certain minimum quantities of stream flow or the sale of
 34 water on a unit pricing basis under section 2 of this chapter must
 35 submit a request to the commission and the department. The
 36 commission shall not make a determination as to whether to enter into
 37 a contract with the person making the request until:

38 (1) the procedures set forth in this section have been followed;
 39 and

40 (2) the commission has reviewed and considered each report

1 submitted to the commission under subsection (i).

2 (c) Not later than thirty (30) days after receiving a request under
3 subsection (b), the department shall provide, by certified mail, written
4 notice of the request to the following:

5 (1) Each person with whom the commission holds a contract for:

6 (A) the provision of certain minimum quantities of stream
7 flow; or

8 (B) the sale of water on a unit pricing basis;
9 as of the date of the request.

10 (2) The executive and legislative body of each:

11 (A) county;

12 (B) municipality, if any; and

13 (C) conservancy district established under IC 14-33, if any;
14 in which the water sought in the request would be used.

15 (3) The executive and legislative body of each:

16 (A) county;

17 (B) municipality, if any; and

18 (C) conservancy district established under IC 14-33, if any;
19 in which the affected reservoir is located.

20 (d) Not later than seven (7) days after receiving a notice from the
21 department under subsection (c), each person described in subsection
22 (c)(1) shall, by certified mail, provide written notice of the request to
23 each:

24 (1) water utility; or

25 (2) other person;

26 that contracts with the person described in subsection (c)(1) for the
27 purchase of water for resale. Each person to whom notice is mailed
28 under this subsection is in turn responsible for providing written notice
29 by certified mail to each water utility or other person that purchases
30 water from that person for resale. A water utility or another person
31 required to provide notice under this subsection shall mail the required
32 notice not later than seven (7) days after it receives notice of the
33 request from the water utility or other person from whom it purchases
34 water for resale.

35 (e) At the same time that:

36 (1) a person described in subsection (c)(1); or

37 (2) a water utility or another person described in subsection (d);
38 mails any notice required under subsection (d), it shall also mail to the
39 department, by certified mail, a list of the names and addresses of each
40 water utility or other person to whom it has mailed the notice under

1 subsection (d).

2 (f) In addition to the mailed notice required under subsection (c), the
3 department shall publish notice of the request, in accordance with
4 IC 5-3-1, in each county:

- 5 (1) in which a person described in section (c)(1) is located;
- 6 (2) in which the affected reservoir is located;
- 7 (3) in which the water sought in the request would be used; and
- 8 (4) in which a water utility or other person included in a list
9 received by the department under subsection (e) is located.

10 Notwithstanding IC 5-3-1-6, in each county in which publication is
11 required under this subsection, notice shall be published in at least one
12 (1) general circulation newspaper in the county. The department may,
13 in its discretion, publish public notices in a qualified publication (as
14 defined in IC 5-3-1-0.7) or additional newspapers to provide
15 supplementary notification to the public. The cost of publishing
16 supplementary notification is a proper expenditure of the department.

17 (g) A notice required to be mailed or published under this section
18 must:

- 19 (1) identify the person making the request;
- 20 (2) include a brief description of:
 - 21 (A) the nature of the pending request; and
 - 22 (B) the process by which the commission will determine
23 whether to enter into a contract with the person making the
24 request;
- 25 (3) set forth the date, time, and location of the public meeting
26 required under subsection (h); and
- 27 (4) in the case of a notice that is required to be mailed under
28 subsection (c)(1) or (d), a statement of the recipient's duty to in
29 turn provide notice to any:
 - 30 (A) water utility; or
 - 31 (B) other person;
- 32 that purchases water for resale from the recipient, in accordance
33 with subsection (d).

34 (h) The ~~advisory council established by IC 14-9-6-1~~ **department**
35 shall hold a public meeting in each county in which notice is published
36 under subsection (f). A public meeting required under this subsection
37 must include the following:

- 38 (1) A presentation by the department describing:
 - 39 (A) the nature of the pending request; and
 - 40 (B) the process by which the commission will determine

1 whether to enter into a contract with the person making the
2 request.

3 (2) An opportunity for public comment on the pending request.
4 The ~~advisory council~~ **department** may appoint a hearing officer to
5 assist with a public meeting held under this subsection.

6 (i) Not later than thirty (30) days after a public meeting is held
7 under subsection (h), the ~~advisory council~~ **department** shall submit to
8 the commission a report summarizing the public meeting.

9 SECTION 120. IC 14-25-7-10, AS AMENDED BY P.L.161-2025,
10 SECTION 23, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
11 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) The commission shall administer this
12 chapter.

13 (b) The deputy director for the bureau of resource management shall
14 serve as technical secretary to the commission. The deputy director
15 shall perform the duties that are required by this chapter or that the
16 commission directs.

17 (c) ~~The advisory council established by IC 14-9-6-1 shall serve in~~
18 ~~an advisory capacity to the commission with respect to the~~
19 ~~implementation of the commission's powers and duties; including the~~
20 ~~drafting of rules and development of inventories, assessments, and~~
21 ~~plans.~~

22 (d) ~~For the time that the advisory council is involved in the drafting~~
23 ~~of rules; the membership of the council shall be augmented as follows:~~

24 ~~(1) Two (2) members of the senate; not more than one (1) of~~
25 ~~whom may be of the same political party; shall be appointed for~~
26 ~~a term of two (2) years by the president pro tempore of the senate.~~

27 ~~(2) Two (2) members of the house of representatives; not more~~
28 ~~than one (1) of whom may be of the same political party; shall be~~
29 ~~appointed for a term of two (2) years by the speaker of the house~~
30 ~~of representatives.~~

31 ~~These members are entitled to travel expenses and a per diem~~
32 ~~allowance as determined by the budget agency for members of boards~~
33 ~~and commissions generally.~~

34 (e) ~~(c)~~ The department shall provide professional, technical, and
35 clerical personnel, equipment, supplies, and support services
36 reasonably required to assist the commission in the exercise of the
37 commission's powers and duties under this chapter. The department
38 shall include money for this purpose in the regular operating budget
39 requests of the department.

40 (f) ~~On or before July 1, 2027, and July 1 biennially thereafter, the~~

advisory council shall submit a report to the executive director of the legislative services agency; in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6, for review by the interim committee on government in accordance with IC 1-1-15.5-4 and IC 2-5-1.3-13(g). The report shall describe:

(1) official action taken; and

(2) actionable items considered;

by the advisory council during the preceding two (2) years:

SECTION 121. IC 14-25-7-12.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.189-2015, SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 12.5. (a) The department shall cooperate with the United States Geological Survey to establish a program under which volunteers may monitor the water resource and provide monitoring data to the commission, the department, and the United States Geological Survey. Data derived from the voluntary monitoring conducted under the program may be:

(1) collected and disseminated by the commission under section 12(1) of this chapter; and

(2) used by the commission in conducting the continuing assessment of the availability of the water resource under section 11(1) of this chapter.

(b) The department may cooperate with other local, state, and federal governmental agencies in implementing this section.

(c) The commission, under IC 4-22-2 and section 10(a) of this chapter, may adopt rules concerning the administration of this section. ~~Section 10(c) and 10(d) of this chapter does not apply to the adoption of rules under this subsection.~~

SECTION 122. IC 14-26-2-24, AS AMENDED BY P.L.92-2025, SECTION 44, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 24. (a) Relying on recommendations of the department, ~~and the advisory council established by IC 14-9-6-1~~, the commission shall adopt, under IC 4-22-7-7(a)(5)(A), and maintain a nonrule policy statement that lists the public freshwater lakes in Indiana. For each public freshwater lake the statement must include the following information:

(1) The name of the lake.

(2) The county and specific location within the county where the lake is located.

(b) A person may obtain an administrative adjudication from the office of administrative law proceedings for the listing or nonlisting of a lake as a public freshwater lake through a licensure action, status

1 determination, or enforcement action under IC 4-21.5.

2 SECTION 123. IC 15-11-2-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.9-2018,
3 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
4 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) As used in this section, "biomass" means
5 agriculturally based sources of renewable energy, including the
6 following:

- 7 (1) Agricultural crops.
- 8 (2) Agricultural wastes and residues.
- 9 (3) Wood and wood byproducts, including the following:
 - 10 (A) Wood residue.
 - 11 (B) Forest thinning.
 - 12 (C) Mill residue wood.
- 13 (4) Animal wastes.
- 14 (5) Animal byproducts.
- 15 (6) Aquatic plants.
- 16 (7) Algae.

17 The term does not include waste from construction and demolition.

18 (b) The department shall do the following:

- 19 (1) Provide administrative and staff support for the following:
 - 20 (A) The state fair board for purposes of carrying out the
 - 21 director's duties under IC 15-13-5.
 - 22 (B) The Indiana corn marketing council for purposes of
 - 23 administering the duties of the director under IC 15-15-12.
 - 24 (C) The Indiana dairy industry development board for
 - 25 purposes of administering the duties of the director under
 - 26 IC 15-18-5.
 - 27 (D) The Indiana land resources council under IC 15-12-5.
 - 28 (E) The Indiana grain buyers and warehouse licensing agency
 - 29 under IC 26-3-7.
 - 30 (F) The Indiana grain indemnity corporation under IC 26-4-3.
 - 31 (G) The division.
- 32 (2) Administer the election of state fair board members under
- 33 IC 15-13-5.
- 34 (3) Administer state programs and laws promoting agricultural
- 35 trade.
- 36 (4) Administer state livestock or agriculture marketing grant
- 37 programs.
- 38 (5) Administer economic development efforts for agriculture by
- 39 doing the following:
 - 40 (A) Promoting value added agricultural resources.

- 1 (B) Marketing Indiana agriculture to businesses
- 2 internationally.
- 3 (C) Assisting Indiana agricultural businesses with developing
- 4 partnerships with the Indiana economic development
- 5 corporation.
- 6 (D) Soliciting private funding for selective economic
- 7 development and trade initiatives.
- 8 (E) Providing for the orderly economic development and
- 9 growth of Indiana's agricultural economy.
- 10 (F) Facilitating the use of biomass and algae production
- 11 systems to generate renewable energy.
- 12 (6) Carry out the department's duties under IC 23-15-12.
- 13 **(7) Provide administrative and staff support for the following:**
- 14 **(A) The state chemist for purposes of carrying out the state**
- 15 **seed commissioner duties under IC 15-15-1.**
- 16 **(B) The state chemist for purposes of carrying out the**
- 17 **duties under IC 15-15-2.**
- 18 **(C) The state chemist for purposes of carrying out the state**
- 19 **seed commissioner duties under IC 15-15-5.**
- 20 **(D) The state chemist for purposes of carrying out the state**
- 21 **seed commissioner duties under IC 15-15-7.**
- 22 **(E) The state chemist for purposes of carrying out the state**
- 23 **seed commissioner duties under IC 15-15-13.**
- 24 **(F) The state chemist for purposes of carrying out the**
- 25 **duties under IC 15-16-1.**
- 26 **(G) The state chemist for purposes of carrying out the**
- 27 **duties under IC 15-16-2.**
- 28 **(H) The state chemist for purposes of carrying out the**
- 29 **duties under IC 15-16-3.**
- 30 **(I) The state chemist for purposes of carrying out the**
- 31 **duties under IC 15-16-4.**
- 32 **(J) The state chemist for purposes of carrying out the**
- 33 **duties under IC 15-16-5.**
- 34 **(K) The state chemist for purposes of carrying out the**
- 35 **duties under IC 15-19-7.**
- 36 SECTION 124. IC 15-11-2-9, AS ADDED BY P.L.5-2025,
- 37 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 38 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. (a) As used in this section, "user" includes:
- 39 (1) a rural community;
- 40 (2) a farmer;

- 1 (3) an agribusiness; or
- 2 (4) any other individual or entity using the online portal
- 3 established under this section for the purposes described in
- 4 subsection (d).
- 5 (b) The department shall establish an online portal on the
- 6 department's website.
- 7 (c) The department shall administer the online portal.
- 8 (d) The purposes of the online portal shall be to:
- 9 (1) assist users in the successful navigation of agricultural or
- 10 related topics among various federal and state agencies;
- 11 (2) provide a single source for users to access agricultural or
- 12 related federal and state funding opportunities;
- 13 (3) provide a searchable data base of available federal and state
- 14 grants with information on eligibility and deadline criteria; and
- 15 (4) provide regular updates to reflect changes in federal and state
- 16 funding opportunities.
- 17 (e) The online portal shall include links that will facilitate the
- 18 navigation of the websites of various federal and state agencies,
- 19 including the following:
- 20 (1) The United States Department of Agriculture.
- 21 (2) The United States Department of Agriculture's Natural
- 22 Resources Conservation Service.
- 23 (3) The United States Environmental Protection Agency.
- 24 (4) The department of environmental management established by
- 25 IC 13-13-1-1.
- 26 (5) The Indiana state board of animal health established by
- 27 IC 15-17-3-1.
- 28 (6) The office of ~~the~~ state chemist (and by virtue of office, the
- 29 state seed commissioner under IC 15-15-1-26) established by
- 30 ~~IC 15-16-2-24. IC 15-11-4.5-1.~~
- 31 (7) The office of community and rural affairs established by
- 32 IC 4-4-9.7-4.
- 33 (8) Any other federal or state agency, the interaction with which
- 34 would be helpful to users.
- 35 (f) To accomplish the purposes described in subsection (d), the
- 36 online portal shall do the following:
- 37 (1) Provide a series of regulatory checklists for users that are
- 38 considering diversifying into new markets to assist users in:
- 39 (A) the navigation of agricultural and related regulations; and
- 40 (B) the avoidance of punitive enforcement actions before they

- 1 arise.
- 2 (2) Assist users in collaborating with:
- 3 (A) the Purdue University cooperative extension service;
- 4 (B) the state climate office hosted by Purdue University; and
- 5 (C) the United States Department of Agriculture;
- 6 to create a one stop venue that will help connect users with
- 7 responsive data visualization tools and technical assistance
- 8 programming.
- 9 (3) Provide a one stop venue where users may gather information
- 10 regarding, and apply for, available federal and state agricultural
- 11 and related funding opportunities.
- 12 (4) Include a link to provide users with ongoing updates on the
- 13 status of land that was identified as lost farmland included in the
- 14 department's inventory of lost farmland, and as reported by the
- 15 department, under IC 15-11-9-1.1 (before its expiration) or
- 16 IC 15-11-9-1.3.
- 17 (5) Include a formal venue to collect comments from the public
- 18 regarding federal regulations that impact Indiana's rural economy
- 19 with the goal of assisting the state in providing vigorous advocacy
- 20 on behalf of the public.
- 21 (6) Include a formal venue where users may provide to the
- 22 department reviews and feedback regarding the usefulness of the
- 23 online portal.

24 SECTION 125. IC 15-11-4.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA

25 CODE AS A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS

26 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]:

27 **Chapter 4.5. Office of the State Chemist**

28 **Sec. 1. The office of the state chemist is established as a division**

29 **of the department.**

30 **Sec. 2. The director shall appoint the state chemist, who serves**

31 **at the pleasure of the director, and the state chemist is the**

32 **administrative head of the office of the state chemist.**

33 **Sec. 3. The state chemist may designate staff or an employee to**

34 **discharge duties imposed on the state chemist by law.**

35 **Sec. 4. The state chemist shall administer the following**

36 **chapters:**

- 37 (1) IC 15-15-1.
- 38 (2) IC 15-15-2.
- 39 (3) IC 15-15-5.
- 40 (4) IC 15-15-7.

1 (5) IC 15-15-13.

2 (6) IC 15-16-1.

3 (7) IC 15-16-2.

4 (8) IC 15-16-3.

5 (9) IC 15-16-4.

6 (10) IC 15-16-5.

7 (11) IC 15-19-7.

8 Sec. 5. (a) After December 31, 2027, all individuals employed by
9 the state chemist shall become employees of the state.

10 (b) The department shall determine qualifications, duties,
11 compensation, and terms of service for individuals employed by the
12 state chemist as employees or as independent contractors.

13 (c) Employees of the state chemist who are employed on
14 December 31, 2027, under Purdue University and who continue
15 employment after December 31, 2027, under the department as
16 provided in subsection (a) are entitled to have their service under
17 Purdue University included for purposes of computing:

18 (1) retention in the event of a layoff; and

19 (2) all other applicable employment and retirement benefits.

20 Sec. 6. (a) As used in this section, "Purdue University" refers to:

21 (1) the treasurer of Purdue University;

22 (2) the board of trustees of Purdue University; or

23 (3) the dean of agriculture of Purdue University;

24 as applicable in the administration of the office of the state chemist
25 under IC 15-16-2-24 (before its repeal).

26 (b) After December 31, 2027, all powers, duties, agreements, and
27 liabilities of the office of the state chemist administered by Purdue
28 University are transferred to the department, as the successor
29 agency.

30 (c) After December 31, 2027, all records and property of the
31 office of the state chemist administered by Purdue University,
32 including appropriations and other funds under the control or
33 supervision of the office of the state chemist, are transferred to the
34 department, as the successor agency.

35 (d) After December 31, 2027, any amounts owed to the office of
36 the state chemist administered by Purdue University before
37 December 31, 2027, are considered to be owed to the office of the
38 state chemist administered by the department, as the successor
39 agency.

40 Sec. 7. (a) After December 31, 2027, all records and fees

1 collected under IC 15-15-1 by the state seed commissioner and
2 transferred to the treasurer of Purdue University, including
3 appropriations under the control or supervision of the treasurer of
4 Purdue University, are transferred to the seed fund established by
5 IC 15-15-1-34.5 and to the department, as the successor agency.

6 (b) After December 31, 2027, all records and fees collected
7 under IC 15-15-2 by the state chemist and transferred to the
8 treasurer of Purdue University, including appropriations under the
9 control or supervision of the treasurer of Purdue University, are
10 transferred to the plant cultures fund established by IC 15-15-2-5.5
11 and to the department, as the successor agency.

12 (c) After December 31, 2027, all records and fees collected
13 under IC 15-15-13 by the state seed commissioner and paid to the
14 treasurer of Purdue University, including appropriations under the
15 control or supervision of the treasurer of Purdue University, are
16 transferred to the industrial hemp fund established by
17 IC 15-15-13-15.5 and to the department, as the successor agency.

18 (d) After December 31, 2027, all records and fees collected
19 under IC 15-16-2-35 by the state chemist and transferred to the
20 treasurer of Purdue University, including appropriations under the
21 control or supervision of the treasurer of Purdue University, are
22 transferred to the commercial fertilizer fund established by
23 IC 15-16-2-34.5 and to the department, as the successor agency.

24 (e) After December 31, 2027, all records and fees collected by
25 the state chemist and paid to the treasurer of Purdue University
26 under IC 15-16-2-36, including appropriations under the control
27 or supervision of the treasurer of Purdue University, are
28 transferred to the horticulture products and control excess fund
29 established by IC 15-16-2-35.5 and to the department, as the
30 successor agency.

31 (f) After December 31, 2027, all records and fees collected by the
32 state chemist and paid to the treasurer of Purdue University under
33 IC 15-16-4, including appropriations under the control or
34 supervision of the treasurer of Purdue University, are transferred
35 to the pesticide fund established by IC 15-16-4-61.5 and to the
36 department, as the successor agency.

37 (g) After December 31, 2027, all records and fees collected by
38 the state chemist and paid to the treasurer of Purdue University
39 under IC 15-16-5, including appropriations under the control or
40 supervision of the treasurer of Purdue University, are transferred

1 to the pesticide use and application fund established by
2 IC 15-16-5-59.5 and to the department, as the successor agency.

3 (h) After December 31, 2027, all records and fees collected by
4 the state chemist and paid to the treasurer of Purdue University
5 under IC 15-19-7, including appropriations under the control or
6 supervision of the treasurer of Purdue University, are transferred
7 to the commercial feed inspection fund established by
8 IC 15-19-7-32.5 and to the department, as the successor agency.

9 (i) After December 31, 2027, all records and fees collected by the
10 state chemist and paid to the treasurer of Purdue University for the
11 soil scientist registration fund under IC 25-31.5-3-9, including
12 appropriations under the control or supervision of the treasurer of
13 Purdue University, are transferred to the department, as the
14 successor agency.

15 SECTION 126. IC 15-15-1-34.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
16 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
17 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 34.5. (a) The seed fund is
18 established to carry out the functions of this chapter. The fund
19 shall be administered by the state seed commissioner.

20 (b) The fund consists of:

21 (1) money appropriated to the fund by the general assembly;

22 (2) fees collected under this chapter; and

23 (3) money received from any other source, including transfers
24 from other:

25 (A) funds; or

26 (B) accounts.

27 (c) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not
28 currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same
29 manner as other public funds may be invested.

30 (d) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not
31 revert to the state general fund.

32 SECTION 127. IC 15-15-1-35, AS AMENDED BY P.L.29-2024,
33 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
34 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 35. (a) The state seed commissioner shall ~~pay~~
35 **deposit** all fees collected under this chapter ~~to in the treasurer of~~
36 ~~Purdue University:~~ **seed fund established by section 34.5 of this**
37 **chapter.**

38 (b) The ~~board of trustees of Purdue University state seed~~
39 ~~commissioner shall expend the fees on proper vouchers filed with the~~
40 ~~treasurer of Purdue University. The treasurer shall pay vouchers use~~

funds from the seed fund to pay for the following expenses:

- (1) The employment of inspectors and seed analysts.
- (2) Procuring samples.
- (3) Printing bulletins giving the results of inspection.
- (4) Any other expenses ~~of the Purdue University agricultural programs~~ authorized by law and for implementing this chapter.

(c) ~~The dean of agriculture of Purdue University~~ **state seed commissioner** shall make and submit an annual financial report to the:

- (1) governor;
- (2) legislative council; and
- (3) budget committee;

in such form as the state board of accounts requires, showing the total receipts and expenditures of all fees received under this chapter. The budget committee shall review this report annually.

(d) Excess funds from the collection of fees under this chapter are subject to IC 15-16-2-36.

SECTION 128. IC 15-15-2-5.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 5.5. (a) The plant cultures fund is established to carry out the functions of this chapter. The fund shall be administered by the state chemist.**

(b) The fund consists of:

- (1) money appropriated to the fund by the general assembly;**
- (2) fees collected under this chapter; and**
- (3) money received from any other source, including transfers from other:**

(A) funds; or

(B) accounts.

(c) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same manner as other public funds may be invested.

(d) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not revert to the state general fund.

SECTION 129. IC 15-15-2-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.29-2024, SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 6. (a) The state chemist shall charge, collect, and receive a minimum fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25):**

- (1) at the time of registering a pure or mixed culture of microorganisms or materials described in section 3 of this chapter for each material or culture registered; and**

(2) not later than the fifteenth day of January of each succeeding year until the pure or mixed cultures of microorganisms or material is no longer sold, distributed, offered, or displayed for sale in Indiana.

(b) Money received under subsection (a) must be ~~forwarded to the treasurer of Purdue University, who shall~~ **deposited in the plant cultures fund established by section 5.5 of this chapter and used by** ~~expend the money on vouchers to be filed with the state comptroller to~~ pay all necessary expenses incurred in implementing this chapter, including:

(1) the employment of inspectors, chemists, and bacteriologists;

(2) the expenses incurred in procuring samples;

(3) printing bulletins; and

(4) giving the results of inspections, as provided by this chapter; ~~and for any other expenses of Purdue University agricultural programs;~~ as authorized by law and in support of the purposes of this chapter.

(c) ~~The dean of agriculture of Purdue University~~ **state chemist** shall submit to the:

(1) governor;

(2) legislative council; and

(3) budget committee;

an annual classified report showing the total receipts and expenditures of all fees received under this chapter. The budget committee shall review this report annually.

(d) Excess funds from the collection of fees under this chapter are subject to IC 15-16-2-36.

SECTION 130. IC 15-15-5-29 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 29. This chapter expires December 31, 2026.**

SECTION 131. IC 15-15-13-15.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 15.5. (a) The industrial hemp fund is established to carry out the functions of this chapter. The state seed commissioner shall deposit all fees collected under this chapter into the fund. The fund shall be administered by the state seed commissioner.**

(b) The fund consists of:

(1) money appropriated to the fund by the general assembly;

(2) all fees collected under this chapter; and

(3) money received from any other source, including transfers from other:

(A) funds; or

(B) accounts.

(c) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same manner as other public funds may be invested.

(d) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not revert to the state general fund.

SECTION 132. IC 15-15-13-16, AS AMENDED BY P.L.29-2024, SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 16. (a) The state seed commissioner shall **deposit** pay all fees collected under this chapter ~~to in the treasurer of Purdue University.~~ **industrial hemp fund established by section 15.5 of this chapter.**

(b) ~~The board of trustees of Purdue University shall expend the fees on proper vouchers filed with the treasurer of Purdue University. The treasurer~~ **state seed commissioner** shall pay vouchers for the following expenses:

(1) The employment of inspectors and seed analysts.

(2) Procuring samples.

(3) Printing bulletins giving the results of inspection.

(4) Any other expenses ~~of the Purdue University agricultural programs~~ authorized by law and for implementing this chapter.

(c) ~~The dean of agriculture of Purdue University~~ **state seed commissioner** shall make and submit an annual financial report to the:

(1) governor;

(2) legislative council; and

(3) budget committee;

in such form as the state board of accounts requires, showing the total receipts and expenditures of all fees received under this chapter. The budget committee shall review this report annually.

(d) Excess funds from the collection of fees under this chapter are subject to IC 15-16-2-36.

SECTION 133. IC 15-16-2-1 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. ~~Sec. 1. Because the department of biochemistry at Purdue University is particularly conversant with the purpose and procedures provided by this chapter, the general assembly desires that the governor appoint a professor of biochemistry at Purdue University as the state chemist.~~

SECTION 134. IC 15-16-2-24 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 24. (a) The office of state chemist is established:

(b) The governor shall appoint the state chemist, who serves at the pleasure of the governor:

(c) The state chemist shall administer this chapter.

(d) The state chemist may designate an agent to discharge duties imposed on the state chemist by law:

SECTION 135. IC 15-16-2-30, AS AMENDED BY P.L.81-2009, SECTION 17, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 30. (a) Each member of the board who is not a state employee is entitled to receive both:

(1) the minimum salary per diem **provided by IC 4-10-11-2.1(b);** and

(2) reimbursement for **mileage and** travel expenses **as provided under IC 4-13-1-4** and other expenses actually incurred in connection with the member's duties; as provided in the ~~Purdue University travel policies and procedures established by the Purdue University department of transportation and approved by the Purdue University vice president of business services:~~ **state policies and procedures established by the Indiana department of administration and approved by the budget agency.**

(b) Each member of the board who is a state employee is entitled to reimbursement for travel expenses as provided under IC 4-13-1-4 and other expenses actually incurred in connection with the member's duties, as provided in the state travel policies and procedures established by the Indiana department of administration and approved by the budget agency.

SECTION 136. IC 15-16-2-34.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW SECTION** TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 34.5. (a) The commercial fertilizer fund is established to carry out the functions of this chapter. The fund shall be administered by the state chemist.**

(b) The fund consists of:

(1) money appropriated to the fund by the general assembly;

(2) inspection fees collected under this chapter; and

(3) money received from any other source, including transfers from other:

(A) funds; or

(B) accounts.

(c) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not

1 currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same
2 manner as other public funds may be invested.

3 (d) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not
4 revert to the state general fund.

5 SECTION 137. IC 15-16-2-35, AS AMENDED BY P.L.29-2024,
6 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
7 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 35. (a) The state chemist shall ~~pay to the treasurer~~
8 ~~of Purdue University~~ **deposit** all inspection fees collected under this
9 chapter **in the commercial fertilizer fund established by section 34.5**
10 **of this chapter.**

11 (b) Inspection fees collected under this chapter must be used to pay
12 all necessary expenses incurred in carrying out this chapter, including
13 the following:

- 14 (1) Employing inspectors and chemists.
- 15 (2) Procuring samples.
- 16 (3) Printing bulletins.
- 17 (4) Giving the results of inspections as provided for by this
18 chapter.
- 19 (5) Any other expenses incurred by ~~Purdue University agricultural~~
20 ~~programs:~~ **the office of the state chemist:**
 - 21 (A) authorized by law; and
 - 22 (B) in support of the purposes of this chapter.

23 (c) The ~~dean of agriculture of Purdue University~~ **state chemist** shall
24 make an annual classified report to the:

- 25 (1) governor;
- 26 (2) legislative council; and
- 27 (3) budget committee;

28 showing the total receipts and expenditures of all fees received under
29 this chapter. The budget committee shall review this report annually.

30 SECTION 138. IC 15-16-2-35.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
31 CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
32 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 35.5. (a) The horticulture**
33 **products and control excess fund is established to carry out the**
34 **functions of those chapters referred to in subsection (b)(2). The**
35 **fund shall be administered by the state chemist.**

36 (b) The fund consists of:

- 37 (1) money appropriated to the fund by the general assembly;
- 38 (2) excess funds accumulated from the fees collected by:
 - 39 (A) the state chemist, under this chapter, IC 15-15-2,
 - 40 IC 15-16-4, IC 15-16-5, and IC 15-19-7; and

(B) the state seed commissioner under IC 15-15-1 and IC 15-15-13; and

(3) money received from any other source, including transfers from other:

(A) funds; or

(B) accounts.

(c) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same manner as other public funds may be invested.

(d) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not revert to the state general fund.

SECTION 139. IC 15-16-2-36, AS AMENDED BY P.L.29-2024, SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 36. (a) Notwithstanding any other law, all excess funds accumulated from the fees collected by:

(1) the state chemist, under this chapter, IC 15-15-2, IC 15-16-4, IC 15-16-5, and IC 15-19-7; and

(2) the state seed commissioner under IC 15-15-1 and IC 15-15-13;

shall be ~~paid to the treasurer of Purdue University:~~ **deposited in the horticulture products and control excess fund established by section 35.5 of this chapter.** The funds shall be administered by the ~~board of trustees of Purdue University:~~ **state chemist.**

(b) On approval of the governor and the budget agency, and upon review of the budget committee, the ~~board of trustees~~ **state chemist** may spend the excess funds for the construction, operation, rehabilitation, and repair of buildings, structures, or other facilities used for:

(1) carrying out the purposes of those chapters referred to in subsection (a) under which the fees are collected; or

(2) the agricultural programs authorized by law and in support of the purposes of the chapters referred to in subsection (a).

SECTION 140. IC 15-16-2-44.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.29-2024, SECTION 6, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 44.5. (a) The state chemist shall ~~pay to the treasurer of Purdue University all certification and educational program~~ **deposit** fees collected under section 44 of this chapter **into the commercial fertilizer fund established by section 34.5 of this chapter.**

(b) Certification and educational program fees collected under

section 44 of this chapter must be used to pay all necessary expenses incurred in carrying out and administering the certification and educational programs.

(c) The ~~dean of agriculture of Purdue University~~ **state chemist** shall make an annual classified report to the:

- (1) governor;
- (2) legislative council; and
- (3) budget committee;

showing the total receipts and expenditures of all fees received under this section. The budget committee shall review this report annually.

SECTION 141. IC 15-16-4-61.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 61.5. (a) The pesticide fund is established to carry out the functions of this chapter. The fund shall be administered by the state chemist.**

(b) The fund consists of:

- (1) money appropriated to the fund by the general assembly;**
- (2) fees collected under this chapter;**
- (3) money collected for civil penalties imposed under section 69 of this chapter; and**
- (4) money received from any other source, including transfers from other:**

(A) funds; or

(B) accounts.

(c) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same manner as other public funds may be invested.

(d) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not revert to the state general fund.

SECTION 142. IC 15-16-4-61.6 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 61.6. (a) The pesticide education account is established within the pesticide fund to provide education about the safe and effective use of pesticides. The account shall be administered by the state chemist.**

(b) The account consists of money transferred under section 62(d)(6) of this chapter.

(c) The expenses of administering the account shall be paid from money in the account.

(d) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the account

1 not currently needed to meet the obligations of the account in the
 2 same manner as other public money may be invested.

3 (e) Money in the account at the end of a state fiscal year does not
 4 revert to the state general fund.

5 SECTION 143. IC 15-16-4-62, AS AMENDED BY P.L.29-2024,
 6 SECTION 17, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 7 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 62. (a) Each registrant shall pay an annual,
 8 nonrefundable application fee of one hundred seventy dollars (\$170)
 9 for each application for each pesticide product submitted for
 10 registration or reregistration.

11 (b) Each registration expires January 1 of each year.

12 (c) All fees collected by the state chemist under this chapter shall be
 13 paid to the treasurer of Purdue University, who shall deposit the fees in
 14 a special restricted account designated by the treasurer of the board of
 15 trustees of Purdue University. deposited in the pesticide fund
 16 established by section 61.5 of this chapter.

17 (d) From the account fund described in subsection (c), the treasurer
 18 state chemist shall pay all expenses incurred in administering this
 19 chapter, including expenses for the following:

20 (1) The employment of:

21 (A) inspectors;

22 (B) investigators;

23 (C) researchers;

24 (D) analysts;

25 (E) administrators; and

26 (F) clerical and service staff.

27 (2) Expenses in procuring samples and printing results of
 28 inspections.

29 (3) Purchasing:

30 (A) supplies;

31 (B) equipment; and

32 (C) services.

33 (4) Necessary remodeling.

34 (5) Other expenses of the office of the state chemist.

35 (6) The transfer of ten dollars (\$10) from each fee paid under
 36 subsection (a) on an annual basis to the office of Purdue pesticide
 37 programs pesticide education account established by section
 38 61.6 of this chapter to provide education about the safe and
 39 effective use of pesticides.

40 The treasurer state chemist is not required to use any other funds,

except those collected as registration fees, to pay any expenses incurred in the administration of this chapter. The ~~dean of agriculture state chemist~~ shall make an annual financial report to the governor, legislative council, and budget committee showing total receipts and expenditures of all fees received under this chapter. The budget committee shall review this report annually.

(e) A registrant who registers or pays an annual fee after December 31 of any year shall pay a late fee of one hundred seventy dollars (\$170) as well as the annual fee.

(f) Excess funds from the collection of fees under this chapter are subject to IC 15-16-2-36.

SECTION 144. IC 15-16-5-59.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 59.5. (a) The pesticide use and application fund is established to carry out the functions of this chapter. The fund shall be administered by the state chemist.**

(b) The fund consists of:

(1) money appropriated to the fund by the general assembly;

(2) fees collected under this chapter;

(3) money collected for civil penalties imposed under section 66 of this chapter; and

(4) money received from any other source, including transfers from other:

(A) funds; or

(B) accounts.

(c) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same manner as other public funds may be invested.

(d) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not revert to the state general fund.

SECTION 145. IC 15-16-5-61, AS AMENDED BY P.L.29-2024, SECTION 51, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 61. (a) All fees collected by the state chemist under this chapter shall be paid to Purdue University and deposited in a special restricted account designated by the treasurer of the board of trustees of Purdue University. deposited in the pesticide use and application fund established by section 59.5 of this chapter.**

(b) From the account fund described in subsection (a), the treasurer state chemist shall pay from the special restricted account fund the expenses incurred in administering this chapter, including expenses for

1 the following:

2 (1) The employment of:

3 (A) inspectors;

4 (B) investigators;

5 (C) researchers;

6 (D) analysts;

7 (E) administrators; and

8 (F) clerical and service staff.

9 (2) Conducting and reporting inspections and investigations.

10 (3) Purchasing supplies and services.

11 (4) Providing necessary facilities and remodeling.

12 (5) Any other expense of the office of the state chemist.

13 The ~~treasurer~~ **state chemist** is not required to use any other funds,
14 except those collected under this chapter, to defray any expenses
15 incurred in the administration of this chapter.

16 (c) The ~~dean of agriculture of Purdue University~~ **state chemist** shall
17 make an annual financial report to the:

18 (1) governor;

19 (2) legislative council; and

20 (3) budget committee;

21 showing total receipts and expenditures of all fees received under this
22 chapter. The budget committee shall review this report annually.

23 (d) Fee revenue remaining in the ~~account~~ **fund** described in
24 subsection (a) after payment of the expenses described in subsection
25 (b) is subject to IC 15-16-2-36.

26 SECTION 146. IC 15-19-7-32.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
27 CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
28 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 32.5. (a) The commercial feed**
29 **inspection fund is established to carry out the purposes of this**
30 **chapter. The fund shall be administered by the state chemist.**

31 **(b) The fund consists of:**

32 **(1) money appropriated to the fund by the general assembly;**

33 **(2) fees collected by the state chemist under this chapter; and**

34 **(3) money received from any other source, including transfers**
35 **from other:**

36 **(A) funds; or**

37 **(B) accounts.**

38 **(c) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not**
39 **currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same**
40 **manner as other public funds may be invested.**

1 **(d) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not**
 2 **revert to the state general fund.**

3 SECTION 147. IC 15-19-7-33, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2008,
 4 SECTION 10, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 5 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 33. (a) Fees collected by the state chemist under
 6 this chapter shall be ~~paid to the treasurer of Purdue University. The~~
 7 ~~board of trustees of Purdue University shall expend the money received~~
 8 ~~under this section on proper vouchers in meeting all necessary~~
 9 ~~expenses in carrying out this chapter, including:~~ **deposited in the**
 10 **commercial feed inspection fund established by section 32.5 of this**
 11 **chapter, and used to meet all necessary expenses in carrying out**
 12 **this chapter, including:**

- 13 (1) the employment of inspectors and chemists;
- 14 (2) other expenses of the work of feed inspection as provided for
- 15 by this chapter; and
- 16 (3) any other expenses ~~of Purdue University agricultural programs~~
- 17 authorized by law and in support of the purposes of this chapter.

18 (b) Excess funds from the collection of fees under this chapter are
 19 subject to IC 15-16-2-36.

20 SECTION 148. IC 16-18-2-62, AS AMENDED BY P.L.143-2025,
 21 SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 22 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 62. (a) "Commission", for purposes of IC 16-27.5,
 23 refers to the certified health care professions commission established
 24 by IC 16-27.5-2-1.

25 (b) "Commission", for purposes of IC 16-31, refers to the Indiana
 26 emergency medical services commission.

27 (c) "Commission", for purposes of IC 16-46-11.1, has the meaning
 28 set forth in IC 16-46-11.1-1. **This subsection expires December 31,**
 29 **2026.**

30 SECTION 149. IC 16-18-2-161.5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 31 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 161.5. **(a)** "Health care
 32 interpreter", for purposes of IC 16-46-11.1, has the meaning set forth
 33 in IC 16-46-11.1-2.

34 **(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.**

35 SECTION 150. IC 16-18-2-163.5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 36 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 163.5. **(a)** "Health care
 37 translator", for purposes of IC 16-46-11.1, has the meaning set forth in
 38 IC 16-46-11.1-3.

39 **(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.**

40 SECTION 151. IC 16-19-3-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.1-2025,

1 SECTION 182, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 2 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) The executive board may, by
 3 an affirmative vote of a majority of its members, adopt reasonable rules
 4 under IC 4-22-2 on behalf of the state department to protect or to
 5 improve the public health in Indiana.

6 (b) The rules may concern but are not limited to the following:

7 (1) Nuisances dangerous to public health.

8 (2) The pollution of any water supply other than where
 9 jurisdiction is in the environmental rules board and department of
 10 environmental management.

11 (3) The disposition of excremental and sewage matter.

12 (4) The control of fly and mosquito breeding places.

13 (5) The detection, reporting, prevention, and control of diseases
 14 that affect public health.

15 (6) The care of maternity and infant cases and the conduct of
 16 maternity homes.

17 (7) The production, distribution, and sale of human food.

18 (8) Except as provided in section 4.4 of this chapter, the conduct
 19 of camps.

20 (9) Standards of cleanliness of eating facilities for the public.

21 (10) Standards of cleanliness of sanitary facilities offered for
 22 public use.

23 (11) The handling, disposal, disinterment, and reburial of dead
 24 human bodies.

25 (12) Vital statistics.

26 (13) Sanitary conditions and facilities in public buildings and
 27 grounds, including plumbing, drainage, sewage disposal, water
 28 supply, lighting, heating, and ventilation, other than where
 29 jurisdiction is vested by law in the ~~fire prevention and building~~
 30 ~~safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** or other
 31 state agency.

32 (14) The design, construction, and operation of swimming and
 33 wading pools. However, the rules governing swimming and
 34 wading pools do not apply to a pool maintained by an individual
 35 for the sole use of the individual's household and house guests.

36 (c) The executive board shall adopt reasonable rules to regulate the
 37 following:

38 (1) The sanitary operation of tattoo parlors.

39 (2) The sanitary operation of body piercing facilities.

40 (d) The executive board may adopt rules on behalf of the state

1 department for the efficient enforcement of this title, except as
 2 otherwise provided. However, fees for inspections relating to weights
 3 and measures may not be established by the rules.

4 (e) The executive board may declare that a rule described in
 5 subsection (d) is necessary to meet an emergency and adopt the rule
 6 under IC 4-22-2.

7 (f) The rules of the state department may not be inconsistent with
 8 this title and or any other state law.

9 SECTION 152. IC 16-19-3.5-11, AS ADDED BY P.L.49-2016,
 10 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 11 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 11. The state department may not deny a
 12 construction permit based upon noncompliance or suspected
 13 noncompliance with a rule adopted under the authority of the ~~fire~~
 14 ~~prevention and building safety commission established by~~
 15 ~~IC 22-12-2-1.~~ **department of homeland security.**

16 SECTION 153. IC 16-19-13-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.51-2021,
 17 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 18 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. The office is established for the following
 19 purposes:

20 (1) To educate and advocate for women's health by requesting that
 21 the state department, either on its own or in partnership with other
 22 entities, establish appropriate forums, programs, or initiatives
 23 designed to educate the public regarding women's health, with an
 24 emphasis on preventive health and healthy lifestyles.

25 (2) To assist the state health commissioner in identifying,
 26 coordinating, and establishing priorities for programs, services,
 27 and resources the state should provide for women's health issues
 28 and concerns relating to the reproductive, menopausal, and
 29 postmenopausal phases of a woman's life, with an emphasis on
 30 postmenopausal health.

31 (3) To serve as a clearinghouse and resource for information
 32 regarding women's health data, strategies, services, and programs
 33 that address women's health issues, including the following:

34 (A) Diseases that significantly impact women, including heart
 35 disease, cancer, and osteoporosis.

36 (B) Menopause.

37 (C) Mental health.

38 (D) Substance abuse.

39 (E) Sexually transmitted diseases.

40 (F) Sexual assault and domestic violence.

- 1 (G) Female genital mutilation (as defined in IC 35-42-2-10).
- 2 (4) To collect, classify, and analyze relevant research information
- 3 and data conducted or compiled by:
- 4 (A) the state department; or
- 5 (B) other entities in collaboration with the state department;
- 6 and to provide interested persons with information regarding the
- 7 research results, except as prohibited by law.
- 8 (5) To develop and recommend funding and program activities for
- 9 educating the public on women's health initiatives, including the
- 10 following:
- 11 (A) Health needs throughout a woman's life.
- 12 (B) Diseases that significantly affect women, including heart
- 13 disease, cancer, and osteoporosis.
- 14 (C) Access to health care for women.
- 15 (D) Poverty and women's health.
- 16 (E) The leading causes of morbidity and mortality for women.
- 17 (F) Special health concerns of minority women.
- 18 (6) To make recommendations to the state health commissioner
- 19 regarding programs that address women's health issues for
- 20 inclusion in the state department's biennial budget and strategic
- 21 planning.
- 22 (7) To seek funding from private or governmental entities to carry
- 23 out the purposes of this chapter.
- 24 (8) To prepare materials for publication and dissemination to the
- 25 public on women's health.
- 26 (9) To conduct public educational forums in Indiana to raise
- 27 public awareness and to educate citizens about women's health
- 28 programs, issues, and services.
- 29 (10) To coordinate the activities and programs of the office with
- 30 other entities that focus on women's health or women's issues,
- 31 including the ~~Indiana commission for women (IC 4-23-25-3).~~
- 32 **Indiana cultural commission established by IC 4-23-36.**
- 33 (11) To represent the state health commissioner, upon request,
- 34 before the general assembly and the ~~Indiana commission for~~
- 35 ~~women established by IC 4-23-25-3.~~ **Indiana cultural**
- 36 **commission established by IC 4-23-36.**
- 37 (12) To provide an annual report to the governor, the legislative
- 38 council, and the ~~Indiana commission for women~~ **Indiana cultural**
- 39 **commission established by IC 4-23-36** regarding the successes
- 40 of the programs of the office, priorities and services needed for

1 women's health in Indiana, and areas for improvement. A report
 2 provided under this subdivision to the legislative council must be
 3 in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.

4 This section does not allow the director or any employees of the office
 5 to advocate, promote, refer to, or otherwise advance abortion or
 6 abortifacients.

7 SECTION 154. IC 16-28-1-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.141-2014,
 8 SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 9 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. The state department shall do the following:

10 (1) Adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 governing the following:

11 (A) Health and sanitation standards necessary to protect the
 12 health, safety, security, rights, and welfare of patients.

13 (B) Qualifications of applicants for licenses issued under this
 14 article to assure the proper care of patients.

15 (C) Operation, maintenance, management, equipment, and
 16 construction of facilities required to be licensed under this
 17 article if jurisdiction is not vested in any other state agency.

18 (D) Manner, form, and content of the license, including rules
 19 governing disclosure of ownership interests.

20 (E) Levels of medical staffing and medical services in
 21 cooperation with the office of Medicaid policy and planning,
 22 division of family resources, and other agencies authorized to
 23 pay for the services.

24 (2) Recommend to the ~~fire prevention and building safety~~
 25 ~~commission~~ **department of homeland security** fire safety rules
 26 necessary to protect the health, safety, security, rights, and welfare
 27 of patients.

28 (3) Classify health facilities in health care categories.

29 SECTION 155. IC 16-41-26-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.181-2018,
 30 SECTION 18, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 31 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), the
 32 state department shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 necessary to protect
 33 the health, safety, and welfare of persons living in agricultural labor
 34 camps, prescribing standards for living quarters at agricultural labor
 35 camps, including provisions relating to construction of camps, sanitary
 36 conditions, light, air, safety protection from fire hazards, equipment,
 37 maintenance and operation of the camp, sewage disposal through septic
 38 tank absorption fields or other approved methods, and other matters
 39 appropriate for the security of the life and health of occupants.

40 (b) The environmental rules board shall adopt rules under

IC 13-14-9 pertaining to water supplies required for agricultural labor camps.

(c) In the preparation of rules, the state department:

(1) shall consult with and request technical assistance from other appropriate state agencies; and

(2) may appoint and consult with committees of technically qualified persons and of representatives of employers and employees.

(d) If a conflict exists between rules adopted under this chapter and rules adopted by the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~, **department of homeland security**, the rules authorized in this section apply.

(e) A copy of every rule adopted under this chapter shall be sent to each health officer in Indiana and to the heads of other state agencies with specific or related responsibility affecting agricultural labor camps and to any person requesting the rules. The rules affecting agricultural labor camps adopted under this chapter shall be published periodically in the manner the state department determines.

SECTION 156. IC 16-41-31-6 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. The ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to establish fire safety standards for bed and breakfast establishments.

SECTION 157. IC 16-41-42.2-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.29-2016, SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) The spinal cord and brain injury research board is established for the purpose of administering the fund. The board is composed of eleven (11) members.

(b) The following six (6) members of the board shall be appointed by the ~~governor~~: **state health commissioner**:

(1) One (1) member who has a spinal cord or head injury or who has a family member with a spinal cord or head injury.

(2) One (1) member who is a physician licensed under IC 25-22.5 who has specialty training in neuroscience and surgery.

(3) One (1) member who is a physiatrist holding a board certification from the American Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation.

(4) One (1) member representing the technical life sciences industry.

(5) One (1) member who is a physical therapist licensed under

- 1 IC 25-27 who treats individuals with traumatic spinal cord
 2 injuries or brain injuries.
- 3 (6) One (1) member who owns or operates a facility that provides
 4 long term activity based therapy services at affordable rates to
 5 individuals with traumatic spinal cord injuries or brain injuries.
- 6 (c) Five (5) members of the board shall be appointed as follows:
- 7 (1) One (1) member representing Indiana University to be
 8 appointed by Indiana University.
- 9 (2) One (1) member representing Purdue University to be
 10 appointed by Purdue University.
- 11 (3) One (1) member representing the National Spinal Cord Injury
 12 Association to be appointed by the National Spinal Cord Injury
 13 Association.
- 14 (4) One (1) member representing the largest freestanding
 15 rehabilitation hospital for brain and spinal cord injuries in Indiana
 16 to be appointed by the Rehabilitation Hospital of Indiana located
 17 in Indianapolis.
- 18 (5) One (1) member representing the Brain Injury Association of
 19 America to be appointed by the Brain Injury Association of
 20 Indiana.
- 21 (d) The term of a member is four (4) years. A member serves until
 22 a successor is appointed and qualified. If a vacancy occurs on the board
 23 before the end of a member's term, the appointing authority appointing
 24 the vacating member shall appoint an individual to serve the remainder
 25 of the vacating member's term.
- 26 (e) A majority of the members appointed to the board constitutes a
 27 quorum. The affirmative votes of a majority of the members are
 28 required for the board to take action on any measure.
- 29 (f) Each member of the board is entitled to the minimum salary per
 30 diem provided by IC 4-10-11-2.1(b). The member is also entitled to
 31 reimbursement for traveling expenses as provided under IC 4-13-1-4
 32 and other expenses actually incurred in connection with the member's
 33 duties as provided in the state policies and procedures established by
 34 the Indiana department of administration and approved by the budget
 35 agency.
- 36 (g) The board shall annually elect a chairperson who shall be the
 37 presiding officer of the board. The board may establish other officers
 38 and procedures as the board determines necessary.
- 39 (h) The board shall meet at least two (2) times each year. The
 40 chairperson may call additional meetings.

1 (i) The state department shall provide staff for the board. The state
2 department shall maintain a registry of the members of the board. An
3 appointing authority shall provide written confirmation of an
4 appointment to the board to the state department in the form and
5 manner specified by the state department.

6 (j) The board shall do the following:

7 (1) Consider policy matters relating to spinal cord and brain
8 injury research projects and programs under this chapter.

9 (2) Consider research applications and make grants for approved
10 research projects under this chapter.

11 (3) Consider applications and make grants to health care clinics
12 that:

13 (A) are exempt from federal income taxation under Section
14 501 of the Internal Revenue Code;

15 (B) employ physical therapists licensed under IC 25-27; and

16 (C) provide in Indiana long term activity based therapy
17 services at affordable rates to individuals with spinal cord
18 injuries or brain injuries that require extended post acute care.

19 (4) Consider the application's efficacy in providing significant and
20 sustained improvement to individuals with spinal cord injuries or
21 brain injuries.

22 (5) Formulate policies and procedures concerning the operation
23 of the board.

24 (6) Review and authorize spinal cord and brain injury research
25 projects and programs to be financed under this chapter. For
26 purposes of this subdivision, the board may establish an
27 independent scientific advisory panel composed of scientists and
28 clinicians who are not members of the board to review proposals
29 submitted to the board and make recommendations to the board.
30 Collaborations are encouraged with other Indiana-based
31 researchers as well as researchers located outside Indiana,
32 including researchers in other countries.

33 (7) Review and approve progress and final research reports on
34 projects authorized under this chapter, including any other
35 information the board has required to be submitted as a condition
36 of receiving a grant.

37 (8) Review and make recommendations concerning the
38 expenditure of money from the fund.

39 (9) Take other action necessary for the purpose stated in
40 subsection (a).

(10) Provide to the governor, the general assembly, and the legislative council an annual report not later than January 30 of each year showing the status of funds appropriated under this chapter. The report to the general assembly and the legislative council must be in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.

(k) A member of the board is exempt from civil liability arising or thought to arise from an action taken in good faith as a member of the board.

(l) The department shall annually present to the board a financial statement that includes the following information for the current and previous fiscal year:

(1) The amount of money deposited into the fund.

(2) The amount of money expended from the fund.

(3) The amount of money, including any reserves, available for grants from the fund.

SECTION 158. IC 16-46-11.1-7 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 7. This chapter expires December 31, 2026.**

SECTION 159. IC 20-26-5-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.56-2023, SECTION 177, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. All powers delegated to the governing body of a school corporation under section 1 or 4 of this chapter are subject to all laws subjecting the school corporation to regulation by a state agency, including the secretary of education, state board of accounts, state police department, ~~fire prevention and building safety commission,~~ **department of homeland security**, department of local government finance, environmental rules board, state school bus committee, Indiana department of health, and any local governmental agency to which the state has been delegated a specific authority in matters other than educational matters and other than finance, including plan commissions, zoning boards, and boards concerned with health and safety.

SECTION 160. IC 20-37-2-13, AS AMENDED BY P.L.168-2022, SECTION 21, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 13. (a) As used in this section, "applicable high school" means a high school at which all the students participate in a work based learning course (as defined in IC 20-43-8-0.7) or school based enterprise.

(b) As used in this section, "primary use of the building" means an

1 occupancy classification that is:

- 2 (1) most closely related to the intended use of the building; and
 3 (2) determined by the rules of the ~~fire prevention and building~~
 4 ~~safety commission established by IC 22-12-2-1~~ **department of**
 5 **homeland security** that apply to the building immediately
 6 preceding the date that the applicable high school agrees to use
 7 the building.

8 (c) Except as provided in subsection (d), an applicable high school
 9 shall comply with all rules of the ~~fire prevention and building safety~~
 10 ~~commission~~ **department of homeland security** applicable to the
 11 primary use of the building.

12 (d) The ~~fire prevention and building commission~~ **department of**
 13 **homeland security** may grant a variance under IC 22-13-2-11 to the
 14 rules applicable to the primary use of the building necessary to
 15 implement this section.

16 SECTION 161. IC 21-38-1-1.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
 17 CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 18 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 1.5. "Commission" refers to the**
 19 **commission for higher education of the state of Indiana established**
 20 **by IC 21-18-2.**

21 SECTION 162. IC 21-38-1-3, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2007,
 22 SECTION 279, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 23 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) "Council" refers to the
 24 Indiana excellence in teaching council.

25 **(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.**

26 SECTION 163. IC 21-38-8-1, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2007,
 27 SECTION 279, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 28 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. (a) The Indiana excellence in
 29 teaching council is established. The council consists of nine (9)
 30 members as follows:

- 31 (1) One (1) representative of the commission for higher
 32 education.
 33 (2) One (1) representative of the budget agency.
 34 (3) One (1) representative from each state educational institution.

35 **(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.**

36 SECTION 164. IC 21-38-8-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.234-2007,
 37 SECTION 56, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 38 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) The Indiana excellence in teaching
 39 endowment is established to provide state educational institutions with
 40 grants to match interest income generated by an endowment to attract

1 and retain distinguished teachers. The fund shall be administered by
2 the ~~council~~ **commission**.

3 (b) The expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from
4 money in the fund.

5 (c) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not
6 currently needed to meet obligations of the fund in the same manner as
7 other public funds may be invested.

8 (d) Money in the fund at the end of the state fiscal year does not
9 revert to the state general fund but remains available to be used for
10 providing money for grants as allowed under this chapter.

11 SECTION 165. IC 21-38-8-4, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2007,
12 SECTION 279, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
13 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. A state educational institution
14 must apply for a matching grant in the manner prescribed by the
15 ~~council~~ **commission**.

16 SECTION 166. IC 21-38-8-5, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2007,
17 SECTION 279, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
18 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. When determining a
19 distinguished teacher's prominence, the ~~council~~ **commission** shall
20 consider the following criteria when distributing endowment funds:

21 (1) Evidence of excellent teaching ability.

22 (2) Distinguished accomplishments.

23 (3) Either:

24 (A) productive scholarship; or

25 (B) artistic achievement and superior talent.

26 The ~~council~~ **commission** may consider any other criteria for
27 distributing endowment funds that the ~~council~~ **commission** determines
28 appropriate.

29 SECTION 167. IC 21-38-8-6, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2007,
30 SECTION 279, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
31 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. (a) The ~~council~~ **commission**
32 shall approve or disapprove a matching grant application within sixty
33 (60) days after the application is received by the ~~council~~ **commission**.

34 (b) The ~~council~~ **commission** may approve a grant application with
35 an amount that is the same or less than the amount requested by the
36 state educational institution.

37 SECTION 168. IC 21-38-8-7, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2007,
38 SECTION 279, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
39 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) Each matching grant from the
40 fund is intended to be used to supplement, and may not be used instead

1 of, a distinguished teacher's regular annual salary.

2 (b) The ~~council~~ **commission** may not approve a matching grant from
3 the fund that exceeds income generated from the endowment of the
4 institution.

5 SECTION 169. IC 21-38-8-8, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2007,
6 SECTION 279, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
7 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) Staff for the council shall be
8 provided by the commission for higher education.

9 **(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.**

10 SECTION 170. IC 21-38-8-10, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2007,
11 SECTION 279, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
12 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) The council may:

13 (1) develop guidelines; and

14 (2) adopt rules under IC 4-22-2;

15 to administer the fund and this chapter.

16 **(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.**

17 SECTION 171. IC 21-44-6-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.142-2014,
18 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
19 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. (a) There is established the mental health and
20 addiction services development programs board.

21 **(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.**

22 SECTION 172. IC 21-44-6-1.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
23 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
24 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1.5. As used in this chapter,
25 "commission" refers to the commission for higher education of the
26 state of Indiana established by IC 21-18-2.

27 SECTION 173. IC 21-44-6-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.56-2023,
28 SECTION 203, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
29 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) The board consists of the
30 following ten (10) members:

31 (1) The dean of the Indiana University School of Medicine or the
32 dean's designee. The dean of the Indiana University School of
33 Medicine or the dean's designee shall serve as the chairperson of
34 the board.

35 (2) The chairperson of the department of psychiatry of the Indiana
36 University School of Medicine or the chairperson's designee.

37 (3) The director of the division of mental health and addiction
38 created by IC 12-21-1-1 or the director's designee.

39 (4) The commissioner of the Indiana department of health or the
40 commissioner's designee.

(5) The dean of the department of family practice of the Marian University College of Osteopathic Medicine or the dean's designee.

(6) The administrator of a graduate program in an institution of higher education in Indiana engaged in training psychologists.

(7) The administrator of a program in an institution of higher education in Indiana engaged in training advanced practice psychiatric nurses.

(8) One (1) psychiatrist who practices psychiatry in Indiana.

(9) The administrator of a program in an institution of higher education in Indiana engaged in training addiction counselors.

(10) The director of the Indiana department of veterans' affairs or the director's designee.

The governor shall appoint the members of the board described in subdivisions (6) through (9).

(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 174. IC 21-44-6-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.142-2014, SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) The board shall meet at least quarterly each year at the call of the chairperson.

(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 175. IC 21-44-6-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.142-2014, SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) Each board member who is not a state employee is not entitled to a salary per diem. The member is, however, entitled to reimbursement for traveling expenses as provided under IC 4-13-1-4 and other expenses actually incurred in connection with the member's duties as provided in the state policies and procedures established by the Indiana department of administration and approved by the budget agency.

(b) Each member of the board who is a state employee is entitled to reimbursement for traveling expenses as provided under IC 4-13-1-4 and other expenses actually incurred in connection with the member's duties as provided in the state policies and procedures established by the Indiana department of administration and approved by the budget agency.

(c) The affirmative votes of a majority of the members appointed to the board are required for the board to take action on any measure.

(d) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 176. IC 21-44-6-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.209-2015,

SECTION 17, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. The ~~purpose of the board is to~~ **commission**
shall do the following:

(1) ~~To~~ Establish and oversee a loan forgiveness program designed
to increase the number of professional mental health care
providers, including addiction health care professionals, in areas
with health professional shortages, as determined by the ~~board,~~
commission, by assisting professionals in the following
occupational categories to pay off loans incurred in the training
needed to practice in Indiana:

(A) Psychiatrists.

(B) Addiction psychiatrists, including psychiatrists pursuing
fellowship training and certification in addiction psychiatry.

(C) Psychologists.

(D) Psychiatric nurses.

(E) Addiction counselors.

(F) Mental health professionals.

(2) ~~To~~ Establish and oversee an integrated behavioral health and
addiction treatment development program to attract and train
psychiatrists, psychologists, psychiatric nurses, addiction
counselors, or mental health professionals who will engage in the
practice of integrated behavioral health and addiction treatment
in:

(A) state mental health institutions;

(B) community mental health centers;

(C) state funded addiction treatment centers; or

(D) other behavioral health and addiction treatment settings
determined by the ~~board~~ **commission** to be mental health and
addiction dual diagnoses treatment settings.

(3) ~~To~~ Develop and oversee an integrated behavioral health and
addiction treatment training track program through the Indiana
University School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry
residency training program. The training track program must
provide an opportunity for residents to work in mental health and
addiction dual diagnoses treatment settings, including:

(A) state psychiatric hospitals;

(B) community mental health centers;

(C) state funded addiction treatment centers; or

(D) other behavioral health and addiction treatment settings
determined by the ~~board~~ **commission** to be mental health and

- 1 addiction dual diagnoses treatment settings.
- 2 (4) ~~To~~ Develop standards for participation in the training track
- 3 program that include:
- 4 (A) guidelines for the amounts of grants and other assistance
- 5 a participant receives;
- 6 (B) guidelines for the type of training in integrated behavioral
- 7 health and addiction treatment the participant receives;
- 8 (C) guidelines for agreements with mental health hospitals,
- 9 community mental health centers, and other entities
- 10 participating in the training track program; and
- 11 (D) other guidelines and standards necessary for governing the
- 12 training track program.

13 SECTION 177. IC 21-44-6-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.142-2014,

14 SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE

15 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. The ~~board~~ **commission** shall establish

16 guidelines for the repayment of the loans incurred by a psychiatrist,

17 psychologist, psychiatric nurse, addiction counselor, or mental health

18 professional, including the following:

- 19 (1) A participant may not receive more than twenty-five thousand
- 20 dollars (\$25,000) in a year.
- 21 (2) Except as provided in subdivision (3), a participant may not
- 22 receive grants for more than four (4) years.
- 23 (3) A participant who is a psychiatrist pursuing fellowship
- 24 training and certification in addiction psychiatry may not receive
- 25 grants for more than five (5) years.
- 26 (4) A participant must commit to a full year of service in an
- 27 integrated behavioral health and addiction treatment setting as
- 28 described in section 5(2) or 5(3) of this chapter for each year of
- 29 loan repayment.
- 30 (5) A participant must be a practitioner who:
- 31 (A) is:
- 32 (i) from Indiana; and
- 33 (ii) accepting a new position in Indiana; or
- 34 (B) is:
- 35 (i) from outside Indiana;
- 36 (ii) not currently practicing in Indiana and has not practiced
- 37 in Indiana for three (3) years before applying for the
- 38 program; and
- 39 (iii) establishing a new practice in Indiana.

40 SECTION 178. IC 21-44-6-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.142-2014,

SECTION 8, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) As used in this section, "account" refers to the mental health and addiction services loan forgiveness account established in subsection (b).

(b) The mental health and addiction services loan forgiveness account within the state general fund is established for the purpose of providing grants for loan repayment under this chapter. The account shall be administered by the ~~board~~ **commission**. Money in the account shall be used to fund loan forgiveness grants under this chapter.

(c) The account consists of:

- (1) appropriations made by the general assembly;
- (2) grants; and
- (3) gifts and bequests.

(d) The expenses of administering the account shall be paid from money in the account.

(e) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the account not currently needed to meet the obligations of the account in the same manner as other public money may be invested. Interest that accrues from these investments shall be deposited in the account.

(f) Money in the account at the end of a state fiscal year does not revert to the state general fund.

SECTION 179. IC 21-44-6-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.142-2014, SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) As used in this section, "account" refers to the integrated behavioral health and addiction treatment development program account established in subsection (b).

(b) The integrated behavioral health and addiction treatment development program account within the state general fund is established for the purpose of providing funding for the integrated behavioral health and addiction treatment development program established under this chapter. The account shall be administered by the division of mental health and addiction. Money in the account shall be used to fund residency positions, fellowship training, and certification in addiction psychiatry, including:

- (1) educational expenses;
- (2) grants and scholarships;
- (3) salaries; and
- (4) benefits.

(c) The account consists of:

- (1) appropriations made by the general assembly;

- 1 (2) grants; and
- 2 (3) gifts and bequests.

3 (d) The expenses of administering the account shall be paid from
4 money in the account.

5 (e) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the account not
6 currently needed to meet the obligations of the account in the same
7 manner as other public money may be invested. Interest that accrues
8 from these investments shall be deposited in the account.

9 (f) Money in the account at the end of a state fiscal year does not
10 revert to the state general fund.

11 (g) The ~~board~~ **division of mental health and addiction, in**
12 **consultation with the commission**, shall give due consideration to
13 annually funding two (2) psychiatrists pursuing fellowship training and
14 certification in addiction psychiatry. A participant who is a psychiatrist
15 pursuing fellowship training and certification in addiction psychiatry
16 must agree to establish a new practice in Indiana for at least five (5)
17 years upon completion of the fellowship training and certification in
18 addiction psychiatry.

19 SECTION 180. IC 21-44-6-9 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
20 JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 9. The division of mental health and~~
21 ~~addiction shall provide administrative support for the board.~~

22 SECTION 181. IC 21-47-2-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.161-2025,
23 SECTION 27, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
24 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) There is established a geological and water
25 survey advisory council.

26 (b) The council consists of the following members:

27 (1) One (1) member appointed by the president of Indiana
28 University who is a faculty member of the Indiana University
29 School of Public and Environmental Affairs to serve for a period
30 of four (4) years. A member appointed under this subdivision
31 must have a background in energy, geology, water, or
32 environmental science.

33 (2) One (1) member appointed by the president of Indiana
34 University who is a faculty member of the earth sciences
35 department to serve for a period of four (4) years.

36 (3) The vice provost of research of Indiana University, or the vice
37 provost's designee.

38 (4) The chairperson of the house of representatives standing
39 committee tasked with studying utilities and energy, or the
40 chairperson's designee.

- 1 (5) The chairperson of the senate standing committee tasked with
- 2 studying utilities and energy, or the chairperson's designee.
- 3 (6) The director of the department of natural resources, or the
- 4 director's designee.
- 5 (7) The director of the Indiana department of environmental
- 6 management, or the director's designee.
- 7 (8) The director of the Indiana economic development
- 8 corporation, or the director's designee.
- 9 (9) The public finance director appointed under IC 5-1.2-3-6, or
- 10 the public finance director's designee.
- 11 (10) Two (2) individuals who:
- 12 (A) are appointed by the governor;
- 13 (B) represent private industry; and
- 14 (C) have a background in energy, geology, water, or
- 15 environmental science.
- 16 An individual appointed by the governor under this subdivision
- 17 serves for a term of four (4) years.
- 18 A designee under subdivision (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), (8), or (9) must have
- 19 a background in energy, geology, water, or environmental science. The
- 20 members of the council shall annually elect a chair and vice chair from
- 21 among the membership of the council.
- 22 (c) A member who is appointed or designated to serve on the
- 23 council under subsection (b):
- 24 (1) in the case of an appointed member:
- 25 (A) holds the position for the term of the appointment;
- 26 (B) continues to serve after expiration of the appointment until
- 27 a successor is appointed and qualified; and
- 28 (C) subject to subdivision (2), is eligible for reappointment;
- 29 (2) may not serve on the council for a total of more than two (2)
- 30 consecutive terms; and
- 31 (3) serves at the pleasure of the appointing or designating
- 32 authority and may be removed by the appointing or designating
- 33 authority at any time.
- 34 The appointing or designating authority shall fill a vacancy that occurs
- 35 after a member appointed or designated by the authority resigns, is
- 36 removed, or is no longer qualified to serve.
- 37 (d) The state geologist shall serve as secretary of the council, shall
- 38 provide staff support to the council, and shall report on the following
- 39 at each meeting of the council:
- 40 (1) The staffing of the survey.

- 1 (2) The finances of the survey.
- 2 (3) The outreach programs of the survey.
- 3 (4) The current research projects of the survey.
- 4 (5) Any other report requested by the council.
- 5 (e) The state geologist may cast the deciding vote to break a tie.
- 6 (f) Each member of the council who is not a state employee is
- 7 entitled to the minimum salary per diem provided by IC 4-10-11-2.1(b).
- 8 A member is also entitled to reimbursement for mileage and traveling
- 9 expenses actually incurred in connection with the member's duties as
- 10 provided in the state policies and procedures established by the Indiana
- 11 department of administration and approved by the budget agency.
- 12 (g) Each member of the council who is a member of the general
- 13 assembly is entitled to receive the same per diem, mileage, and travel
- 14 allowances paid to legislative members of interim study committees
- 15 established by the legislative council. Per diem, mileage, and travel
- 16 allowances paid under this section shall be paid from appropriations
- 17 made to the legislative council or the legislative services agency.
- 18 (h) Each member of the commission who is a state employee is
- 19 entitled to reimbursement for traveling expenses as provided under
- 20 IC 4-13-1-4 and other expenses actually incurred in connection with
- 21 the member's duties as provided in the state policies and procedures
- 22 established by the Indiana department of administration and approved
- 23 by the budget agency.
- 24 (i) Expenses paid under subsections (f) and (h) shall be paid from
- 25 appropriations made to the state geologist.
- 26 (j) The council shall meet quarterly in the first month of each
- 27 quarter. The date, time, and location of a meeting must be upon
- 28 agreement of the council.
- 29 (k) The council shall meet with the state geologist to make
- 30 recommendations concerning:
- 31 (1) the functions and performance of the survey; and
- 32 (2) appropriations and funding for the survey.
- 33 (l) The council may make recommendations concerning the
- 34 effectiveness and efficiency of the survey and other matters.
- 35 (m) Recommendations and reports of the council shall be directed
- 36 to the following:
- 37 (1) The governor.
- 38 (2) The budget agency.
- 39 (3) The president of Indiana University.
- 40 (4) The director of the department of natural resources.

1 (5) The commissioner of the department of environmental
2 management.

3 (n) The terms of the members of the council described in subsection
4 (b)(1), (b)(2), and (b)(10) expire as follows:

5 (1) For the members described in subsection (b)(1) and (b)(2),
6 June 30, 2025, and each fourth year thereafter.

7 (2) For the members described in subsection (b)(10), June 30,
8 2027, and each fourth year thereafter.

9 (o) The terms of the members of the council who are members of
10 the general assembly designated under subsection (b)(4) and (b)(5)
11 expire June 30 of an odd-numbered year.

12 ~~(p) On or before July 1, 2027, and July 1 biennially thereafter, the~~
13 ~~council shall submit a report to the executive director of the legislative~~
14 ~~services agency, in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6, for review by~~
15 ~~the interim committee on government in accordance with IC 1-1-15.5-4~~
16 ~~and IC 2-5-1.3-13(g). The report shall describe:~~

17 ~~(1) official action taken; and~~

18 ~~(2) actionable items considered;~~

19 ~~by the council during the preceding two (2) years:~~

20 **(p) This section expires December 31, 2026.**

21 SECTION 182. IC 21-47-2-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.42-2024,
22 SECTION 145, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
23 [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 7. (a) As used in this section,
24 "center" refers to the center for water established by subsection ~~(e)~~: **(b)**.

25 ~~(b) As used in this section, "council" refers to the geological and~~
26 ~~water survey advisory council established by section 4 of this chapter:~~

27 ~~(e)~~ **(b)** The center for water is established within the survey for the
28 purpose of:

29 (1) carrying out the survey's statutory duties concerning Indiana's
30 water resources;

31 (2) supporting long term studies of the state's water resources, as
32 requested by the Indiana finance authority; and

33 (3) upon request, providing resources to:

34 (A) state agencies;

35 (B) municipal agencies; and

36 (C) soil and water conservation groups.

37 ~~(d)~~ **(c)** The center shall be staffed

38 ~~(1)~~ by employees of the survey who have expertise in water
39 resources. ~~and~~

40 ~~(2) at staffing levels consistent with recommendations of the~~

~~council.~~

~~(e) The center shall report to the council before each quarterly meeting of the council under section 4(j) of this chapter.~~

~~(f) (d)~~ The state geologist shall oversee and manage the activities of the center.

~~(g) (e)~~ The center shall be funded by the available resources of the survey.

SECTION 183. IC 21-47-2-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.42-2024, SECTION 146, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 8. (a) As used in this section, "center" refers to the center for energy established by subsection ~~(e)~~.
(b).

~~(b) As used in this section, "council" refers to the geological and water survey advisory council established by section 4 of this chapter.~~

~~(c) (b)~~ The center for energy is established within the survey for the purpose of:

(1) carrying out the survey's statutory duties concerning Indiana's natural energy resources;

(2) supporting long term studies of the state's energy resources, as requested by the state; and

(3) upon request, providing resources to:

(A) state agencies;

(B) municipal agencies; and

(C) energy stakeholders.

~~(d) (c)~~ The center shall be staffed

~~(1)~~ by employees of the survey who have expertise in energy resources. ~~and~~

~~(2) at staffing levels consistent with recommendations of the council.~~

~~(e) The center shall report to the council before each quarterly meeting of the council under section 4(j) of this chapter.~~

~~(f) (d)~~ The state geologist shall oversee and manage the activities of the center.

~~(g) (e)~~ The center shall be funded by the available resources of the survey.

SECTION 184. IC 22-9.5-5-5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) A person may not discriminate in the sale or rental or otherwise make unavailable or deny a dwelling to any buyer or renter because of a disability of:

(1) the buyer or renter;

- 1 (2) a person residing in or intending to reside in the dwelling after
- 2 the dwelling is sold, rented, or made available; or
- 3 (3) any person associated with the buyer or renter.
- 4 (b) A person may not discriminate against any person in the terms,
- 5 conditions, or privileges of sale or rental of a dwelling or in the
- 6 provision of services or facilities in connection with the dwelling
- 7 because of a disability of:
- 8 (1) the person;
- 9 (2) a person residing in or intending to reside in the dwelling after
- 10 the dwelling is sold, rented, or made available; or
- 11 (3) any person associated with the person.
- 12 (c) For purposes of this section only, discrimination includes the
- 13 following:
- 14 (1) A refusal to permit, at the expense of the person with a
- 15 disability, reasonable modifications of existing premises occupied
- 16 or to be occupied by the person if the modifications may be
- 17 necessary to afford the person full enjoyment of the premises.
- 18 (2) A refusal to make reasonable accommodations in rules,
- 19 policies, practices, or services, when the accommodations may be
- 20 necessary to afford the person equal opportunity to use and enjoy
- 21 a dwelling.
- 22 (3) In connection with the design and construction of covered
- 23 multifamily dwellings for first occupancy after March 13, 1991,
- 24 a failure to design and construct those dwellings in a manner that:
- 25 (A) the public use and common use parts of the dwellings are
- 26 readily accessible to and usable by persons with disabilities;
- 27 (B) all the doors are designed to allow passage into and within
- 28 all premises within the dwellings and are sufficiently wide to
- 29 allow passage by persons with disabilities in wheelchairs; and
- 30 (C) all premises within the dwellings contain the following
- 31 features of adaptive design:
- 32 (i) An accessible route into and through the dwelling.
- 33 (ii) Light switches, electrical outlets, thermostats, and other
- 34 environmental controls in accessible locations.
- 35 (iii) Reinforcements in bathroom walls to allow later
- 36 installation of grab bars.
- 37 (iv) Usable kitchens and bathrooms so that an individual in
- 38 a wheelchair can maneuver about the space.
- 39 (d) As used in subsection (c), "covered multifamily dwellings"
- 40 means:

- (1) buildings consisting of four (4) or more units if the buildings have one (1) or more elevators; and
- (2) ground floor units in other buildings consisting of four (4) or more units.

(e) Compliance with the rules of the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** that incorporate by reference the appropriate requirements of the American National Standard for buildings and facilities providing accessibility and usability for people with physical disabilities (ANSI A117.1) satisfies the requirements of subsection (c)(3)(C).

(f) This section does not require that a dwelling be made available to an individual whose tenancy would constitute a direct threat to the health or safety of other individuals or whose tenancy would result in substantial physical damage to the property of others.

SECTION 185. IC 22-11-14-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021, SECTION 63, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) The ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** shall:

- (1) adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 for the granting of permits for supervised public displays of fireworks by municipalities, fair associations, amusement parks, and other organizations or groups of individuals; and
- (2) establish by rule the fee for the permit, which shall be paid into the fire and building services fund created under IC 22-12-6-1.

(b) The application for a permit required under subsection (a) must:

- (1) name a competent operator who is to officiate at the display;
- (2) set forth a brief resume of the operator's experience;
- (3) be made in writing or an electronic format; and
- (4) be received with the applicable fee by the department of homeland security at least five (5) business days before the display.

No operator who has a prior conviction for violating this chapter may operate any display for one (1) year after the conviction.

(c) Every display shall be handled by a qualified operator approved by the chief of the fire department of the municipality in which the display is to be held. A display shall be located, discharged, or fired as, in the opinion of:

- (1) the chief of the fire department of the city or town in which the display is to be held; or

(2) the township fire chief or the fire chief of the municipality nearest the site proposed, in the case of a display to be held outside of the corporate limits of any city or town;

after proper inspection, is not hazardous to property or person.

(d) A permit granted under this section is not transferable.

(e) A denial of a permit by a municipality shall be issued in writing before the date of the display.

(f) A person may not possess, transport, or deliver special fireworks, except as authorized under this section.

SECTION 186. IC 22-11-14-3.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.187-2006, SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3.5. The ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 that specify the conditions under which the chief of a municipal or township fire department may grant a permit to a person to sponsor a special discharge location in the municipality or township.

SECTION 187. IC 22-11-14-4.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021, SECTION 64, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4.5. (a) A retailer may sell consumer fireworks and items referenced in section 8(a) of this chapter from a tent under the following conditions:

(1) The tent may not be larger than one thousand five hundred (1,500) square feet.

(2) There may be only one (1) tent for each registration granted under section 11(a) of this chapter.

(3) The tent may not be located closer than one hundred (100) feet from a permanent structure.

(4) A vehicle may not be parked closer than twenty (20) feet from the edge of the tent.

(5) The tent must be fire retardant.

(6) The sales site must comply with all applicable local zoning and land use rules.

(7) Sales of fireworks may be made from the tent for not more than forty-five (45) days in a year.

(8) The weight of consumer fireworks in a tent may not exceed three thousand (3,000) gross pounds of consumer fireworks.

(9) A retailer that legally operated a tent with a registration in 2005 may continue operation in a tent in 2006 and the following years. A registration under section 11(a) of this chapter is required for operation in 2006 and following years. For purposes

of this subdivision, a retailer includes a resident wholesaler who supplied consumer fireworks to an applicant for a tent registration in 2005.

(10) The retailer holds a valid registration under section 11(a) of this chapter.

(b) A retailer may sell consumer fireworks and items referenced in section 8(a) of this chapter from a Class 1 structure (as defined in IC 22-12-1-4) if the Class 1 structure meets the requirements of any of the following subdivisions:

(1) The structure complied with the rules for a B-2 or M building occupancy classification before July 4, 2003, under the Indiana building code adopted by the fire prevention and building safety commission established under IC 22-12-2-1 **(before its repeal)**:

(A) in which consumer fireworks were sold or stored on or before July 4, 2003; and

(B) in which no subsequent intervening nonfireworks sales or storage use has occurred.

(2) The structure complied with the rules for a B-2 or M building occupancy classification before July 4, 2003, under the Indiana building code adopted by the fire prevention and building safety commission established under IC 22-12-2-1 **(before its repeal)**:

(A) in which consumer fireworks were sold or stored on or before July 4, 2003;

(B) in a location at which the retailer was registered as a resident wholesaler in 2005; and

(C) in which the retailer's primary business is not the sale of consumer fireworks.

(3) The structure complies with the rules for an H-3 building occupancy classification under the Indiana building code adopted by the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission established under IC 22-12-2-1, or the equivalent occupancy classification adopted by subsequent rules of the fire prevention and building safety commission.~~ **department of homeland security.**

(4) The structure complies with the rules adopted after July 3, 2003, by the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission established under IC 22-12-2-1~~ **department of homeland security** for an M building occupancy classification under the Indiana building code.

A registration under section 11(a) of this chapter is required for operation in 2006 and following years.

(c) This subsection does not apply to a structure identified in subsection (b)(1), (b)(2), (b)(3), or (b)(4). A retailer may sell consumer fireworks and items referenced in section 8(a) of this chapter from a structure under the following conditions:

(1) The structure must be a Class 1 structure in which consumer fireworks are sold and stored.

(2) The sales site must comply with all applicable local zoning and land use rules.

(3) The weight of consumer fireworks in the structure may not exceed three thousand (3,000) gross pounds of consumer fireworks.

(4) The retailer holds a valid registration under section 11(a) of this chapter.

(5) A retailer that sold consumer fireworks and operated from a structure with a registration in 2005 may continue in operation in the structure in 2006 and the following years. A registration under section 11(a) of this chapter is required for operation in 2006 and following years.

(d) The state fire marshal or a member of the department of homeland security staff shall, under section 9 of this chapter, inspect tents and structures in which fireworks are sold. The state fire marshal may delegate this responsibility to a responding fire department with jurisdiction over the tent or structure, subject to the policies and procedures of the state fire marshal.

(e) A retailer shall file an application for each retail location on a form to be provided by the state fire marshal.

(f) This chapter does not limit the quantity of items referenced in section 8(a) of this chapter that may be sold from any Class 1 structure that complied with the rules of the fire prevention and building safety commission **(before its repeal)** in effect before May 21, 2003.

SECTION 188. IC 22-11-14-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2006, SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) A person shall not sell at retail, offer for sale at retail, or deliver the following items to a person less than eighteen (18) years of age:

(1) Dipped sticks or wire sparklers. However, total pyrotechnic composition may not exceed one hundred (100) grams per item. Devices containing chlorate or perchlorate salts may not exceed five (5) grams in total composition per item.

(2) Cylindrical fountains.

- 1 (3) Cone fountains.
- 2 (4) Illuminating torches.
- 3 (5) Wheels.
- 4 (6) Ground spinners.
- 5 (7) Flitter sparklers.
- 6 (8) Snakes or glow worms.
- 7 (9) Smoke devices.
- 8 (10) Trick noisemakers, which include:
 - 9 (A) Party poppers.
 - 10 (B) Booby traps.
 - 11 (C) Snappers.
 - 12 (D) Trick matches.
 - 13 (E) Cigarette loads.
 - 14 (F) Auto burglar alarms.
- 15 (b) A retailer or wholesaler of consumer fireworks may sell
- 16 consumer fireworks to a person at least eighteen (18) years of age.
- 17 (c) An individual who sells consumer fireworks must be at least
- 18 eighteen (18) years of age.
- 19 (d) An individual who sells an item set forth in subsection (a) must
- 20 be at least sixteen (16) years of age.
- 21 (e) The ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department**
- 22 **of homeland security** may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 establishing
- 23 procedures to ensure compliance with the age limitations set forth in
- 24 this section.
- 25 SECTION 189. IC 22-11-14-15, AS ADDED BY P.L.187-2006,
- 26 SECTION 15, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 27 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 15. The ~~fire prevention and building safety~~
- 28 **commission department of homeland security** and the department of
- 29 state revenue shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to carry out this
- 30 chapter.
- 31 SECTION 190. IC 22-11-14.5-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.101-2006,
- 32 SECTION 30, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 33 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. The ~~fire prevention and building safety~~
- 34 **commission department of homeland security** shall adopt rules under
- 35 IC 4-22-2 to implement a statewide code concerning displays of indoor
- 36 pyrotechnics. The rules:
 - 37 (1) must require that a certificate of insurance be issued that
 - 38 provides general liability coverage of at least five hundred
 - 39 thousand dollars (\$500,000) for the injury or death of any number
 - 40 of persons in any one (1) occurrence and five hundred thousand

dollars (\$500,000) for property damage in any one (1) occurrence by an intended display of indoor pyrotechnics arising from any acts of the operator of the display or the operator's agents, employees, or subcontractors;

(2) must require the person intending to present the display to give, at least twenty four (24) hours before the time of the display, written notice of the intended display to the chief of the responding fire department of the location proposed for the display of the indoor pyrotechnics and to include with the written notice a certification from the person intending to display the indoor pyrotechnics that the display will be made in accordance with:

(A) the rules adopted under this section; and

(B) any ordinance or resolution adopted under section 4 of this chapter;

(3) must include and adopt NFPA 1126, Standard for the Use of Pyrotechnics before a Proximate Audience, 2001 Edition, published by the National Fire Protection Association, 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, Massachusetts 02169;

(4) must be amended to adopt any subsequent edition of NFPA Standard 1126, including addenda, within eighteen (18) months after the effective date of the subsequent edition; and

(5) may provide for amendments to NFPA Standard 1126 as a condition of the adoption under subdivisions (3) and (4).

SECTION 191. IC 22-11-16-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) The ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 governing fire safety in certain buildings as specified in subsection (b).

(b) Except as provided in subsection (c) and subsection (d), this chapter and the rules adopted under it apply to:

(1) all hotels, motels, apartments (in buildings containing three (3) or more apartments), and buildings containing three (3) or more sleeping rooms that rent for a fee; and

(2) all buildings occupied after September 14, 1982, as hotels, motels, apartments (in buildings containing three (3) or more apartments), and buildings containing three (3) or more sleeping rooms that rent for a fee.

(c) This chapter does not apply to hotels and motels that have no interior corridors and whose individual rooms have only exterior exits.

(d) This chapter does not apply to an apartment in an apartment building from which apartment there is immediate ground level access to the outside.

(e) Compliance with this chapter and the rules adopted under it does not relieve the owner of a building covered by this chapter from the requirements of any other applicable law, rule, regulation, or ordinance.

SECTION 192. IC 22-11-17-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021, SECTION 65, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. As used in this chapter:

(1) ~~"Commission" refers to the Indiana fire prevention and building safety commission.~~ **"Department" refers to the department of homeland security.**

(2) "Exit" means a continuous and unobstructed means of egress to a public way designated as an exit pursuant to the rules of the ~~commission.~~ **department.** The term includes doorways, corridors, exterior exit balconies, ramps, stairways, smokeproof enclosures, horizontal exits, exit passageways, exit courts, and yards.

(3) "Owner" means a person having control or custody of any building covered by this chapter.

(4) "Public building" means any structure used in whole or in part as a place of resort, assemblage, lodging, trade, traffic, occupancy, or use by the public, or by three (3) or more tenants. It also means all educational buildings, day care centers, hospitals, institutions, health facilities, residential-custodial care facilities, mercantile occupancies, and office occupancies.

(5) "Special egress control device" means an electronically controlled exit locking system that:

(A) allows a delay in exiting through an exit in a nonemergency situation; and

(B) complies with rules adopted by the ~~commission.~~ **department.**

SECTION 193. IC 22-11-17-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021, SECTION 66, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) Except as provided in subsections (b) and (d) and section 2.5 of this chapter, an owner of a public building shall not permit an exit to be locked or obstructed in any manner that denies the public a continuous and unobstructed means of egress while lawfully occupied by anyone who is not an officer or an employee.

(b) The ~~commission~~ **department** may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 that:

(1) allow the owner of a public building to equip an exit with a special egress control device;

(2) limit the circumstances under which a special egress control device may be used; and

(3) allow an exit that was in compliance with the rules of the ~~commission~~ **department** when the exit was constructed to be equipped with a special egress control device.

(c) An owner of a public building shall not permit a fire alarm to be disconnected or otherwise rendered inoperative, except in cases of routine maintenance or for repair.

(d) A school that has one (1) or more employees shall develop a plan to address unplanned fire alarm activation as part of its emergency operations plan.

(e) A school's emergency operations plan for unplanned fire alarm activation shall include procedures for the following:

(1) Evacuation of the building when the fire alarm is heard. A school with a fire alarm panel that allows for a positive fire alarm sequence may:

(A) develop a plan to investigate an unplanned fire alarm activation before activating the audible and visual alarms requiring evacuation;

(B) designate school officials to acknowledge that an alarm has been activated and initiate an investigation within fifteen (15) seconds;

(C) secure-in-place for up to three (3) minutes in order for a designated school official to determine, by investigation, if an active shooter is on the property; and

(D) following the three (3) minute period under clause (C), the school must evacuate, unless an active shooter has been verified to be on the school's property.

(2) Compliance with all provisions of 675 IAC 28-1-28.

SECTION 194. IC 22-12-1-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.142-2013, SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) "Class 1 structure" means any part of the following:

(1) A building or structure that is intended to be or is occupied or otherwise used in any part by any of the following:

(A) The public.

(B) Three (3) or more tenants.

(C) One (1) or more persons who act as the employees of

1 another.

2 (2) A site improvement affecting access by persons with physical
3 disabilities to a building or structure described in subdivision (1).

4 (3) Outdoor event equipment.

5 (4) Any class of buildings or structures that the ~~commission~~
6 **department** determines by rules to affect a building or structure
7 described in subdivision (1), except buildings or structures
8 described in subsections (c) through (f).

9 (b) Subsection (a)(1) includes a structure that contains three (3) or
10 more condominium units (as defined in IC 32-25-2-9) or other units
11 that:

12 (1) are intended to be or are used or leased by the owner of the
13 unit; and

14 (2) are not completely separated from each other by an
15 unimproved space.

16 (c) Subsection (a)(1) does not include a building or structure that:

17 (1) is intended to be or is used only for an agricultural purpose on
18 the land where it is located; and

19 (2) is not used for retail trade or is a stand used for retail sales of
20 farm produce for eight (8) or less consecutive months in a
21 calendar year.

22 (d) Subsection (a)(1) does not include a Class 2 structure.

23 (e) Subsection (a)(1) does not include a vehicular bridge.

24 (f) Subsection (a)(1) does not include a structure that is intended to
25 be or is occupied solely to provide periodic maintenance or repair of:

26 (1) the structure; or

27 (2) mechanical or electrical equipment located within and affixed
28 to the structure.

29 SECTION 195. IC 22-12-1-6 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY
30 1, 2026]. ~~Sec. 6: "Commission" refers to the fire prevention and~~
31 ~~building safety commission.~~

32 SECTION 196. IC 22-12-1-8 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
33 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) "Control" means
34 authority to create, change, or eliminate a condition or to initiate,
35 regulate, or terminate conduct that is based on any of the following:

36 (1) An agency, employment, or contractual relationship.

37 (2) A possessory or nonpossessory ownership or leasehold interest
38 in property.

39 (3) A contractual right to possess or use property.

40 **(b) The term does not apply to IC 22-12-2.1-1.**

1 SECTION 197. IC 22-12-2 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
2 2026]. (Fire Prevention and Building Safety Commission).

3 SECTION 198. IC 22-12-2.1 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
4 CODE AS A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS
5 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]:

6 **Chapter 2.1. Transition of Responsibilities for Fire and Building**
7 **Safety**

8 **Sec. 1. (a) On July 1, 2026, all powers, duties, agreements, and**
9 **liabilities of the fire prevention and building safety commission are**
10 **transferred to the department.**

11 **(b) On July 1, 2026, all records and property of the fire safety**
12 **and building commission, including appropriations and other funds**
13 **under the control or supervision of the fire safety and building**
14 **commission, are transferred to the department.**

15 **(c) After June 30, 2026, any amounts owed to the fire safety and**
16 **building commission before July 1, 2026, are considered to be owed**
17 **to the department as the successor agency.**

18 **(d) After June 30, 2026, a reference to the fire safety and**
19 **building commission in a statute, rule, or other document is**
20 **considered a reference to the department.**

21 **(e) Proceedings pending before the fire safety and building**
22 **commission on July 1, 2026, shall be transferred from the fire**
23 **safety and building commission to the department and treated as**
24 **if initiated by the department.**

25 **(f) A license or permit issued by the fire safety and building**
26 **commission before July 1, 2026, shall be treated after June 30,**
27 **2026, as a certification issued by the department.**

28 **(g) The rules adopted by the fire safety and building commission**
29 **before July 1, 2026, are considered, after June 30, 2026, rules of the**
30 **department.**

31 SECTION 199. IC 22-12-2.5 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY
32 1, 2026]. (Building Codes and Standards; Review and Implementation
33 of Rules; Taking Effect of Rules).

34 SECTION 200. IC 22-12-2.6 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
35 CODE AS A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS
36 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]:

37 **Chapter 2.6. Indiana Building Code**

38 **Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "building code" includes the**
39 **standards relating to a building code, an equipment code, and a fire**
40 **safety code.**

1 **Sec. 2. (a) Except as provided in subsection (c), on or before July**
 2 **1, 2028, the department shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to**
 3 **supersede the following rules in existence on July 1, 2026:**

4 **(1) 675 IAC 12 (Administration).**

5 **(2) 675 IAC 13 (Building Codes).**

6 **(3) 675 IAC 14 (One and Two Family Dwelling Code).**

7 **(4) 675 IAC 15 (Industrialized Building Systems).**

8 **(5) 675 IAC 16 (Plumbing Code).**

9 **(6) 675 IAC 17 (Electrical Codes).**

10 **(7) 675 IAC 18 (Mechanical Code).**

11 **(8) 675 IAC 19 (Energy Conservation Codes).**

12 **(9) 675 IAC 20 (Swimming Pool Code).**

13 **(10) 675 IAC 21 (Safety Codes for Elevators, Escalators,**
 14 **Manlifts and Hoists).**

15 **(11) 675 IAC 22 (Fire Prevention Codes).**

16 **(12) 675 IAC 24 (Supplementary Fire Safety Rules).**

17 **(13) 675 IAC 25 (Fuel Gas Code).**

18 **(14) 675 IAC 27 (Indiana Visitability Rule for One and Two**
 19 **Family Dwellings and Townhouses).**

20 **(15) 675 IAC 28 (National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)**
 21 **Standards).**

22 **(16) 675 IAC 30 (Indiana Boiler and Pressure Vessel Rules).**

23 **(b) The rules adopted to supersede the rules described in**
 24 **subsection (a) shall be known as the Indiana building code. If the**
 25 **rules adopted under this section incorporate provisions included in**
 26 **a model code, rule, or requirement, the provisions:**

27 **(1) may not be incorporated by reference and must be**
 28 **included in the rule; and**

29 **(2) must be free and accessible to the public.**

30 **(c) On or before July 1, 2027, the department shall submit a**
 31 **report to legislative council, in an electronic format under**
 32 **IC 5-16-4, that includes any provision that is included in the rules**
 33 **described in subsection (a) on July 1, 2026, that the department**
 34 **recommends to be codified by the general assembly. Any proposed**
 35 **legislative changes shall not include any of the following:**

36 **(1) Pictures or images.**

37 **(2) Diagrams or illustrations.**

38 **(3) Special characters not supported by the Indiana Code**
 39 **(nonstandard symbols).**

40 **(4) Mathematical or scientific formulas.**

1 **Sec. 3. (a) The building rules adopted by the department to**
 2 **govern new construction must promote the following:**

3 **(1) Safety.**

4 **(2) Sanitary conditions.**

5 **(3) Energy conservation.**

6 **(4) Access by a person with a physical disability to Class 1**
 7 **structures.**

8 **(b) Rules that:**

9 **(1) are adopted by the department; and**

10 **(2) are not covered by subsection (a);**

11 **must promote safety.**

12 **Sec. 4. Rules adopted under IC 4-22-2, may not take effect**
 13 **earlier than one hundred eighty (180) days after the final rule is**
 14 **filed with the publisher unless required by law or to maintain**
 15 **compliance with a federal program.**

16 **Sec. 5. (a) This section does not apply to either of the following**
 17 **adopted by a unit (as defined in IC 36-1-2-23):**

18 **(1) The unit's architectural design standards.**

19 **(2) The unit's zoning ordinances.**

20 **(b) A unit (as defined in IC 36-1-2-23) may not adopt an**
 21 **ordinance concerning construction and remodeling that:**

22 **(1) conflicts with a rule in 290 IAC or a subsequent rule**
 23 **adopted under this chapter; or**

24 **(2) includes more stringent or detailed requirements than**
 25 **those set forth in 290 IAC or a subsequent rule adopted under**
 26 **this chapter.**

27 **If a building code or standard within the jurisdiction of the**
 28 **department is silent on equipment or a regulation, a unit may**
 29 **petition the department for consideration and a determination.**

30 **Sec. 6. (a) The department shall adopt building rules for the**
 31 **purpose of complying with and implementing the Americans with**
 32 **Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. 12181 et seq.) and any amendments and**
 33 **regulations relating to the Act, to be consistent with the Americans**
 34 **with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (28 CFR 36.101 et**
 35 **seq.).**

36 **(b) The rules adopted under this section must:**

37 **(1) require that new construction must be readily accessible**
 38 **to and usable by individuals with disabilities, unless it is**
 39 **structurally impracticable to meet the accessibility**
 40 **requirements according to the standards established by the**

1 Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (28
2 CFR 36.101 et seq.);

3 (2) require that an alteration of an existing facility must be
4 made so that the alteration complies with the readily
5 achievable barrier removal provisions of the Americans with
6 Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (28 CFR 36.101 et
7 seq.); and

8 (3) allow the use of reasonable and cost effective alternative
9 means of public access or service if the alternative means are
10 consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C.
11 12181 et seq.).

12 Sec. 7. (a) The department shall adopt building rules regarding
13 installation of audio frequency induction loop systems and beacon
14 positioning systems in Class 1 structures located in a first or second
15 class city after June 30, 2020.

16 (b) The rules adopted under this section must:

17 (1) require that a person performing new construction must
18 consider the installation of:

19 (A) an audio frequency induction loop system as part of
20 any public address system unless installation of an audio
21 frequency induction loop system would be impractical; and

22 (B) a beacon positioning system unless installation of a
23 beacon positioning system would be impractical;

24 (2) require that a person performing any major alteration of
25 an existing facility's public address system must consider the
26 installation of:

27 (A) an audio frequency induction loop system unless
28 installation of an audio frequency induction loop system
29 would be impractical; and

30 (B) a beacon positioning system unless installation of a
31 beacon positioning system would be impractical;

32 (3) require that a person performing new construction or any
33 major alteration of an existing facility's public address system
34 under subdivision (1) or (2) must solicit:

35 (A) at least one (1) bid for the installation of an audio
36 frequency induction loop system unless installation of an
37 audio frequency induction loop system would be
38 impractical; and

39 (B) at least one (1) bid for the installation of a beacon
40 positioning system unless installation of a beacon

- 1 positioning system would be impractical;
- 2 (4) adopt American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and
- 3 International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) standards
- 4 for audio frequency induction loop system installation,
- 5 maintenance, and performance; and
- 6 (5) develop standards for installation and maintenance of a
- 7 beacon positioning system.

8 **Sec. 8.** The department shall adopt building rules to govern the
 9 construction of industrialized building systems and mobile
 10 structures. In these rules, industrialized building systems and
 11 mobile structures may be exempted from requirements that
 12 otherwise apply to buildings or other structures.

13 **Sec. 9. (a)** This section applies to a building or other structure
 14 that is:

- 15 (1) temporarily used as a model or office for the sale of a one
- 16 (1) or two (2) family dwelling; or
- 17 (2) used for an occupation that is compatible, as determined
- 18 by criteria established by the commission, with its primary
- 19 use as a dwelling.

20 **(b)** The department may adopt building rules that exempt a
 21 building or other structure described in subsection (a) from:

- 22 (1) building rules that otherwise apply to Class 1 structures;
- 23 and
- 24 (2) the design release requirement under IC 22-15-3.

25 **Sec. 10.** The department may adopt building rules that exempt
 26 minor construction (as defined in the rules adopted by the
 27 commission) from the design release requirement under IC 22-15-3
 28 and the regulated lifting device installation or alteration permit
 29 requirement under IC 22-15-5.

30 **Sec. 11. (a)** The department shall adopt building rules that allow
 31 a person to convert a building or other structure, in whole or in
 32 part, from one (1) class of occupancy and use established under the
 33 department's rules to another without complying with all of the
 34 department's rules governing new construction.

35 **(b)** The rules adopted under this section must protect the public
 36 from significant health hazards and safety hazards.

37 **(c)** Subject to subsection (b), the rules must promote the
 38 following:

- 39 (1) The preservation of architecturally significant and
- 40 historically significant parts of buildings and other structures.

1 (2) The economically efficient reuse of buildings and other
2 structures.

3 (3) The preservation and use of commercial buildings located
4 within:

5 (A) the downtown of a local unit; and

6 (B) a designated historic district.

7 Before the effective date of the department's rules, the
8 department's policies must promote the preservation and use of
9 commercial buildings as set forth in subdivision (3).

10 (d) The rules adopted under this section may condition an
11 exemption upon:

12 (1) passing an inspection conducted by the department; and

13 (2) paying the fee set under IC 22-12-6-6.

14 Sec. 12. (a) This section applies to Class 1 structures that are
15 partially or entirely located within the geographic area included in
16 seismic zone 2A.

17 (b) As used in this section, "seismic zone 2A" refers to the
18 geographic boundaries that comprise seismic zone 2A as
19 established in the rules adopted by the department.

20 (c) The department shall adopt building rules under IC 4-22-2
21 that prohibit or limit occupancy or use of Class 1 structures that do
22 not comply with the department's rules governing structural
23 resistance to earthquakes.

24 (d) The rules adopted under this section must cover essential
25 buildings and public utility services:

26 (1) designated by the department; and

27 (2) needed for disaster recovery operations.

28 (e) The rules adopted under this section may not apply to a
29 Class 1 structure if construction of the structure began before July
30 1, 1993.

31 Sec. 13. (a) This section applies only to new construction of the
32 following dwellings:

33 (1) A detached one (1) or two (2) family dwelling.

34 (2) A townhouse.

35 (b) This section does not apply to a mobile structure or an
36 industrialized building system.

37 (c) As used in this section, "environmental controls" means
38 switches or devices that control or regulate lights, temperature,
39 fuses, fans, doors, security system features, or other features.

40 (d) As used in this section, "new construction" means the

1 construction of a new dwelling on a vacant lot. The term does not
2 include an addition to or remodeling of an existing building.

3 (e) As used in this section, "townhouse" means a single family
4 dwelling unit constructed in a row of attached units separated by
5 property lines and with open space on at least two (2) sides.

6 (f) As used in this section, "visitability feature" means a design
7 feature of a dwelling that allows a person with a mobility
8 impairment to enter and comfortably stay in a dwelling for a
9 duration of time. The term includes features that allow a person
10 with a mobility impairment to get in and out through one (1)
11 exterior door of the dwelling without any steps and to pass through
12 all main floor interior doors, including a bathroom door.

13 (g) If a person contracts with a designer and a builder for
14 construction of a visitability feature in the new construction of a
15 dwelling, the designer and builder shall comply with the standards
16 adopted by the commission under this section for the construction
17 and design of the visitability feature. The standards adopted under
18 this section:

19 (1) shall be enforced by a political subdivision that enforces
20 the department's standards with respect to Class 2 structures;
21 and

22 (2) may not be enforced by the department.

23 (h) The department shall adopt minimum standards by rule
24 under IC 4-22-2 for visitability features in the new construction of
25 a dwelling. The rules shall include minimum standards for the
26 following:

27 (1) Entrances to the dwelling, including paths from the
28 dwelling to the street.

29 (2) Room dimensions.

30 (3) The width of exterior and interior doors.

31 (4) The width of interior hallways.

32 (5) The grade of interior thresholds and hallways.

33 (6) The height and location of environmental controls.

34 (7) The reinforcement of bathroom walls sufficient to attach
35 grab bars.

36 SECTION 201. IC 22-12-6-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021,
37 SECTION 69, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
38 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. (a) The fire and building services fund is
39 established for the purpose of defraying the personal services, other
40 operating expense, and capital outlay of the following:

1 (1) The department.

2 (2) The education board.

3 ~~(3) The commission.~~

4 (b) The fund shall be administered by the department. Money
5 collected for deposit in the fund shall be deposited at least monthly
6 with the treasurer of state.

7 (c) The treasurer of state shall deposit the following collected
8 amounts in the fund:

9 (1) Fire insurance policy premium taxes assessed under section 5
10 of this chapter.

11 (2) Except as provided in section 6(d) of this chapter, all fees
12 collected under this chapter.

13 (3) Any money not otherwise described in this subsection but
14 collected by the department ~~commission~~, or education board and
15 designated for distribution to the fund by statute or the executive
16 director of the department.

17 (4) A fee collected by the education board for the issuance of a
18 certification under IC 22-14-2-7.

19 (d) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not
20 currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same
21 manner as other public funds may be invested.

22 (e) Money in the fund at the end of a fiscal year does not revert to
23 the state general fund.

24 SECTION 202. IC 22-12-6-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021,
25 SECTION 70, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
26 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) The statewide fire and building safety
27 education fund is established to provide money to:

28 (1) local fire and building inspection departments for enrollment
29 in education and training programs approved by the department;
30 and

31 (2) the department for:

32 (A) enrollment in education and training programs approved
33 by the department; and

34 (B) the sponsoring of training conferences.

35 (b) The department shall administer the fund. The department shall
36 distribute money from the fund in accordance with the rules adopted
37 under IC 4-22-2 by the ~~commission~~. **department.**

38 (c) The fund consists of:

39 (1) money allocated under section 6(d) of this chapter; and

40 (2) fees collected under subsection (e).

(d) Money in the fund at the end of a fiscal year does not revert to the state general fund.

(e) The department may charge a fee for a person's participation in a training conference. The department shall deposit the fees collected under this subsection in the fund. The department shall pay all expenses associated with training conferences out of the fund.

SECTION 203. IC 22-12-6-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.230-2019, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. (a) The ~~commission~~ **department** may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 setting a fee schedule for the following:

(1) Fireworks display permits issued under IC 22-11-14-2.

(2) Explosives magazine permits issued under IC 35-47.5-4.

(3) Design releases issued under IC 22-15-3 and IC 22-15-3.2.

(4) Certification of industrialized building systems and mobile structures under IC 22-15-4.

(5) Inspection of regulated amusement devices under IC 22-15-7.

(6) Application fees for variance requests under IC 22-13-2-11 and inspection fees for exemptions under ~~IC 22-13-4-5.~~

IC 22-12-2.6-11.

(7) Except as provided in section 6.5 of this chapter, permitting and inspection of regulated lifting devices under IC 22-15-5.

(8) Permitting and inspection of regulated boiler and pressure vessels under IC 22-15-6.

(9) Licensing of boiler and pressure vessel inspectors under IC 22-15-6-5.

(10) Licensing of elevator contractors, elevator inspectors, and elevator mechanics under IC 22-15-5-6 through IC 22-15-5-16.

(b) Fee schedules set under this section must be sufficient to pay all of the costs, direct and indirect, that are payable from the fund into which the fee must be deposited, after deducting other money deposited in the fund. In setting these fee schedules, the ~~commission~~ **department** may consider differences in the degree or complexity of the activity being performed for each fee.

(c) The fee schedule set for design releases issued under subsection (a)(3) may not be changed more than one (1) time each year. The ~~commission~~ **department** may include in this fee schedule a fee for the review of plans and specifications and, if a political subdivision does not have a program to periodically inspect the construction covered by the design release, a fee for inspecting the construction.

(d) The fee schedule set under subsection (a) for design releases

1 may provide that a portion of the fees collected shall be deposited in
2 the statewide fire and building safety education fund established under
3 section 3 of this chapter.

4 SECTION 204. IC 22-12-6-6.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.230-2019,
5 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
6 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6.5. (a) The ~~commission~~ **department** may adopt
7 rules under IC 4-22-2 to set fees for a permit issued under
8 IC 22-15-5-4(c) if the acceptance inspection of the regulated lifting
9 device required by IC 22-15-5-4(c)(1)(A) is conducted by an inspector
10 who is not employed by the department.

11 (b) A fee under subsection (a) must be a lesser fee than that set
12 under section 6(a)(7) of this chapter.

13 (c) When determining a fee under subsection (a), the ~~commission~~
14 **department** shall consider any savings the department will experience
15 as a result of a permit applicant using an inspector who is not employed
16 by the department, including savings related to department inspector
17 salaries, travel, and administrative costs.

18 SECTION 205. IC 22-12-6-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021,
19 SECTION 71, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
20 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) This section does not apply to a nonpublic
21 school (as defined in IC 20-18-2-12) or a school operated by a school
22 corporation (as defined in IC 20-18-2-16).

23 (b) The department shall charge an application fee set by rules
24 adopted by the ~~commission~~ **department** under IC 4-22-2 for
25 amusement and entertainment permits issued under IC 22-14-3.

26 (c) The department shall collect an inspection fee set by rules
27 adopted by the ~~commission~~ **department** under IC 4-22-2 whenever the
28 department conducts an inspection for a special event endorsement
29 under IC 22-14-3.

30 (d) Halls, gymnasiums, or places of assembly in which contests,
31 drills, exhibitions, plays, displays, dances, concerts, or other types of
32 amusement are held by colleges, universities, social or fraternal
33 organizations, lodges, farmers organizations, societies, labor unions,
34 trade associations, or churches are exempt from the fees charged or
35 collected under subsections (b) and (c), unless rental fees are charged
36 or collected.

37 (e) The fees set for applications or inspections under this section
38 must be sufficient to pay all the direct and indirect costs of processing
39 an application or performing an inspection for which the fee is set. In
40 setting the fees, the ~~commission~~ **department** may consider differences

1 in the degree or complexity of the activity being performed for each
2 fee.

3 SECTION 206. IC 22-12-6-8 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
4 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) The application
5 fee for a fireworks manufacturer, distributor, wholesaler, or importer
6 permit issued under IC 22-11-14-5 shall be set by rules adopted by the
7 ~~commission~~ **department** under IC 4-22-2.

8 (b) The application fee for a fireworks retail stand permit issued
9 under IC 22-11-14-7 shall be set by rules adopted by the ~~commission~~
10 **department** under IC 4-22-2. The rules must exempt a nonprofit
11 corporation incorporated under IC 23-7-1.1 (before its repeal on
12 August 1, 1991) or IC 23-17 from the fee.

13 (c) The fees set for applications under this section must be sufficient
14 to pay all the direct and indirect costs of processing an application for
15 which the fee is set. In setting the fees, the ~~commission~~ **department**
16 may consider differences in the degree or complexity of the activity
17 being performed for each fee.

18 SECTION 207. IC 22-12-6-15, AS AMENDED BY P.L.1-2025,
19 SECTION 205, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
20 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 15. (a) As used in this section,
21 "credit card" means a bank card, debit card, charge card, prepaid card,
22 or other similar device used for payment.

23 (b) In addition to other methods of payment allowed by law, the
24 department may accept payment by credit card for certifications,
25 licenses, and fees, and other amounts payable to the following:

26 (1) The department.

27 (2) The fire prevention and building safety commission **(before**
28 **its repeal)**.

29 (3) The Indiana homeland security foundation (before its repeal).

30 (c) The department may enter into appropriate agreements with
31 banks or other organizations authorized to do business in Indiana to
32 enable the department to accept payment by credit card.

33 (d) The department may recognize net amounts remitted by the bank
34 or other organization as payment in full of amounts due the department.

35 (e) The department may pay any applicable credit card service
36 charge or fee.

37 SECTION 208. IC 22-12-7-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,
38 SECTION 64, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
39 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. This chapter applies to ~~the commission~~, the
40 education board and every officer, employee, and agent of an office or

1 division within the department whenever the person has authority to
 2 administer or enforce a law under IC 22-11 through IC 22-15,
 3 IC 35-47.5, or IC 36-8-10.5.

4 SECTION 209. IC 22-12-7-12, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,
 5 SECTION 66, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 6 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 12. (a) This section applies to an order issued by
 7 an officer, employee, or agent of an office or division within the
 8 department.

9 (b) The office or division issuing an order shall give a person who:

10 (1) is aggrieved by the order; and

11 (2) requests review of the order in verbal or written form;

12 an opportunity to informally discuss the order with the office or
 13 division. Review under this subsection does not suspend the running of
 14 the time period in which a person must petition under IC 4-21.5-3-7 to
 15 appeal the order.

16 (c) The office or division issuing the order may, on its own initiative
 17 or at the request of any person, modify its order or reverse the order.

18 (d) An order issued by an office or a division may be appealed to the
 19 ~~commission~~ **department** under IC 4-21.5-3-7. A decision to deny a
 20 request to modify or reverse an order under subsection (c) is not
 21 appealable. However, orders issued under IC 22-14-2-7,
 22 IC 22-14-2-7.5, or IC 36-8-10.5 are appealed to the education board.

23 (e) If an order is appealed, the agency that is responsible for
 24 reviewing the order under subsection (d) or its designee shall conduct
 25 all administrative proceedings under IC 4-21.5. In its proceedings, the
 26 agency conducting the proceeding may modify the order to impose any
 27 requirement authorized under this article or reverse the order.

28 SECTION 210. IC 22-12-7-15, AS ADDED BY P.L.160-2025,
 29 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 30 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 15. (a) Except as provided by subsection (c), if a
 31 property is inspected by the department or plans were reviewed by the
 32 department, neither the department nor a political subdivision may
 33 require compliance with a new or different set of building, fire safety,
 34 or equipment laws than were originally enforced by the department:

35 (1) before July 1, 2025; or

36 (2) two (2) years after the earlier of the date of the:

37 (A) initial inspection; or

38 (B) plan review.

39 (b) A child care home (as defined in IC 12-7-2-28.6) that was
 40 licensed to operate in a Class 2 structure by the office of the secretary

of family and social services before July 1, 2025, may continue to operate in the structure notwithstanding the provisions of this article and 675 IAC 13.

(c) Subsection (a) does not apply to any of the following:

(1) Any:

(A) fraud;

(B) material misrepresentation; or

(C) other act of bad faith;

that results in misapplication of the appropriate requirements.

(2) A change of use or occupancy of the structure or equipment.

(3) A condition imposed in a variance issued by the:

(A) department; or

(B) ~~commission~~; **state building commissioner**.

(4) Any new construction, addition, or alteration of the structure or equipment.

(5) A violation that would qualify for an emergency order under section 6(a)(1) of this chapter.

(6) Any maintenance requirements.

SECTION 211. IC 22-13-1-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. "Building rule" means a rule that:

(1) is adopted by the ~~commission~~; **department**; and

(2) qualifies as a building law under IC 22-12-1-3.

SECTION 212. IC 22-13-1-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. "Fire safety rule" means a rule that:

(1) is adopted by the ~~commission~~; **department**; and

(2) qualifies as a fire safety law under IC 22-12-1-13.

SECTION 213. IC 22-13-2-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.230-2019, SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) Except as provided in section 3.5 of this chapter, the ~~commission~~ **department** shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to adopt a statewide code of fire safety laws and building laws.

(b) ~~The commission~~ **Subject to IC 22-12-2.6, the department** shall adopt the following national codes or their equivalent by rules under IC 4-22-2 and IC 22-13-2.5 (before its repeal):

(1) ANSI A10.4 (Safety Requirements for Personnel Hoists).

(2) ASME A17.1 (Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators, an American National Standard).

(3) ASME A18.1 (Safety Standard for Platform Lifts and Stairway

Chairlifts, American National Standard).

(4) ASME QEI-1 (Standard for the Qualification of Elevator Inspectors, an American National Standard).

(5) The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Automated People Mover Standard 21.

(6) ANSI A90.1 Safety Code for Manlifts.

(7) ASME A17.3 (Safety Code for Existing Elevators and Escalators, an American National Standard).

(8) ASME A17.6 (Standard for Elevator Suspension, Compensation, and Governor Systems).

(c) ~~The commission shall review the subsequent edition of each code adopted under subsection (b) within twenty-four (24) months after the effective date of the subsequent edition:~~

(d) ~~Except as provided in subsection (c), the commission may amend the national codes as a condition of the adoption under subsections (b) and (c):~~

(e) ~~An amendment to the national code under subsection (d) may not unreasonably impair public safety:~~

SECTION 214. IC 22-13-2-2.5 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 2.5: (a) ~~Before January 1, 2020, the commission shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to replace the statewide residential code for Class 2 structures that is included within the statewide code of fire safety laws and building laws adopted under section 2 of this chapter:~~

(b) ~~If the commission uses a national code as part of the adoption of a replacement statewide residential code under subsection (a), the commission shall amend the national code as a condition of the adoption under subsection (a):~~

(c) ~~The commission shall submit a report to the general assembly not later than January 1, 2019, regarding the commission's work during the previous year related to adoption of a replacement statewide residential code under subsection (a). The report to the general assembly must be submitted in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6:~~

SECTION 215. IC 22-13-2-2.6, AS ADDED BY P.L.79-2019, SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2.6. Before January 1, 2021, the ~~commission~~ **department** may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to exempt a bunkhouse from being required to be equipped with an automatic fire sprinkler system.

SECTION 216. IC 22-13-2-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.155-2023, SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE

JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) The rules adopted under section 2 of this chapter **and IC 22-12-2.6** take precedence over:

- (1) any rule adopted by a state agency that conflicts with the ~~commission's~~ **department's** fire safety rules or building rules; and
- (2) any ordinance or other regulation adopted by a political subdivision that covers the same subject matter as the ~~commission's~~ **department's** fire safety rules or building rules.

(b) State agencies and political subdivisions may incorporate the rules adopted by the ~~commission~~ **department** by reference into a rule, ordinance, or other regulation. Notwithstanding IC 4-22-9-6, a reference to the rules adopted by the ~~commission~~, **department**, by citation to the Indiana Administrative Code (IAC), shall be construed to include all amendments as of the date that the reference is written and any later amendments to that provision, unless accompanied by a reference to a specific edition or supplement to the Indiana Administrative Code.

(c) A city, town, or county may not adopt an ordinance that conflicts with or includes more stringent or detailed requirements than the ~~commission's~~ **department's** rules.

SECTION 217. IC 22-13-2-3.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.104-2018, SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3.5. (a) The following may not adopt rules requiring the installation of an automatic fire sprinkler system in a Class 2 structure:

- (1) The ~~commission~~: **department**.
- (2) Another state agency.

(b) A political subdivision may not adopt an ordinance or other regulation requiring the installation of an automatic fire sprinkler system in a Class 2 structure.

SECTION 218. IC 22-13-2-4 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. If the ~~commission~~ **department** finds duplication, conflict, or overlapping of responsibility between:

- (1) this article, IC 22-12, IC 22-14, IC 22-15, a fire safety rule, or a building rule; and
- (2) the rules adopted by another state agency;

the ~~commission~~ **department** shall notify the state agency, and the state agency shall revise its rules to eliminate the duplication, conflict, or overlap.

SECTION 219. IC 22-13-2-4.1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021,

SECTION 74, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4.1. (a) This section applies only to a plan review for a design release performed:

- (1) before construction of a Class 1 structure; and
- (2) to determine compliance with the rules of the ~~commission~~ **department**.

(b) This section does not apply to a plan review for the issuance of a building permit, an improvement permit, a fire protection system permit, or any other permit issued by a state agency or a city, town, or county.

(c) A plan review for a design release must be:

- (1) authorized under IC 22-15-3; and
- (2) performed in compliance with the rules and objective criteria adopted by the ~~commission~~ **department** under IC 22-15-3-1.

(d) If the ~~commission~~ **department** has certified that a city, town, or county is qualified to perform a plan review for a design release under IC 22-15-3, both of the following may perform the plan review for a design release:

- (1) The department.
- (2) The city, town, or county.

However, only the entity described in subdivision (1) or (2) that performs the initial plan review for a design release may charge a fee for the plan review for a design release. The other entity shall not charge a fee for the plan review for a design release.

SECTION 220. IC 22-13-2-5.6, AS ADDED BY P.L.155-2023, SECTION 10, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5.6. (a) As used in this section, "building code" means a building code and includes the standards related to a building code.

(b) As used in this section, "unit" means a county, city, or town.

(c) ~~Beginning January 1, 2024,~~ A unit may submit a proposal to the ~~commission~~ **department** to amend any building code that the ~~commission~~ **department** adopts or updates. ~~after December 31, 2023.~~ A unit may submit the proposal in hard copy or in an electronic form that is acceptable to the ~~commission~~ **department**. A proposal must include the following:

- (1) A resolution adopted by the unit to request an amendment to the building code that:
 - (A) specifies the building code language to be amended; and
 - (B) states the safety issue that is the basis for the proposed

1 amendment.

2 (2) A fiscal analysis of the estimated cost or savings resulting
3 from the proposed building code amendment.

4 (d) The ~~commission~~ **department** shall hold one (1) meeting each
5 year to review and consider all proposals submitted by units. A unit
6 may submit a proposal at any time. However, the ~~commission~~
7 **department** shall review and consider only complete proposal
8 submissions that are received not later than sixty (60) days before the
9 date of a meeting in which proposals are considered.

10 (e) The ~~commission~~ **department** shall:

11 (1) place a proposal on the meeting agenda not later than thirty
12 (30) days before the date of the meeting in which the proposal is
13 considered; and

14 (2) take public testimony at the meeting.

15 (f) ~~The commission may only adopt a proposed amendment upon an~~
16 ~~affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the~~
17 ~~commission present and voting as provided in IC 22-12-2-6.~~

18 (g) ~~A building code amendment adopted by the commission under~~
19 ~~this section is subject to IC 22-12-2.5-2.~~

20 SECTION 221. IC 22-13-2-7 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
21 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) The ~~commission~~
22 **department, or with the approval of the department, the state**
23 **building commissioner,** may review and modify or reverse any
24 variance or other order that:

25 (1) is issued by a state agency or political subdivision; and

26 (2) covers a subject governed by this article, IC 22-12, IC 22-14,
27 IC 22-15, a fire safety rule, or a building rule.

28 (b) The ~~commission~~ **department** shall review variances granted by
29 a political subdivision to the fire safety laws and building laws adopted
30 in its ordinances. The variance is not effective until it is approved by
31 the ~~commission.~~ **department.**

32 (c) The ~~commission~~ **department, or with the approval of the**
33 **department, the state building commissioner,** shall review orders
34 under this section that:

35 (1) are issued by a political subdivision; and

36 (2) concern a Class 2 structure;

37 if a person aggrieved by the order petitions for review under
38 IC 4-21.5-3-7 within thirty (30) days after the political subdivision has
39 issued the order.

40 (d) A copy of the petition under subsection (c) shall be delivered to

1 the political subdivision issuing the order.

2 (e) Review of an order under this section does not suspend the
3 running of the time period under any statute in which a person must
4 petition a court for judicial review of the order.

5 SECTION 222. IC 22-13-2-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.93-2024,
6 SECTION 161, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
7 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) ~~The commission~~ **Subject to**
8 **IC 22-12-2.6, the department** shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to
9 create equipment laws applicable to regulated lifting devices.

10 (b) ~~The commission~~ **Subject to IC 22-12-2.6, the department** shall
11 adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to create equipment laws applicable to
12 regulated boilers and pressure vessels.

13 (c) ~~The commission~~ **Subject to and except as otherwise provided**
14 **in IC 22-12-2.6, the department** may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to
15 adopt by reference all or part of the following national boiler and
16 pressure vessel codes:

17 (1) The American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and
18 Pressure Vessel Code.

19 (2) The National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors
20 Inspection Code.

21 (3) The American Petroleum Institute 510 Pressure Vessel
22 Inspection Code.

23 (4) Any subsequent editions of the codes listed in subdivisions (1)
24 through (3).

25 (d) ~~The commission~~ **department** shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2
26 to create equipment laws applicable to regulated amusement devices.

27 SECTION 223. IC 22-13-2-8.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.93-2024,
28 SECTION 162, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
29 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8.5. (a) ~~The commission~~
30 **department** shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 for outdoor event
31 equipment at outdoor performances to protect the safety of persons at
32 the outdoor performances. ~~The commission~~ **department** may:

33 (1) exempt small assemblies of outdoor event equipment, as
34 defined by the ~~commission~~, **department**, from some or all fees or
35 other requirements that otherwise would apply to outdoor event
36 equipment under a rule adopted under this section or another
37 building law; or

38 (2) establish alternative procedures, fees, or other requirements,
39 or any combination, for small assemblies of outdoor event
40 equipment, as defined by the ~~commission~~. **department**.

(b) Subject to this section, a city, town, or county that regulated outdoor event equipment before March 15, 2012, under an ordinance adopted before March 15, 2012, may, if the ordinance is in effect on March 15, 2012, continue to regulate outdoor event equipment under the ordinance after March 14, 2012, in the same manner that the city, town, or county applied the ordinance before March 15, 2012. However, a statewide code of fire safety laws or building laws governing outdoor event equipment that is adopted by the ~~commission~~ **department** under this section after March 14, 2012, takes precedence over any part of a city, town, or county ordinance that is in conflict with the ~~commission's~~ **department's** adopted code. The ordinances to which this section applies include Chapter 536 of the Revised Code of the Consolidated City and County Indianapolis/Marion, Indiana Codified through Ordinance No. 36, 2011, passed August 15, 2011. (Supp. No. 27). A city, town, or county to which this subsection applies need not be certified or approved under IC 22-15-3-1 or another law to continue to regulate outdoor event equipment after March 14, 2012.

(c) This subsection applies to cities, towns, and counties described in subsection (b) and any other city, town, or county that, after March 14, 2012, adopts an ordinance governing outdoor event equipment that is approved by the ~~commission~~ **department** or the state building commissioner. The city, town, or county shall require compliance with:

- (1) the rules adopted under this section;
- (2) orders issued under IC 22-13-2-11 that grant a variance to the rules adopted under this section;
- (3) orders issued under IC 22-12-7 that apply the rules adopted under this section; and
- (4) a written interpretation of the rules adopted under this section binding on the unit under IC 22-13-5-3 or IC 22-13-5-4;

on both private and public property located within the boundaries of the city, town, or county, including, in the case of a consolidated city, the state fairgrounds. This subsection does not limit the authority of a unit (as defined in IC 36-1-2-23) under IC 36-7-2-9 to enforce building laws and orders and written interpretations related to building laws.

SECTION 224. IC 22-13-2-10, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021, SECTION 75, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) A county, city, or town may regulate regulated lifting devices if the unit's regulatory program is approved by the ~~commission~~ **department**.

(b) A unit must submit its ordinances and other regulations that

1 regulate lifting devices to the ~~commission~~ **department** for approval.
 2 The ordinance or other regulation is not effective until it is approved by
 3 the ~~commission~~. **department**. If any of these ordinances or regulations
 4 conflict with the ~~commission's~~ **department's** rules, the ~~commission's~~
 5 **department's** rules supersede the local ordinance or other regulation.

6 (c) A unit may issue permits only to applicants who qualify under
 7 IC 22-15-5. However, the unit may specify a lesser fee than that set
 8 under IC 22-12-6-6(a)(7).

9 (d) A unit must inspect regulated lifting devices with inspectors who
 10 possess the qualifications necessary to be employed by the department
 11 of homeland security as a regulated lifting device inspector.

12 SECTION 225. IC 22-13-2-11, AS AMENDED BY P.L.93-2024,
 13 SECTION 163, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 14 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 11. (a) The department **or the state**
 15 **building commissioner or the commission** may grant a variance to any
 16 rule adopted by the ~~commission~~. **department**. However, the
 17 ~~commission~~ **state building commissioner** may grant a variance under
 18 this section only if the department ~~places~~ **provides** the application for
 19 the variance ~~on to the commission's agenda~~. **state building**
 20 **commissioner**.

21 (b) To qualify for a variance, an applicant must pay the fee set under
 22 IC 22-12-6-6 and file an application, on a form approved by the
 23 department, that contains facts demonstrating that:

24 (1) compliance with the rule will impose an undue hardship upon
 25 the applicant or prevent the preservation of an architecturally
 26 significant or historically significant part of a building or other
 27 structure; and

28 (2) either:

29 (A) noncompliance with the rule; or

30 (B) compliance with an alternative requirement approved by
 31 the body considering the variance application;

32 will not be adverse to the public health, safety, or welfare.

33 (c) A variance granted under this section is conditioned upon
 34 compliance with an alternative standard approved under subsection
 35 (b)(2)(B).

36 (d) A variance granted under this section takes precedence over
 37 conflicting rules adopted by a state agency and conflicting ordinances
 38 and other regulations adopted by a political subdivision.

39 (e) Variances granted by the boiler and pressure vessel rules board
 40 and the regulated amusement device safety board prior to July 1, 2019,

are valid and remain in full force and effect.

(f) The department shall make all variance applications available for review on a public portal.

(g) Local fire and building officials shall receive notice of variance applications filed under this section within their respective jurisdictions.

(h) A local fire official, local building official, or other interested party may submit documentation regarding a variance application to the department or ~~commission~~ **the state building commissioner** for review and consideration prior to an initial determination being made on the application by the department or the ~~commission~~ **state building commissioner**.

(i) The department or ~~commission~~ **state building commissioner** shall wait at least five (5) business days after a variance application is filed before making an initial determination on the application.

(j) The ~~commission~~ **department** may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to implement this section.

SECTION 226. IC 22-13-2-11.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.93-2024, SECTION 164, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 11.5. (a) As used in this section, "NFPA 72" refers to NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code, 2010 Edition, published by the National Fire Protection Association, 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, Massachusetts 02169-7471.

(b) **Subject to and except as provided in IC 22-12-2.6**, it is the intent of the general assembly that NFPA 72, as may be amended by the ~~commission~~ **department** under subsection (c), be incorporated into the Indiana Administrative Code. Not later than July 1, 2014, the ~~commission~~ **department** shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to amend 675 IAC 28-1-28 to incorporate NFPA 72 into the Indiana Administrative Code, subject to subsection (c)(1) and (c)(2).

(c) In adopting rules to incorporate NFPA 72 into the Indiana Administrative Code, as required by subsection (b), the ~~commission~~ **department** may amend NFPA 72 as the ~~commission~~ **department** considers appropriate. However, the rules finally adopted by the ~~commission~~ **department** to comply with this section must do the following:

(1) Incorporate the definition of, and associated requirements for:

(A) a managed facilities-based voice network (MFVN); and

(B) a public switched telephone network (PSTN);

as set forth in NFPA 72.

(2) Allow digital alarm communicator systems that make use of a managed facilities-based voice network (MFVN) to transmit signals from a fire alarm system to an offsite monitoring facility, subject to the requirements for those systems set forth in NFPA 72.

(d) If the ~~commission~~ **department** does not comply with subsection (b), the following apply: ~~on July 1, 2014:~~

(1) The definition of, and associated requirements for:

(A) a managed facilities-based voice network (MFVN); and

(B) a public switched telephone network (PSTN);

as set forth in NFPA 72, are considered incorporated into the Indiana Administrative Code. Any provisions of 675 IAC 28-1-28 (or any rules adopted by a state agency, or any ordinances or other regulations adopted by a political subdivision) that conflict with the definitions and requirements described in this subdivision are superseded by the definitions and requirements described in this subdivision. This subdivision continues to apply until the ~~commission~~ **department** adopts rules that amend 675 IAC 28-1-28 to incorporate NFPA 72 into the Indiana Administrative Code and that comply with subsection (c)(1) and (c)(2).

(2) A person that after June 30, 2014, installs or uses a digital alarm communicator system that:

(A) makes use of a managed facilities-based voice network (MFVN) to transmit signals from a fire alarm system to an offsite monitoring facility; and

(B) meets the requirements for such a system set forth in NFPA 72;

is not required to obtain a variance under section 11 of this chapter for the installation or use.

SECTION 227. IC 22-13-2-12 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 12. (a) This section applies if the ~~commission~~ **department** is authorized by statute to enter into agreements with the federal government, another state, or foreign country.

(b) An agreement under this section must be submitted to the attorney general for approval. The attorney general shall approve the agreement unless the attorney general finds that it does not comply with the statutes. If the attorney general disapproves the agreement, the attorney general shall give the ~~commission~~ **department** a detailed

statement indicating the basis for the disapproval. If the attorney general fails to approve or disapprove the agreement within sixty (60) days after it is submitted, it is considered approved.

SECTION 228. IC 22-13-2-13, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021, SECTION 76, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 13. (a) The ~~commission~~ **department** may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to implement this article, IC 22-12, IC 22-14, and IC 22-15.

(b) Any power of the state fire marshal or the department to adopt rules to implement this article, IC 22-12, IC 22-14, and IC 22-15 shall be exercised by the ~~commission~~ **department**.

SECTION 229. IC 22-13-2-14, AS AMENDED BY P.L.249-2019, SECTION 26, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 14. The ~~commission or~~ department may engage in studies and consult with any person to implement this article, IC 22-12, IC 22-14, and IC 22-15.

SECTION 230. IC 22-13-2-14.1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021, SECTION 77, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 14.1. (a) The ~~commission or~~ department shall consult with an industry expert to discuss a variance application or an update to a rule or safety standard concerning:

(1) a boiler or pressure vessel; or

(2) a regulated amusement device.

(b) An industry expert for the purposes of consulting under subsection (a)(1) must be:

(1) a professional engineer registered under IC 25-31; and

(2) knowledgeable in and have experience with boiler and pressure vessels.

SECTION 231. IC 22-13-3-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. The ~~commission~~ **department** shall adopt fire safety rules that prohibit the following:

(1) The storage of regulated explosives (as defined in IC 35-47.5-2-13) in quantities exceeding the maximum quantity specified by the ~~commission~~ **department**.

(2) The storage of regulated explosives (as defined in IC 35-47.5-2-13) at a site that is located less than the minimum distance specified by the ~~commission~~ **department** from a railroad, highway, or other place of habitation or assembly.

(3) The use of a receptacle, burning fixture or equipment, heating fixture or equipment, or structure for an explosive, flammable, or

1 other combustible matter that does not meet the design and
 2 composition standards specified by the ~~commission~~ **department**.

3 (4) The keeping, storage, use, manufacture, sale, handling,
 4 transportation, or disposition of an explosive, flammable, or other
 5 combustible matter in violation of any other requirements
 6 specified by the ~~commission~~ **department**.

7 SECTION 232. IC 22-13-3-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021,
 8 SECTION 78, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 9 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) This section applies to the following
 10 laboratories:

11 (1) Analytical laboratories approved by the department under the
 12 alternative criteria established by the ~~commission~~ **department** in
 13 its rules.

14 (2) Laboratories that are:

15 (A) operated by a college, university, school, or other
 16 educational entity for the purpose of instruction or research;
 17 and

18 (B) approved by the department under the alternative criteria
 19 established by the ~~commission~~ **department** in the rules.

20 (b) The ~~commission~~ **department** may:

21 (1) apply different rules to the manufacture of regulated
 22 explosives (as defined in IC 35-47.5-2-13) in a laboratory
 23 described in subsection (a) than apply to other places where
 24 regulated explosives (as defined in IC 35-47.5-2-13) are
 25 manufactured; and

26 (2) adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to exempt laboratories described
 27 in subsection (a) from the regulated explosive magazines permit
 28 requirement under IC 35-47.5-4.

29 SECTION 233. IC 22-13-3-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 30 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. The ~~commission~~
 31 **department** shall adopt fire safety rules that prohibit the occupancy or
 32 use of Class 1 structures that do not comply with the ~~commission's~~
 33 **department's** rules governing the number, type, location,
 34 identification, repair, and maintenance of emergency exits, smoke
 35 detection devices, and other emergency communication devices.

36 SECTION 234. IC 22-13-4 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
 37 2026]. (Standards for Building Rules; Exemption From Design Release
 38 Requirement).

39 SECTION 235. IC 22-13-5-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021,
 40 SECTION 79, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE

JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) Except as provided under subsection (c), upon the written request of an interested person, the state building commissioner of the department shall issue a written interpretation of a building law or a fire safety law not later than ten (10) business days after the date of receiving a request. An interpretation issued by the state building commissioner must be consistent with building laws and fire safety laws enacted by the general assembly or adopted by the ~~commission~~ **department**.

(b) The state building commissioner shall issue a written interpretation of a building law or fire safety law under subsection (a) whether or not the county or municipality has taken any action to enforce the building law or fire safety law.

(c) If:

(1) an interested person submits a written or electronic request to the building commissioner for a written interpretation of a building law or fire safety law applicable to a Class 2 structure; and

(2) the building commissioner is absent and unable to issue a written interpretation within the time specified under subsection

(a);

~~the chair of the commission; or, if the chair is absent, the vice chair of the commission;~~ **department** shall issue the written interpretation not later than ten (10) business days after the date of receiving the request.

SECTION 236. IC 22-13-5-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) A written interpretation issued under section 2 of this chapter binds the interested person and the county or municipality with whom the interested person has the dispute until the written interpretation is overruled in a proceeding under IC 4-21.5.

(b) For purposes of IC 4-21.5, the ~~commission~~ **department** is the ultimate authority regarding a written interpretation issued under section 2 of this chapter.

SECTION 237. IC 22-13-5-4, AS AMENDED BY THE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS BILL OF THE 2026 GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) A written interpretation of a building law or fire safety law binds all counties and municipalities if the state building commissioner publishes the written interpretation of the building law or fire safety law in the Indiana Register under IC 4-22-7-7(b). For purposes of IC 4-22-7-7, a written interpretation of a building law or

1 fire safety law published by the state building commissioner is
2 considered adopted by an agency.

3 (b) A written interpretation of a building law or fire safety law
4 published under subsection (a) binds all counties and municipalities
5 until the earlier of the following:

6 (1) The general assembly enacts a statute that substantively
7 changes the building law or fire safety law interpreted or voids the
8 written interpretation.

9 (2) The ~~commission~~ **department** adopts a rule under IC 4-22-2 to
10 state a different interpretation of the building law or fire safety
11 law.

12 (3) The written interpretation is found to be an erroneous
13 interpretation of the building law or fire safety law in a judicial
14 proceeding.

15 (4) The state building commissioner publishes a different written
16 interpretation of the building law or fire safety law.

17 (c) The department or the state building commissioner shall create
18 an electronic data base for the purpose of cataloging all available
19 variance rulings by ~~the commission~~ or the department for the purpose
20 of making the information available to the public on the ~~Internet web~~
21 **site website** of the department or the state building commissioner.

22 SECTION 238. IC 22-14-2-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021,
23 SECTION 83, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
24 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) The department shall carry out a program to
25 provide public information concerning fire prevention and maintain
26 data and statistics concerning fires and fire prevention activities.

27 (b) The department shall provide a copy of the fire safety rules
28 adopted by the ~~commission~~ **department** to the chief of each fire
29 department. The department may exclude, from the rules distributed
30 under this subsection, any text that is incorporated by reference into the
31 rules published in the Indiana Administrative Code.

32 SECTION 239. IC 22-14-3-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021,
33 SECTION 93, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
34 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) The department may modify an amusement
35 and entertainment permit with a special event endorsement that covers
36 one (1) or more events not specified in the initial permit.

37 (b) To qualify for a special event endorsement, an applicant must:

38 (1) provide the information required by the ~~commission;~~
39 **department;**

40 (2) demonstrate through an inspection that the special events

covered by the application will be conducted in compliance with applicable fire safety laws; and

(3) pay the inspection fee set under IC 22-12-6-7.

SECTION 240. IC 22-14-7-17, AS ADDED BY P.L.82-2008, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 17. The ~~commission~~ **department** may adopt a subsequent ASTM Standard Test Method for Measuring the Ignition Strength of Cigarettes upon a finding that the subsequent method does not result in a change in the percentage of full length burns exhibited by any tested cigarette when compared to the percentage of full length burns the same cigarette would exhibit when tested in accordance with ASTM Standard E2187-04 and the performance standard in section 13(c) of this chapter.

SECTION 241. IC 22-14-7-21, AS ADDED BY P.L.82-2008, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 21. (a) Except as provided in subsection (d), each manufacturer shall submit to the state fire marshal a written certification attesting that:

(1) each cigarette listed in the certification has been tested as required under section 13 or 15 of this chapter; and

(2) each cigarette listed in the certification meets the performance standard in section 13(c) or 15 of this chapter.

(b) Each cigarette listed in the certification must include the following information:

(1) Brand, or trade name on the package.

(2) Style, such as light or ultra light.

(3) Length in millimeters.

(4) Circumference in millimeters.

(5) Flavor, such as menthol, if applicable.

(6) Filter or nonfilter.

(7) Package description, such as soft pack or box.

(8) Marking under section 23 of this chapter.

(9) The name, address, and telephone number of the laboratory, if different than the manufacturer that conducted the test.

(10) The date that the testing occurred.

(c) The certifications must be made available to the attorney general for purposes consistent with this chapter and the department of state revenue and the alcohol and tobacco commission for the purposes of ensuring compliance with this section.

(d) Notwithstanding subsection (a), the state fire marshal may

1 accept as evidence of compliance with this chapter a certification
2 issued to:

3 (1) the New York State Department of State's Office of Fire
4 Prevention and Control; or

5 (2) the responsible entity of another state that has:

6 (A) substantially equivalent certification requirements relating
7 to reduced ignition propensity cigarettes; and

8 (B) the same test method and performance standard
9 requirements as provided in sections 13 and 15 of this chapter.

10 (e) Each cigarette listed in a certification submitted under this
11 section must be recertified every three (3) years.

12 (f) For each brand family listed in a certification submitted under
13 subsection (a) or (d), a manufacturer shall pay a fee to the state fire
14 marshal of eight hundred dollars (\$800). The state fire marshal may
15 adjust the fee every three (3) years to ensure that the fee defrays the
16 actual costs of the processing, testing, enforcement, and oversight
17 activities required by this chapter under rules adopted by the ~~fire~~
18 ~~prevention and building safety commission~~ **department**. However, the
19 fee for each brand family may not exceed one thousand dollars
20 (\$1,000).

21 (g) If a manufacturer has certified a cigarette under this section, and
22 after submitting the certification, makes a change to the cigarette that
23 is likely to alter the cigarette's compliance with the reduced cigarette
24 ignition propensity standards required by this chapter, that cigarette
25 may not be sold or offered for sale in Indiana until the manufacturer
26 retests the cigarette under the testing standards in section 13 or 15 of
27 this chapter and maintains records of that retesting as required by
28 section 16 of this chapter. An altered cigarette that does not meet the
29 performance standard in section 13 or 15 of this chapter may not be
30 sold in Indiana.

31 SECTION 242. IC 22-14-7-29, AS ADDED BY P.L.82-2008,
32 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
33 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 29. The ~~commission~~ **department** may adopt rules
34 under IC 4-22-2 to implement this chapter.

35 SECTION 243. IC 22-14-8-2, AS ADDED BY P.L.217-2023,
36 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
37 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "NFPA 855" refers to:

38 (1) the 2023 edition of NFPA 855, Standard for the Installation of
39 Stationary Energy Storage Systems, as adopted by the National
40 Fire Protection Association; or

(2) if the ~~commission~~ **department** adopts a rule under IC 4-22-2 to amend:

(A) the 2023 edition; or

(B) any subsequent edition;

of NFPA 855, the version of NFPA 855 as amended by the ~~commission~~ **department**.

SECTION 244. IC 22-14-8-7, AS ADDED BY P.L.217-2023, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. The total capacity of the batteries contained within a single enclosure in:

(1) a utility scale battery energy storage system installation of which is subject to department approval under section 4(a)(1) of this chapter; or

(2) an installation added to an existing utility scale battery energy storage system in an expansion for which department approval is required under section 4(a)(2) of this chapter;

may not exceed ten (10) megawatt hours unless authorized under rules adopted by the ~~commission~~ **department** under this chapter.

SECTION 245. IC 22-14-8-10, AS AMENDED BY P.L.93-2024, SECTION 166, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) The ~~commission~~ **department** may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to implement this chapter and to specify standards for the installation and operation of utility scale battery energy storage systems consistent with:

(1) this chapter; and

(2) NFPA 855.

(b) Rules adopted by the ~~commission~~ **department** under subsection (a) must include standards for:

(1) chemical spill prevention and control; and

(2) appropriate setbacks from surface water resources;

for the installation and expansion of utility scale battery energy storage systems, as necessary to protect soil and surface water resources from chemicals contained in or produced by utility scale battery energy storage systems. In establishing the standards described in this subsection, the ~~commission~~ **department** shall consult with the department of environmental management or the department of natural resources, as appropriate.

SECTION 246. IC 22-15-2-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021, SECTION 97, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. (a) To carry out the department's

responsibilities, the department or an employee or another agent of the department may:

- (1) exercise any program of supervision that is approved by the ~~commission~~, **department**, if the responsibility involves the administration or enforcement of a building law;
- (2) enter and inspect any property, at a reasonable hour;
- (3) issue and enforce administrative orders under IC 22-12-7 and apply for judicial orders under IC 22-12-7-13; and
- (4) cooperate with law enforcement officers and political subdivisions that have jurisdiction over a matter.

(b) To carry out the state building commissioner's responsibilities, the state building commissioner shall issue a written interpretation of any building law under IC 22-13-5.

SECTION 247. IC 22-15-3-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021, SECTION 99, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. (a) The state building commissioner or a city, town, or county certified under subsection (d) shall issue a design release for the construction of a Class 1 structure to an applicant who qualifies under section 2 or 3 of this chapter.

(b) The state building commissioner shall issue a design release for the fabrication of an industrial building system or mobile structure under section 4 of this chapter.

(c) A design release issued under this chapter expires on the date specified in the rules adopted by the ~~commission~~, **department**.

(d) The ~~commission~~ **department** may certify a city, town, or county as qualified to issue design releases, if the city, town, or county:

- (1) is competent under the ~~commission's~~ **department's** objective criteria; and
- (2) has adopted the rules of the ~~commission~~ **department** under IC 22-13-2-3.

(e) A city, town, or county that is certified by the ~~commission~~ **department** under subsection (d) may issue design releases. A design release issued by a certified city, town, or county must be:

- (1) in accordance with the ~~commission's~~ **department's** objective criteria; and
- (2) for a construction type for which the city, town, or county is certified.

All records held by a certified city, town, or county that pertain to the design release must be submitted to the department to be held in a central repository.

1 SECTION 248. IC 22-15-3-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021,
2 SECTION 100, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
3 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. To qualify for a design release
4 under this section, an applicant must:

5 (1) demonstrate, through the submission of plans and
6 specifications for the construction covered by the application, that
7 the construction will comply with all applicable building laws and
8 fire safety laws;

9 (2) pay the fees set under IC 22-12-6-6;

10 (3) have the plans and specifications:

11 (A) prepared by a registered architect or professional engineer
12 who is:

13 (i) competent to design the construction covered by the
14 application as determined by the department; and

15 (ii) registered under IC 25-4 or IC 25-31;

16 (B) include on each page of all drawings and the title page of
17 all specifications the seal of the registered architect or
18 professional engineer described by clause (A) or the person's
19 technical or professional staff; and

20 (C) filed by the registered architect or professional engineer
21 described by clause (A) or the person's technical or
22 professional staff; and

23 (4) submit a certificate prepared on a form provided by the
24 department and sworn or affirmed under penalty of perjury by the
25 registered architect or professional engineer described in
26 subdivision (3)(A):

27 (A) providing an estimate of the cost of the construction
28 covered by the application, its square footage, and any other
29 information required under the rules of the ~~commission;~~
30 **department;**

31 (B) stating that the plans and specifications submitted for the
32 application were prepared either by or under the immediate
33 supervision of the person making the statement;

34 (C) stating that the plans and specifications submitted for the
35 application provide for construction that will meet all building
36 laws; and

37 (D) stating that the construction covered by the application
38 will be subject to inspection at intervals appropriate to the
39 stage of the construction by a registered architect or
40 professional engineer identified in the statement for the

1 purpose of determining in general if work is proceeding in
2 accordance with the released plans and specifications.

3 SECTION 249. IC 22-15-3-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.87-2020,
4 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
5 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) This section applies only to an application
6 for a design release to construct:

- 7 (1) a Class 1 structure with thirty thousand (30,000) or fewer
- 8 cubic feet of space;
- 9 (2) an addition to a Class 1 structure, if the addition adds thirty
- 10 thousand (30,000) or fewer cubic feet of space;
- 11 (3) an alteration to a Class 1 structure, if the alteration does not
- 12 involve changes affecting the structural safety of the Class 1
- 13 structure; or
- 14 (4) an installation or alteration of an automatic fire sprinkler
- 15 system in a Class 1 structure by persons qualified pursuant to
- 16 rules set forth by the ~~fire prevention and building safety~~
- 17 ~~commission.~~ **department.**

18 (b) The design release requirements under subsection (c) do not
19 apply for any construction that is otherwise exempted under 675
20 IAC 12-6-4(b), **or subsequent rules adopted in accordance with**
21 **IC 22-12-2.6**, even if the construction is:

- 22 (1) a part of;
 - 23 (2) supplemental to; or
 - 24 (3) an accessory of;
- 25 any other construction that would otherwise require a design release.

26 (c) To qualify for a design release under this section, an applicant
27 must do the following:

- 28 (1) Demonstrate, through the submission of plans and
- 29 specifications for the construction covered by the application, that
- 30 the construction will comply with all applicable building laws and
- 31 fire safety laws.
- 32 (2) Pay the fees set under IC 22-12-6-6.

33 SECTION 250. IC 22-15-3-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.22-2005,
34 SECTION 47, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
35 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) This section applies to a design release for
36 the fabrication of a model or other series of similar industrialized
37 building systems or mobile structures.

38 (b) To qualify for a design release under this section, an applicant
39 must:

- 40 (1) demonstrate, through the submission of plans and

1 specifications for the construction covered by the application, that
 2 the construction will comply with all applicable building laws and
 3 fire safety laws;

4 (2) have the submitted plans and specifications prepared by an
 5 architect registered under IC 25-4 or a professional engineer
 6 registered under IC 25-31, if required under the rules adopted by
 7 the ~~commission~~; **department**; and

8 (3) pay the fees set under IC 22-12-6-6.

9 SECTION 251. IC 22-15-3-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021,
 10 SECTION 101, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 11 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) This section does not
 12 authorize a variance from any rule adopted by the ~~commission~~;
 13 **department**.

14 (b) The rules adopted by the ~~commission~~ **department** do not
 15 prevent the use of:

16 (1) materials;

17 (2) methods of construction; or

18 (3) design procedures;

19 if they are not specifically prohibited in the rules and if they are
 20 approved under subsection (c).

21 (c) The state fire marshal and the department may, in the review of
 22 an application for a design release, consider as evidence of compliance
 23 with the rules adopted by the ~~commission~~ **department** any evaluation
 24 report that:

25 (1) contains limitations, conditions, or standards for alternative
 26 materials, methods of construction, or design procedures; and

27 (2) is published by an independent, nationally recognized testing
 28 laboratory or other organization that is approved under the rules
 29 adopted by the ~~commission~~; **department**.

30 SECTION 252. IC 22-15-3-7 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 31 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) This section does
 32 not apply to construction that is exempted from this section in the rules
 33 adopted by the ~~commission under IC 22-13-4~~; **department**.

34 (b) This section applies to the following:

35 (1) Each person who engages in the construction.

36 (2) Each person who has control over the construction.

37 (3) Each person who has control over the Class 1 structure
 38 industrialized building system or mobile home that is constructed.

39 (c) A person described in subsection (b) commits a Class C
 40 infraction if:

(1) a Class 1 structure is constructed, or construction is begun, at the site where it is to be used; and

(2) no design release issued under section 2 or 3 of this chapter covers the construction.

(d) A person described in subsection (b) commits a Class C infraction if:

(1) an industrialized building system or a mobile structure is fabricated; and

(2) no design release issued under section 4 of this chapter covers the fabrication.

SECTION 253. IC 22-15-3.2-11, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021, SECTION 109, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 11. (a) This section applies if the results of a plan review reveal that a design professional knowingly or recklessly submitted plans or specifications containing one (1) or more violations of the rules of the ~~commission~~ **department** that are determined by the department ~~and the commission~~ to pose a wanton and willful disregard for the public health, safety, or welfare.

(b) The provisions regarding the time limitations for review and notice under this chapter do not apply, and the department is not required to issue a design release and confirmation number for providing notice. The department shall send written notice of its determination to:

(1) the design professional's licensing or registration authority under IC 25-4-1 or IC 25-31, as appropriate, for the purpose of conducting a hearing under IC 4-21.5 to determine if action under IC 4-21.5-3-8 is appropriate;

(2) the design professional; and

(3) the project owner or general contractor on whose behalf the application was submitted.

(c) An applicant that receives notice under subsection (b) may withdraw the application and submit a new application and plans to the department that are prepared by a different design professional. Withdrawal of an application does not affect any disciplinary action against the professional of record that prepared the plans described in subsection (a).

SECTION 254. IC 22-15-4-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021, SECTION 112, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. (a) The department shall certify an industrialized building system for use in Indiana to an applicant who

1 qualifies under this section. If an applicant qualifies for certification
 2 under this section, the department shall provide the applicant with a
 3 seal for the certified industrial building system.

4 (b) To qualify for a certification under this section, an applicant
 5 must:

6 (1) submit proof that the department has issued a design release
 7 under IC 22-15-3 for the model or series of industrialized building
 8 systems being constructed;

9 (2) demonstrate, in an in-plant inspection, that the industrialized
 10 building system covered by the application has been constructed
 11 in conformity with all applicable building laws and fire safety
 12 laws; and

13 (3) pay the fee set by the ~~commission~~ **department** under
 14 IC 22-12-6-6.

15 (c) The exemption under ~~IC 22-13-4-2~~ **IC 22-12-2.6-8** applies to an
 16 industrialized building system certified under this section.

17 SECTION 255. IC 22-15-4-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021,
 18 SECTION 113, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 19 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) The department shall certify
 20 a mobile structure for sale and use in Indiana for an applicant who
 21 qualifies under this section. If an applicant qualifies for certification
 22 under this section, the department shall provide the applicant with a
 23 seal for the certified mobile structure.

24 (b) To qualify for certification under this section, an applicant must:

25 (1) submit proof that the department has issued a design release
 26 under IC 22-15-3 for the model or series of mobile structures
 27 being constructed;

28 (2) demonstrate, in an in-plant inspection, that the mobile
 29 structure covered by the application has been constructed in
 30 conformity with all applicable building laws and fire safety laws;

31 (3) certify in an affidavit that a seal provided by the department
 32 will not be attached to a mobile structure that does not conform
 33 to the requirements adopted by the ~~commission~~ **department** in its
 34 rules; and

35 (4) pay the fee set by the ~~commission~~ **department** under
 36 IC 22-12-6-6.

37 (c) The exemption under ~~IC 22-13-4-2~~ **IC 22-12-2.6-8** applies to a
 38 mobile structure certified under this chapter.

39 SECTION 256. IC 22-15-4-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 40 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. The ~~commission~~

1 **department** may authorize any qualified person to conduct inspections
2 and issue certifications under this chapter.

3 SECTION 257. IC 22-15-4-5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
4 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. A person who offers
5 to sell or sells for money or other consideration a mobile structure that:

6 (1) is manufactured after:

7 (A) January 1, 1972, if the mobile structure is designed to be
8 a dwelling; or

9 (B) June 30, 1987, if the mobile structure is not designed to be
10 a dwelling; and

11 (2) is kept or transported without:

12 (A) a seal issued under IC 9-8-1.5 (before its repeal on July 1,
13 1987) or section 2 or 4 of this chapter; and

14 (B) an affidavit from the manufacturer (if the mobile structure
15 was manufactured in Indiana or the mobile structure was
16 manufactured outside Indiana and has not been used by its
17 owner) or a dealer who has sold at least three (3) mobile
18 structures in the previous twelve (12) month period (if the
19 mobile structure was manufactured outside Indiana and the
20 mobile structure has been used by its owner) that states that
21 the mobile structure meets or exceeds the applicable
22 requirements adopted by the ~~commission~~ **department** in its
23 rules or an agreement under IC 22-13-2-12;

24 commits a Class C infraction.

25 SECTION 258. IC 22-15-4-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021,
26 SECTION 114, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
27 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. A person who offers to sell or
28 sells a mobile structure that:

29 (1) was certified under IC 9-8-1.5 (before its repeal on July 1,
30 1987) or certified by the department under section 2 or 4 of this
31 chapter; and

32 (2) has been altered or converted in violation of a rule adopted by
33 the ~~commission~~; **department**;

34 commits a Class C infraction.

35 SECTION 259. IC 22-15-5-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021,
36 SECTION 115, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
37 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. (a) The department shall issue a
38 regulated lifting device installation or alteration permit to an applicant
39 who qualifies under this section.

40 (b) To qualify for a permit under this section, an applicant must

1 meet the following requirements:

2 (1) Demonstrate through the submission of complete plans,
3 including:

4 (A) copies of specifications and accurately scaled and fully
5 dimensioned plans showing the location of the installation in
6 relation to the plans and elevation of the building;

7 (B) plans showing the location of the machine room and the
8 equipment to be installed, relocated, or altered;

9 (C) plans showing the structural supporting members,
10 including foundations; and

11 (D) a specification of all materials employed and loads to be
12 supported or conveyed;

13 that the installation or alteration covered by the application will
14 comply with all applicable equipment laws. All plans and
15 specifications must be sufficiently complete to illustrate all details
16 of construction and design.

17 (2) Pay the fee set under IC 22-12-6-6(a)(7).

18 (3) Be the holder of a current elevator contractor license, if
19 applicable, as set forth under IC 22-15-5-7.

20 (c) A copy of the permit shall be kept at the construction site at all
21 times while the work is in progress.

22 (d) The regulated lifting device must be installed or altered in
23 compliance with:

24 (1) applicable codes; and

25 (2) the details of the application, plans, specifications, and
26 conditions of the permit.

27 (e) The regulated lifting device must be installed or altered under
28 the direction and control of a licensed contractor. The elevator
29 contractor does not have to be present at the site.

30 (f) The responsibilities of the department under this section may be
31 carried out by a political subdivision that is approved by the
32 ~~commission~~ **department** under IC 22-13-2-10.

33 SECTION 260. IC 22-15-5-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
34 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) This section does
35 not apply to minor construction that is exempted from this section
36 under ~~IC 22-13-4~~. **IC 22-12-2.6.**

37 (b) This section applies to the following:

38 (1) Each person who installs or alters a regulated lifting device,
39 whether or not required to be licensed under IC 22-15-5-7,
40 IC 22-15-5-8, IC 22-15-5-9, IC 22-15-5-10, IC 22-15-5-11, or

IC 22-15-5-12. However, the installation, alteration, or maintenance of a regulated lifting device to which ASME A18.1 applies is not required to be performed by a mechanic licensed under IC 22-15-5-12 or by a contractor licensed under IC 22-15-5-7.

(2) Each person who has control over the installation or alteration of a regulated lifting device.

(3) Each person who has control over the place where the regulated lifting device is installed or altered.

(c) A person described in subsection (b) commits a Class C infraction if:

(1) a regulated lifting device is installed or altered; and

(2) no regulated lifting device installation or alteration permit issued under section 1 of this chapter covers the installation or alteration.

SECTION 261. IC 22-15-5-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021, SECTION 116, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) All regulated lifting devices shall be registered under this section.

(b) The department shall issue a registration for a regulated lifting device to an applicant who qualifies under this section.

(c) To register a regulated lifting device under this section, an applicant must submit, on a form approved by the department, the following information:

(1) Type, rated load and speed, name of manufacturer, location, and the nature of the use of the regulated lifting device.

(2) Any information required under the rules adopted by the ~~commission~~ **department**.

SECTION 262. IC 22-15-5-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021, SECTION 117, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) The department shall carry out a program for the periodic inspection of regulated lifting devices being operated in Indiana. A regulated lifting device may not be operated without an operating certificate that covers the operation of the regulated lifting device.

(b) A permit issued under this section expires on the earlier of:

(1) one (1) year after issuance; or

(2) when the regulated lifting device is altered.

(c) After a regulated lifting device has been installed or altered, an applicant shall apply for an initial operating certificate. The department

1 shall issue an initial operating certificate for a regulated lifting device
2 if:

3 (1) the applicant demonstrates:

4 (A) through an acceptance inspection made by an elevator
5 inspector licensed under section 11 of this chapter that the
6 regulated lifting device covered by the application complies
7 with the laws governing its construction, repair, maintenance,
8 and operation; and

9 (B) that the applicant has paid the fee set under
10 IC 22-12-6-6(a)(7); and

11 (2) the department verifies, through an inspection, that the
12 regulated lifting device complies with the laws governing the
13 construction, repair, maintenance, and operation of the regulated
14 lifting device.

15 (d) The department shall issue a renewal operating certificate if the
16 applicant:

17 (1) demonstrates through the completion of applicable safety tests
18 that the regulated lifting device complies with the laws governing
19 the construction, repair, maintenance, and operation of the
20 regulated lifting device;

21 (2) submits results of all applicable safety tests, including failed
22 safety tests for the regulated lifting device; and

23 (3) has paid the fee set under IC 22-12-6-6(a)(7).

24 (e) The department may issue a temporary operating permit to an
25 applicant under this section who does not comply with subsection
26 (c)(1)(A) for a new or altered regulated lifting device or subsection
27 (d)(1) for an existing unaltered regulated lifting device. The applicant
28 must pay the fee set under IC 22-12-6-6(a)(7) to qualify for the
29 temporary operating permit. Except as provided in subsection (f), the
30 permit, including all renewal periods, is limited to sixty (60) days.

31 (f) The department may renew a temporary operating permit issued
32 under subsection (e) for thirty (30) day periods during the construction
33 of a building if the regulated lifting device is used for the transportation
34 of construction personnel, tools, and materials.

35 (g) The responsibilities of the department under this section may be
36 carried out by a political subdivision that is approved by the
37 ~~commission~~ **department** under IC 22-13-2-10.

38 (h) A copy of the operating certificate shall be displayed in or on
39 each regulated lifting device or in an associated machine room. In
40 addition to the requirements of this subsection, the two-dimensional bar

code assigned to an elevator shall be displayed in or on each elevator in a location that is easily viewed and scanned by a person riding on the elevator.

(i) A licensed elevator mechanic shall perform the maintenance on a regulated lifting device.

SECTION 263. IC 22-15-5-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.2-2007, SECTION 309, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. (a) The following definitions apply to sections 7 through 16 of this chapter:

(1) "Competency examination" means an examination that thoroughly tests the scope of the knowledge and skill of the applicant for the license.

(2) "Elevator apprentice" means an individual who works under the direct supervision of a licensed elevator mechanic. The term includes an individual commonly known as an elevator helper while working under the direct supervision of a licensed elevator mechanic.

(3) "Elevator contractor" means a person who alone or with other persons, constructs, repairs, alters, remodels, adds to, subtracts from, or improves a regulated lifting device and who is responsible for substantially all the regulated lifting devices within the entire project, or who fabricates elevator lifting devices substantially completed and ready for installation.

(4) "Elevator inspector" means an individual who conducts the acceptance inspection of a regulated lifting device required by section 4(c)(1)(A) of this chapter.

(5) "Elevator mechanic" means an individual who engages in the construction, reconstruction, alteration, maintenance, mechanical, or electrical work or adjustments of a regulated lifting device.

(6) "License" means a certificate issued by the department that confers upon the holder the privilege to act as an elevator contractor, elevator inspector, or elevator mechanic.

(7) "Licensing program" means the program for licensing elevator contractors, elevator inspectors, and elevator mechanics established under this section and sections 7 through 16 of this chapter.

(8) "Municipality" has the meaning set forth in IC 36-1-2-11.

(9) "Person" means:

(A) a natural person;

(B) the partners or members of a partnership or a limited

- 1 partnership;
 2 (C) a state educational institution; or
 3 (D) a corporation or the officers, directors, and employees of
 4 the corporation.
- 5 (10) "Practitioner" means a person that holds:
 6 (A) an unlimited license;
 7 (B) a limited or probationary license;
 8 (C) a temporary license;
 9 (D) an emergency license; or
 10 (E) an inactive license.
- 11 (b) The ~~commission and the~~ department shall establish a program
 12 to license elevator contractors, elevator mechanics, and elevator
 13 inspectors.
- 14 (c) The department shall issue a license as an elevator contractor, an
 15 elevator mechanic, or an elevator inspector to a person who qualifies
 16 and complies with the provisions of the licensing program. A person
 17 who receives a license under this chapter is subject to the supervision
 18 and control of the department.
- 19 (d) The department may contract with public and private
 20 institutions, agencies, businesses, and organizations to implement all
 21 or part of its duties established under this chapter.
- 22 (e) The ~~commission~~ **department** may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2
 23 to implement the licensing program.
- 24 SECTION 264. IC 22-15-5-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.230-2019,
 25 SECTION 6, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 26 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) An individual may not act as an elevator
 27 contractor unless the individual:
- 28 (1) holds an elevator contractor license issued under this chapter;
 29 or
 30 (2) is an employee of a partnership, a limited partnership, a
 31 corporation, or a state educational institution that holds an
 32 elevator contractor license issued under this chapter.
- 33 (b) A partnership, a limited partnership, a corporation, or a state
 34 educational institution may not act as an elevator contractor unless it
 35 holds an elevator contractor license issued under this chapter.
- 36 (c) An individual who is an applicant for an elevator contractor
 37 license shall:
- 38 (1) hold a valid elevator contractor license issued by another state
 39 that has a licensing program that, as determined by the
 40 department, ~~or the commission~~, is equivalent to the elevator

contractor licensing program established under this chapter; or
 (2) except as otherwise provided, satisfy both of the following requirements:

(A) Have at least five (5) years of documented work experience in the elevator industry in construction, maintenance, and service or repair in Indiana.

(B) Successfully complete a written competency examination approved by the ~~commission~~ **department**.

(d) A corporation or a state educational institution that is an applicant for an elevator contractor license must have at least one (1) officer or employee of the corporation or a state educational institution that holds a valid elevator contractor license issued under this chapter. A license granted to a corporation or a state educational institution to act as an elevator contractor under this chapter becomes invalid when an officer or employee of the corporation or state educational institution no longer holds a valid elevator contractor license issued under this chapter.

(e) A partnership or limited partnership that is an applicant for an elevator contractor license must have at least one (1) partner or general partner that holds a valid elevator contractor license issued under this chapter. A license granted to a partnership or limited partnership to act as an elevator contractor under this chapter becomes invalid when the partner of a partnership or general partner of a limited partnership named in the application no longer holds a valid elevator contractor license as provided by this chapter.

SECTION 265. IC 22-15-5-11, AS AMENDED BY P.L.230-2019, SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 11. (a) An individual may not act as an elevator inspector unless the individual holds an elevator inspector license issued under this chapter.

(b) An individual who is an applicant for an elevator inspector license shall meet the standards set forth in American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) American National Standard QEI-1 (Standard for the Qualification of Elevator Inspectors) or other nationally accepted standard qualifying authority that the ~~commission~~ **department** has determined has equivalent requirements as ASME QEI-1 for obtaining and retaining certification.

(c) An applicant for an initial elevator inspector license must do the following:

(1) Submit to the department an application provided by the

- 1 department that contains the following information:
- 2 (A) The name, address, telephone number, and electronic mail
- 3 address of the applicant.
- 4 (B) Any other information the department requires.
- 5 (2) Submit to the department any proof of eligibility the
- 6 department requires.
- 7 (3) Demonstrate proof of insurance as required by section 14 of
- 8 this chapter.
- 9 (4) Pay the license fee established under IC 22-12-6-6. The
- 10 license fee is nonrefundable and must be paid each time an
- 11 applicant submits an application.
- 12 (5) Affirm under penalty of perjury that all information provided
- 13 to the department is true to the best of the applicant's knowledge
- 14 and belief.
- 15 (d) An applicant for a renewal elevator inspector license shall:
- 16 (1) Submit to the department an application provided by the
- 17 department that contains the following information:
- 18 (A) The name, address, telephone number, and electronic mail
- 19 address of the applicant.
- 20 (B) Any other information the department requires.
- 21 (2) Submit proof of completion of the continuing education
- 22 required by section 15 of this chapter.
- 23 (3) Demonstrate proof of insurance as required by section 14 of
- 24 this chapter.
- 25 (4) Pay the license fee established under IC 22-12-6-6. The
- 26 license fee is nonrefundable and must be paid each time an
- 27 applicant submits an application.
- 28 (5) Affirm under penalty of perjury that all information provided
- 29 to the department is true to the best of the applicant's knowledge
- 30 and belief.
- 31 (e) An initial elevator inspector license issued under this chapter
- 32 expires on December 31 of the second year after the license was issued.
- 33 (f) A renewal of an elevator inspector license is valid for two (2)
- 34 years.
- 35 (g) An individual who engages in the business of an elevator
- 36 inspector shall carry the individual's license and present the license for
- 37 inspection by a representative of the department upon request.
- 38 (h) If the QEI-1 certification or other certification standard approved
- 39 by the ~~commission~~ **department** that made the individual eligible for an
- 40 inspector license under subsection (b):

1 (1) is terminated;
 2 (2) expires; or
 3 (3) becomes invalid for any other reason;
 4 the elevator inspector's license immediately becomes invalid.

5 SECTION 266. IC 22-15-5-12, AS AMENDED BY P.L.230-2019,
 6 SECTION 8, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 7 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 12. (a) An individual may not act as an elevator
 8 mechanic unless the individual holds an elevator mechanic license
 9 issued under this chapter. A license is not required for an elevator
 10 apprentice.

11 (b) An individual who is an applicant for an elevator mechanic
 12 license must meet one (1) of the following eligibility criteria:

13 (1) Hold an active elevator mechanic license issued by a state that
 14 the ~~commission~~ **department** has determined has a licensing
 15 program that is at least equivalent to the elevator mechanic
 16 licensing program established under this chapter.

17 (2) Satisfy both of the following:

18 (A) Have at least one (1) of the following types of work
 19 experience or training:

20 (i) Have at least three (3) years of documented work
 21 experience in the elevator industry in construction,
 22 maintenance, and service or repair.

23 (ii) Have at least eighteen (18) months experience in the
 24 elevator industry in construction, maintenance, and service
 25 or repair and have at least three (3) years experience in a
 26 related field that is certified by a licensed elevator
 27 contractor.

28 (iii) Complete an apprenticeship program that is registered
 29 with the Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training of the
 30 United States Department of Labor or a state apprenticeship
 31 program and that the ~~commission~~ **department** determines
 32 is at least equivalent to three (3) years of work experience in
 33 the elevator industry in construction, maintenance, and
 34 service or repair.

35 (B) Successfully complete a written competency examination
 36 approved by the ~~commission~~ **department**.

37 (3) Successfully complete an elevator mechanic's program that
 38 consists of a combination of extensive training and a
 39 comprehensive examination that the ~~commission~~ **department** has
 40 determined is at least equivalent to both the work experience

required under subdivision (2)(A)(i) and the competency examination established under subdivision (2)(B).

(c) An applicant for an initial elevator mechanic license must do the following:

(1) Submit to the department an application provided by the department that contains the following information:

(A) The name, business address, telephone number, and electronic mail address of the applicant.

(B) Any other information the department requires.

(2) Submit to the department any proof of eligibility the department requires.

(3) Pay the nonrefundable and nontransferable license fee established under IC 22-12-6-6.

(4) Affirm under penalty of perjury that all information provided to the department is true to the best of the applicant's knowledge and belief.

(d) An applicant for a renewal elevator mechanic license must do the following:

(1) Submit to the department an application provided by the department that contains the following information:

(A) The name, business address, telephone number, and electronic mail address of the applicant.

(B) Any other information the department requires.

(2) Submit proof of completion of the continuing education required by section 15 of this chapter.

(3) Pay the nonrefundable and nontransferable license fee established under IC 22-12-6-6.

(4) Affirm under penalty of perjury that all information provided to the department is true to the best of the applicant's knowledge and belief.

(e) An initial elevator mechanic license issued under this chapter expires on December 31 of the second year after the license was issued.

(f) A renewal of an elevator mechanic license is valid for two (2) years.

(g) An individual engaged in the business of an elevator mechanic shall carry the individual's license and present the license for inspection by a representative of the department upon request.

SECTION 267. IC 22-15-5-15 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 15. (a) This section does not apply to a licensed elevator contractor that is not an

1 individual.

2 (b) To renew a license issued under this licensing program, the
3 license holder must satisfy the continuing education requirement and
4 submit a proof of completion of training to the department.

5 (c) The continuing education requirement is at least eight (8) hours
6 of instruction that must be attended and completed within one (1) year
7 before a license renewal.

8 (d) The continuing education courses designed to ensure the
9 continuing education of an individual holding a license regarding new
10 and existing provisions of the rules of the ~~commission~~ **department**
11 may include:

- 12 (1) programs sponsored by the ~~commission~~ **department**;
- 13 (2) trade association seminars;
- 14 (3) labor training programs; or
- 15 (4) joint labor management apprenticeship and journeyman
16 upgrade training programs.

17 For an individual's completion of a continuing education course to
18 satisfy the individual's continuing education requirement under this
19 chapter, the continuing education provider, instructor and the
20 curriculum must have been approved by the department.

21 (e) All instructors of continuing education courses must be approved
22 by the department. If an instructor is approved by the department, has
23 worked as an instructor teaching a curriculum approved by the
24 department at any time within the year preceding the expiration date of
25 the license, and submits proof of this work to the department, the
26 instructor is exempt from the requirements of subsection (c).

27 (f) Continuing education providers shall keep uniform records of
28 attendance at approved continuing education courses for at least ten
29 (10) years on forms designed and distributed by the department.

30 (g) A license holder who is unable to complete the continuing
31 education required under this chapter before the expiration of the
32 individual's license due to temporary physical or mental disability may
33 apply for a waiver from the department in accordance with the
34 following:

- 35 (1) A waiver application must be submitted to the department on
36 a form established by the department.
- 37 (2) A waiver application must be signed and accompanied by an
38 affidavit signed by the physician of the applicant attesting to the
39 applicant's temporary disability.
- 40 (h) After the cessation of the temporary disability, the applicant

1 must submit to the department a certification from the same physician,
 2 if the physician is still the treating physician of the applicant, or from
 3 a subsequent treating physician attesting to the termination of the
 4 temporary disability.

5 (i) Upon the submission of the certification under subsection (h), the
 6 department shall issue a temporary waiver of the continuing education
 7 requirement. A temporary waiver is valid for ninety (90) days after the
 8 date of issue and allows the individual to work as an elevator
 9 contractor, elevator inspector, or elevator mechanic without the
 10 completion of the continuing education requirement for ninety (90)
 11 days.

12 (j) A temporary waiver of the continuing education requirement may
 13 not be renewed.

14 SECTION 268. IC 22-15-5-16, AS AMENDED BY P.L.186-2025,
 15 SECTION 123, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 16 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 16. (a) A practitioner shall comply
 17 with the standards established under this licensing program. A
 18 practitioner is subject to the exercise of the disciplinary sanctions under
 19 IC 22-12-7-7 if the department finds that a practitioner has:

- 20 (1) engaged in or knowingly cooperated in fraud or material
 21 deception in order to obtain a license to practice, including
 22 cheating on a licensing examination;
- 23 (2) engaged in fraud or material deception in the course of
 24 professional services or activities;
- 25 (3) advertised services or goods in a false or misleading manner;
- 26 (4) falsified or knowingly allowed another person to falsify
 27 attendance records or certificates of completion of continuing
 28 education courses provided under this chapter;
- 29 (5) been convicted of a crime that has a direct bearing on the
 30 practitioner's ability to continue to practice competently;
- 31 (6) knowingly violated a state statute or rule or federal statute or
 32 regulation regulating the profession for which the practitioner is
 33 licensed;
- 34 (7) continued to practice although the practitioner has become
 35 unfit to practice due to:
 - 36 (A) professional incompetence;
 - 37 (B) failure to keep abreast of current professional theory or
 38 practice;
 - 39 (C) physical or mental disability; or
 - 40 (D) addiction to, abuse of, or severe dependency on alcohol or

- 1 other drugs that endanger the public by impairing a
2 practitioner's ability to practice safely;
- 3 (8) engaged in a course of lewd or immoral conduct in connection
4 with the delivery of services to the public;
- 5 (9) allowed the practitioner's name or a license issued under this
6 chapter to be used in connection with an individual or business
7 who renders services beyond the scope of that individual's or
8 business's training, experience, or competence;
- 9 (10) had disciplinary action taken against the practitioner or the
10 practitioner's license to practice in another state or jurisdiction on
11 grounds similar to those under this chapter;
- 12 (11) assisted another person in committing an act that would
13 constitute a ground for disciplinary sanction under this chapter;
14 or
- 15 (12) allowed a license issued by the department to be:
- 16 (A) used by another person; or
- 17 (B) displayed to the public when the license has expired, is
18 inactive, is invalid, or has been revoked or suspended.
- 19 For purposes of subdivision (10), a certified copy of a record of
20 disciplinary action constitutes prima facie evidence of a disciplinary
21 action in another jurisdiction.
- 22 (b) If an applicant or a practitioner has engaged in or knowingly
23 cooperated in fraud or material deception to obtain a license to
24 practice, including cheating on the licensing examination, the
25 department may rescind the license if it has been granted, void the
26 examination or other fraudulent or deceptive material, and prohibit the
27 applicant from reapplying for the license for a length of time
28 established by the department.
- 29 (c) The department may deny licensure to an applicant who has had
30 disciplinary action taken against the applicant or the applicant's license
31 to practice in another state or jurisdiction or who has practiced without
32 a license in violation of the law. A certified copy of the record of
33 disciplinary action is conclusive evidence of the other jurisdiction's
34 disciplinary action.
- 35 (d) The department may order a practitioner to submit to a
36 reasonable physical or mental examination if the practitioner's physical
37 or mental capacity to practice safely and competently is at issue in a
38 disciplinary proceeding. Failure to comply with a department order to
39 submit to a physical or mental examination makes a practitioner liable
40 to temporary suspension under subsection (h).

(e) Except as provided under subsection (f) or (g), a license may not be denied, revoked, or suspended because the applicant or holder has been convicted of an offense. The acts from which the applicant's or holder's conviction resulted may, however, be considered as to whether the applicant or holder should be entrusted to serve the public in a specific capacity.

(f) The department may deny, suspend, or revoke a license issued under this chapter if the individual who holds the license is convicted of any of the following:

- (1) Possession of cocaine or a narcotic drug under IC 35-48-4-6.
- (2) Possession of methamphetamine under IC 35-48-4-6.1.
- (3) Possession of a controlled substance under IC 35-48-4-7(a).
- (4) Fraudulently obtaining a controlled substance under IC 35-48-4-7(b) (for a crime committed before July 1, 2014) or IC 35-48-4-7(c) (for a crime committed after June 30, 2014).
- (5) Manufacture of paraphernalia as a Class D felony (for a crime committed before July 1, 2014) or a Level 6 felony (for a crime committed after June 30, 2014) under IC 35-48-4-8.1(c).
- (6) Dealing in paraphernalia as a Class D felony (for a crime committed before July 1, 2014) or a Level 6 felony (for a crime committed after June 30, 2014) under IC 35-48-4-8.5(b).
- (7) Possession of paraphernalia as a Class D felony (for a crime committed before July 1, 2014) or a Level 6 felony (for a crime committed after June 30, 2014) under IC 35-48-4-8.3(b) (before its amendment on July 1, 2015).
- (8) Possession of marijuana, hash oil, hashish, or salvia as a Class D felony (for a crime committed before July 1, 2014) or a Level 6 felony (for a crime committed after June 30, 2014) under IC 35-48-4-11.
- (9) A felony offense under IC 35-48-4 involving possession of a synthetic drug (as defined in IC 35-31.5-2-321), possession of a controlled substance analog (as defined in IC 35-48-1.1-8), or possession of a synthetic drug lookalike substance (as defined in IC 35-31.5-2-321.5 (before its repeal on July 1, 2019)) as a:
 - (A) Class D felony for a crime committed before July 1, 2014; or
 - (B) Level 6 felony for a crime committed after June 30, 2014; under IC 35-48-4-11.5 (before its repeal on July 1, 2019).
- (10) Maintaining a common nuisance under IC 35-48-4-13 (repealed) or IC 35-45-1-5, if the common nuisance involves a

1 controlled substance.

2 (11) An offense relating to registration, labeling, and prescription
3 forms under IC 35-48-4-14.

4 (g) The department shall deny, revoke, or suspend a license issued
5 under this chapter if the individual who holds the license is convicted
6 of any of the following:

7 (1) Dealing in a controlled substance resulting in death under
8 IC 35-42-1-1.5.

9 (2) Dealing in cocaine or a narcotic drug under IC 35-48-4-1.

10 (3) Dealing in methamphetamine under IC 35-48-4-1.1.

11 (4) Manufacturing methamphetamine under IC 35-48-4-1.2.

12 (5) Dealing in a schedule I, II, or III controlled substance under
13 IC 35-48-4-2.

14 (6) Dealing in a schedule IV controlled substance under
15 IC 35-48-4-3.

16 (7) Dealing in a schedule V controlled substance under
17 IC 35-48-4-4.

18 (8) Dealing in a substance represented to be a controlled
19 substance under IC 35-48-4-4.5 (repealed).

20 (9) Knowingly or intentionally manufacturing, advertising,
21 distributing, or possessing with intent to manufacture, advertise,
22 or distribute a substance represented to be a controlled substance
23 under IC 35-48-4-4.6.

24 (10) Dealing in a counterfeit substance under IC 35-48-4-5.

25 (11) Dealing in marijuana, hash oil, hashish, or salvia as a felony
26 under IC 35-48-4-10.

27 (12) An offense under IC 35-48-4 involving the manufacture or
28 sale of a synthetic drug (as defined in IC 35-31.5-2-321), a
29 synthetic drug lookalike substance (as defined in
30 IC 35-31.5-2-321.5 (before its repeal on July 1, 2019)) under
31 IC 35-48-4-10.5 (before its repeal on July 1, 2019), a controlled
32 substance analog (as defined in IC 35-48-1.1-8), or a substance
33 represented to be a controlled substance (as described in
34 IC 35-48-4-4.6).

35 (13) A violation of any federal or state drug law or rule related to
36 wholesale legend drug distributors licensed under IC 25-26-14.

37 (h) The department may temporarily suspend a practitioner's license
38 under IC 4-21.5-4 before a final adjudication or during the appeals
39 process if the department finds that a practitioner represents a clear and
40 immediate danger to the public's health, safety, or property if the

1 practitioner is allowed to continue to practice.

2 (i) On receipt of a complaint or an information alleging that a person
3 licensed under this chapter has engaged in or is engaging in a practice
4 that jeopardizes the public health, safety, or welfare, the department
5 shall initiate an investigation against the person.

6 (j) Any complaint filed with the office of the attorney general
7 alleging a violation of this licensing program shall be referred to the
8 department for summary review and for its general information and any
9 authorized action at the time of the filing.

10 (k) The department shall conduct a fact finding investigation as the
11 department considers proper in relation to the complaint.

12 (l) A practitioner may petition the department to accept the
13 surrender of the practitioner's license. The practitioner may not
14 surrender the practitioner's license without the written approval of the
15 department, and the department may impose any conditions appropriate
16 to the surrender or reinstatement of a surrendered license.

17 (m) A practitioner who has been subjected to disciplinary sanctions
18 may be required by the ~~commission~~ **department** to pay the costs of the
19 proceeding. The practitioner's ability to pay shall be considered when
20 costs are assessed. If the practitioner fails to pay the costs, a suspension
21 may not be imposed solely upon the practitioner's inability to pay the
22 amount assessed. The costs are limited to costs for the following:

- 23 (1) Court reporters.
- 24 (2) Transcripts.
- 25 (3) Certification of documents.
- 26 (4) Photo duplication.
- 27 (5) Witness attendance and mileage fees.
- 28 (6) Postage.
- 29 (7) Expert witnesses.
- 30 (8) Depositions.
- 31 (9) Notarizations.

32 SECTION 269. IC 22-15-6-0.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.249-2019,
33 SECTION 32, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
34 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 0.5. This chapter applies to a regulated boiler and
35 pressure vessel as set forth in rules adopted by the ~~commission~~
36 **department** under IC 4-22-2.

37 SECTION 270. IC 22-15-6-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.249-2019,
38 SECTION 33, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
39 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. Sections 2 through 3 of this chapter do not
40 apply to any regulated boiler or pressure vessel exempted by a rule

1 adopted by the ~~commission~~ **department** under IC 4-22-2.

2 SECTION 271. IC 22-15-6-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.93-2024,
3 SECTION 167, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
4 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) The department may conduct
5 a program of inspections of regulated boilers and pressure vessels.

6 (b) The department shall do the following:

7 (1) Issue a regulated boiler and pressure vessel operating permit
8 to an applicant who qualifies under this section.

9 (2) Perform an operating permit inspection of a boiler or pressure
10 vessel owned by the state.

11 (3) Conduct a program to audit boiler and pressure vessel
12 inspectors licensed under section 5 of this chapter.

13 (4) Conduct a program to audit inspections completed by a boiler
14 and pressure vessel inspector licensed under section 5 of this
15 chapter.

16 (c) Except as provided in subsection (e), an operating permit issued
17 under this section expires one (1) year after it is issued.

18 (d) To qualify for an operating permit or to renew an operating
19 permit under this section, an applicant must do the following:

20 (1) Apply for an operating permit on a form approved by the
21 department.

22 (2) Demonstrate through an inspection, performed by an inspector
23 licensed under section 5 of this chapter, that the regulated boiler
24 or pressure vessel covered by the application complies with the
25 rules adopted by the ~~commission~~ **department**.

26 (3) Submit a report of the inspection conducted under subdivision
27 (2) to the department.

28 (4) Pay the fee set under IC 22-12-6-6(a)(8).

29 (e) The ~~commission~~ **department** may, by rule adopted under
30 IC 4-22-2, specify:

31 (1) a period between inspections of more than one (1) year; and

32 (2) an expiration date for an operating permit longer than one (1)
33 year from the date of issuance.

34 However, the ~~commission~~ **department** may not set an inspection
35 period of greater than five (5) years or issue an operating permit valid
36 for a period of more than five (5) years for regulated pressure vessels
37 or steam generating equipment that is an integral part of a continuous
38 processing unit.

39 (f) For any inspection conducted by the department under this
40 section, the department may designate an inspector licensed under

1 section 5 of this chapter to act as the department's agent for purposes
2 of the inspection.

3 (g) The ~~commission~~ **department** may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2
4 to implement this chapter.

5 SECTION 272. IC 22-15-6-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021,
6 SECTION 120, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
7 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) The department shall issue a
8 boiler and pressure vessel inspector license to an applicant who
9 qualifies under this section.

10 (b) To qualify for a license under this section an applicant must:

11 (1) meet the qualifications set by the ~~commission~~ **department** in
12 its rules;

13 (2) pass an examination approved by the ~~commission~~ **department**
14 and conducted, supervised, and graded as prescribed by the
15 ~~commission;~~ **department;** and

16 (3) pay the fee set under IC 22-12-6-6(a)(9).

17 (c) The ~~commission~~ **department** may exempt an applicant from any
18 part of the examination required by subsection (b) if the applicant has:

19 (1) a boiler and pressure vessel inspector's license issued by
20 another state with qualifications substantially equal to the
21 qualifications for a license under this section; or

22 (2) a commission as a boiler and pressure vessel inspector issued
23 by the National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors.

24 (d) The ~~commission~~ **department** may sanction a boiler and pressure
25 vessel inspector under IC 22-12-7 if the boiler and pressure vessel
26 inspector violates this chapter or rules adopted by the ~~commission;~~
27 **department.**

28 SECTION 273. IC 22-15-7-0.6, AS ADDED BY P.L.80-2024,
29 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
30 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 0.6. (a) Except as provided in subsection (c), the
31 department shall not inspect, and operating permits are not required
32 for, the following regulated amusement devices:

33 (1) A barrel train pulled by a garden tractor or a rubber tired farm
34 tractor propelled by a motor of not more than forty (40)
35 horsepower.

36 (2) A regulated amusement device exempt from the operating
37 permit and inspection requirements by a rule of the ~~commission;~~
38 **department.**

39 (b) A regulated amusement device covered by this section shall
40 comply with all other requirements applicable to regulated amusement

1 devices under this chapter.

2 (c) The department may perform an inspection of a regulated
3 amusement device covered by this section only if a valid complaint or
4 incident is reported to the department concerning the regulated
5 amusement device.

6 SECTION 274. IC 22-15-7-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021,
7 SECTION 122, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
8 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) The department shall issue a
9 regulated amusement device operating permit to an applicant who
10 qualifies under this section. If an applicant qualifies for a permit under
11 this section, an inspector shall place an inspection seal on the device
12 that is covered by the permit.

13 (b) A permit issued under this section:

- 14 (1) expires one (1) year from the date the permit was issued; and
- 15 (2) may be renewed if the applicant continues to qualify for a
16 permit under this section.

17 (c) To qualify for a permit under this section, an applicant or an
18 authorized officer of the applicant shall pay the inspection fee set under
19 IC 22-12-6-6 and execute an application form affirming under penalties
20 for perjury the following:

21 (1) That all information provided in the application is true to the
22 best of the applicant's or officer's knowledge and belief after
23 reasonable investigation.

24 (2) That all personnel employed by the applicant having
25 maintenance responsibility for the amusement devices have or
26 will have sufficient background, knowledge, skills, and training
27 to adequately maintain the amusement devices under the rules of
28 the ~~commission~~ **department**.

29 (3) That all persons employed by the applicant having operational
30 responsibility for the amusement devices have or will have
31 sufficient background, knowledge, skills, and training to
32 adequately operate the amusement devices under the rules of the
33 ~~commission~~ **department**.

34 (4) That adequate training will be provided or otherwise made
35 available on an ongoing basis to maintenance and operational
36 personnel to ensure the continuous compliance of the personnel
37 with the standards set forth in subdivisions (2) and (3).

38 (5) That all maintenance and operational personnel will be trained
39 to recognize and report any condition that would prohibit the safe
40 operation of the amusement device.

(6) That, upon discovering a condition that would prohibit the safe operation of an amusement device, both operational and maintenance personnel must possess the requisite authority to immediately shut down the amusement device and report the condition of the amusement device to supervisory personnel. An amusement device that is shut down under this subdivision may not be returned to operation until the amusement device complies with ASTM standards for operation.

(7) That the applicant assumes full financial responsibility for:

(A) any condition or circumstance occasioned by, caused by, or resulting from noncompliance with the maintenance and operational standards set forth in subdivisions (2) through (6); and

(B) any death, injury, or other loss occasioned by, caused by, or resulting from noncompliance with the maintenance and operational standards set forth in subdivisions (2) through (6).

(d) The execution of an application under subsection (c) by an officer of an applicant corporation does not create individual financial liability for the officer.

(e) The applicant must satisfy an inspector for the department that the regulated amusement device meets the safety requirements set by the ~~commission~~ **department**.

SECTION 275. IC 22-15-7-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021, SECTION 124, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) The ~~commission~~ **department** shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to define appropriate training for a person who inspects regulated amusement devices.

(b) The rules required under this section must, at a minimum, provide the following:

(1) The adoption by reference of:

(A) ASTM F 698 (1994 edition) ("Specification for Physical Information to be Provided to Amusement Rides and Devices");

(B) ASTM F 770 (1993 edition) ("Practice for Operation Procedures for Amusement Rides and Devices");

(C) ASTM F 846 (1992 edition) ("Guide for Testing Performance of Amusement Rides and Devices");

(D) ASTM F 853 (1993 edition) ("Practice for Maintenance Procedures for Amusement Rides and Devices");

(E) ASTM F 893 (1987 edition) ("Guide for Inspection of

- 1 Amusement Rides and Devices");
- 2 (F) ASTM F 1305 (1994 edition) ("Standard Guides for the
- 3 Classification of Amusement Ride and Device Related Injuries
- 4 and Illnesses"); or
- 5 (G) any subsequent published editions of the ASTM standards
- 6 described in clauses (A) through (F).
- 7 (2) A requirement that inspectors employed or contracted by the
- 8 department:
- 9 (A) have and maintain at least:
- 10 (i) a Level 1 certification from the National Association of
- 11 Amusement Ride Safety Officials or an equivalent
- 12 organization approved by the ~~commission~~; **department**; or
- 13 (ii) an equivalent certification under a process or system
- 14 approved by the ~~commission~~; **department**; and
- 15 (B) conduct inspections that conform to the rules of the
- 16 ~~commission~~; **department**.
- 17 (3) A requirement that regulated amusement devices be operated
- 18 and maintained in accordance with the rules of the ~~commission~~;
- 19 **department**.
- 20 (4) The ~~commission's~~ **department's** chief inspector or supervisor
- 21 of regulated amusement device inspectors must have and
- 22 maintain a Level I certification.
- 23 SECTION 276. IC 22-15-7-7 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
- 24 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. In addition to a
- 25 regularly scheduled inspection of a regulated amusement device, the
- 26 ~~commission~~ **department** may, upon demand by the ~~commission~~;
- 27 **department**, inspect a regulated amusement device at any time
- 28 following:
- 29 (1) the report of an accident involving the regulated amusement
- 30 device; or
- 31 (2) a complaint concerning the regulated amusement device.
- 32 SECTION 277. IC 25-1-5-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.249-2023,
- 33 SECTION 79, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 34 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) The agency shall employ necessary staff,
- 35 including specialists and professionals, to carry out the administrative
- 36 duties and functions of the boards, including but not limited to:
- 37 (1) notice of board meetings and other communication services;
- 38 (2) recordkeeping of board meetings, proceedings, and actions;
- 39 (3) recordkeeping of all persons licensed, regulated, or certified
- 40 by a board;

- 1 (4) administration of examinations; and
 2 (5) administration of license or certificate issuance or renewal.
 3 (b) In addition, the agency:
 4 (1) shall prepare a consolidated statement of the budget requests
 5 of all the boards described in IC 25-0.5-5;
 6 (2) may coordinate licensing or certification renewal cycles,
 7 examination schedules, or other routine activities to efficiently
 8 utilize agency staff, facilities, and transportation resources, and to
 9 improve accessibility of board functions to the public;
 10 (3) may consolidate, where feasible, office space, recordkeeping,
 11 and data processing services;
 12 (4) shall operate and maintain the electronic registry of
 13 professions established under IC 25-1-5.5;
 14 (5) shall post each board's public meeting agenda on the
 15 applicable board's website not less than seventy-two (72) hours
 16 before a board's public meeting;
 17 (6) shall post each board's public meeting minutes on the
 18 applicable board's website not more than fourteen (14) calendar
 19 days after adoption of the minutes by the board;
 20 (7) shall post any vacancy on a board on the applicable board's
 21 website within fourteen (14) calendar days of the vacancy;
 22 (8) notwithstanding any other law:
 23 (A) shall prescribe the application form and manner for each
 24 board; and
 25 (B) shall make any new application form publicly available on
 26 the applicable board's website for sixty (60) calendar days
 27 before being adopted by the agency; ~~and~~
 28 (9) shall send notification of incomplete items in an application
 29 to the applicant every fourteen (14) calendar days after the
 30 applicant initiates the application until the earlier of the
 31 following:
 32 (A) The date the application is completed.
 33 (B) One (1) calendar year after the applicant initiates the
 34 application; **and**
 35 **(10) may adopt and enforce procedural rules under**
 36 **IC 25-1-6-3.**
 37 (c) In administering the renewal of licenses or certificates under this
 38 chapter, the agency shall send a notice of the upcoming expiration of
 39 a license or certificate to each holder of a license or certificate at least
 40 ninety (90) days before the expiration of the license or certificate. The

notice must inform the holder of the license or certificate of the need to renew and the requirement of payment of the renewal fee. If this notice of expiration is not sent by the agency, the holder of the license or certificate is not subject to a sanction for failure to renew if, once notice is received from the agency, the license or certificate is renewed within forty-five (45) days after receipt of the notice.

(d) In administering an examination for licensure or certification, the agency shall make the appropriate application forms available at least thirty (30) days before the deadline for submitting an application to all persons wishing to take the examination.

(e) The agency may require an applicant for license renewal to submit evidence proving that:

(1) the applicant continues to meet the minimum requirements for licensure; and

(2) the applicant is not in violation of:

(A) the statute regulating the applicant's profession; or

(B) rules adopted by the board regulating the applicant's profession.

(f) The agency shall process an application for renewal of a license or certificate:

(1) not later than ten (10) days after the agency receives all required forms and evidence; or

(2) within twenty-four (24) hours after the time that an applicant for renewal appears in person at the agency with all required forms and evidence.

This subsection does not require the agency to issue a renewal license or certificate to an applicant if subsection (g) applies.

(g) The agency may delay issuing a license renewal for up to one hundred twenty (120) days after the renewal date for the purpose of permitting the board to investigate information received by the agency that the applicant for renewal may have committed an act for which the applicant may be disciplined. If the agency delays issuing a license renewal, the agency shall notify the applicant that the applicant is being investigated. Except as provided in subsection (h), before the end of the one hundred twenty (120) day period, the board shall do one (1) of the following:

(1) Deny the license renewal following a personal appearance by the applicant before the board.

(2) Issue the license renewal upon satisfaction of all other conditions for renewal.

(3) Issue the license renewal and file a complaint under IC 25-1-7.

(4) Upon agreement of the applicant and the board and following a personal appearance by the applicant before the board, renew the license and place the applicant on probation status under IC 25-1-9-9.

(h) If an individual fails to appear before the board under subsection (g), the board may take action on the applicant's license allowed under subsection (g)(1), (g)(2), or (g)(3).

(i) The applicant's license remains valid until the final determination of the board is rendered unless the renewal is denied or the license is summarily suspended under IC 25-1-9-10.

(j) The license of the applicant for a license renewal remains valid during the one hundred twenty (120) day period unless the license renewal is denied following a personal appearance by the applicant before the board before the end of the one hundred twenty (120) day period. If the one hundred twenty (120) day period expires without action by the board, the license shall be automatically renewed at the end of the one hundred twenty (120) day period.

(k) The board's renewal of a license does not preclude the board from imposing sanctions on the licensee as a result of a complaint filed by the attorney general after renewal of the license.

(l) Notwithstanding any other statute, the agency may stagger license or certificate renewal cycles. However, if a renewal cycle for a specific board or committee is changed, the agency must obtain the approval of the affected board or committee.

(m) An application for a license, certificate, registration, or permit is abandoned without an action of the board, if the applicant does not complete the requirements to complete the application within one (1) year after the date on which the application was filed. However, the board may, for good cause shown, extend the validity of the application for additional thirty (30) day periods. An application submitted after the abandonment of an application is considered a new application.

SECTION 278. IC 25-1-6-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.3-2014, SECTION 16, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) The licensing agency shall perform all administrative functions, duties, and responsibilities assigned by law or rule to the executive director, secretary, or other statutory administrator of the entities described in IC 25-0.5-7.

(b) Nothing in this chapter may be construed to give the licensing agency policy making authority **for any professional standard of**

1 **practice, which remains with each board. The licensing agency may**
 2 **adopt and enforce procedural rules in accordance with IC 4-22-2**
 3 **for the administration of a board if the rule:**

4 **(1) will affect multiple boards; and**

5 **(2) is not inconsistent with any rule adopted by the affected**
 6 **board.**

7 SECTION 279. IC 25-4-1-18 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 8 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 18. Nothing contained
 9 in this chapter shall prevent the draftsmen, students, clerks of works,
 10 superintendents, and other employees of those lawfully practicing as
 11 registered architects, under the provisions of this chapter, from acting
 12 under the instruction, control, or supervision of their employers, or to
 13 prevent the employment of superintendents of the construction,
 14 enlargement, or alteration of buildings, or any parts thereof, or prevent
 15 such superintendents from acting under the immediate personal
 16 supervision of the registered architect by whom the plans and
 17 specifications of any building, enlargement, or alteration were
 18 prepared. Nor shall anything contained in this chapter apply to the
 19 making of plans or specifications or the supervision of construction,
 20 enlargement or alteration of buildings or any parts thereof specifically
 21 exempted from the rules of the ~~fire prevention and building safety~~
 22 ~~commission department of homeland security~~ or specifically
 23 exempted from the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~
 24 ~~department of homeland security~~ requirements for preparation of
 25 such plans and specifications by registered architects or registered
 26 engineers.

27 SECTION 280. IC 25-4-1-29 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 28 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 29. (a) Except as
 29 hereinafter otherwise provided, the state of Indiana, nor any board,
 30 department or agency thereof, nor any county, city, town, township,
 31 school corporations, or other political subdivision of this state shall
 32 engage in the construction, alteration, or maintenance of any public
 33 building or public work involving the practice of architecture for which
 34 plans, specifications and estimates have not been prepared, certified,
 35 and sealed by, and the construction, alteration, or maintenance
 36 executed under the direct supervision of an architect, which architect
 37 shall be the holder in good standing of a certificate of registration from
 38 the board of registration for architects and landscape architects
 39 entitling him to practice architecture in this state.

40 (b) No official of this state, nor of any city, town, county, township,

or school corporation thereof, charged with the enforcement of any law, ordinance, or rule relating to the construction or alteration of buildings or structures, shall use or accept or approve any plans or specifications that have not been prepared by, or under the supervision of, and certified by a registered architect. This subsection shall not apply if such plans or specifications have been prepared by, or under the supervision of and certified by a professional engineer who is registered under the laws of the state of Indiana. This subsection shall not apply to the construction or alteration of any building or structures specifically exempted from the rules of the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** or specifically exempted from the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** requirements for preparation of such plans and specifications by registered architects or registered engineers. This section shall not be construed as to abridge, or otherwise affect, the powers of the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~, **department of homeland security**, or any other state board or department, to issue rules governing the safety of buildings or structures.

SECTION 281. IC 25-5.3 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW ARTICLE TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]:

ARTICLE 5.3. ATHLETIC TRAINER INTERSTATE COMPACT

Chapter 1. Purpose

Sec. 1. This statute is to be known and cited as the athletic trainer compact. The purposes of this compact are to expand mobility of athletic training practice and improve public access to services by providing qualified licensed athletic trainers the ability to practice in other member states. This compact preserves the regulatory authority of states to protect public health and safety through the current system of state licensure.

Sec. 2. This compact is designed to achieve the following objectives:

- (1) Increase public access to athletic training and enhance continuity of care by providing for the mutual recognition of other licenses issued by a member state.**
- (2) Provide an additional streamlined opportunity for interstate practice by licensed athletic trainers who meet compact uniform requirements.**

1 (3) Promote mobility and workforce development by
2 eliminating the necessity for licenses in multiple states by
3 providing for the mutual recognition of other licenses issued
4 by member states.

5 (4) Reduce administrative burdens on licensed athletic
6 trainers and member states.

7 (5) Enhance the states' ability to protect the public's health
8 and safety.

9 (6) Encourage the cooperation of member states in regulating
10 interstate practice of licensed athletic trainers.

11 (7) Support relocating active military members and their
12 spouses.

13 (8) Enhance the exchange of licensure, investigative, and
14 disciplinary information among member states.

15 (9) Allow for the use of telehealth to facilitate increased access
16 to athletic training services.

17 (10) Support the uniformity of licensed athletic trainer
18 licensure requirements throughout the states.

19 (11) Affirm the authority of all member states to hold a
20 licensed athletic trainer accountable for abiding by the scope
21 of practice in the state in which the patient is located at the
22 time of care.

23 (12) Require adherence to the model compact language to
24 promote uniformity and ensure that all member states have
25 accepted and are mutually obligated to the same terms.

26 Chapter 2. Definitions

27 Sec. 0.5. Unless the context requires otherwise, the definitions in
28 this chapter apply throughout this entire article.

29 Sec. 1. "Active military member" means any individual with
30 full-time duty status in the active armed forces of the United States,
31 including members of the National Guard and Reserve.

32 Sec. 2. "Adverse action" means any administrative, civil,
33 equitable, or criminal action permitted by a state's laws which is
34 imposed by a licensing authority or other authority against a
35 licensee, including actions against an individual's license or
36 compact privilege such as revocation, suspension, probation,
37 monitoring of the licensee, limitation on the licensee's practice, or
38 any other encumbrance on licensure affecting a licensee's
39 authorization to practice.

40 Sec. 3. "Alternative program" means a nondisciplinary

1 monitoring or practice remediation process applicable to an
2 athletic trainer approved by a state licensing authority of a
3 member state in which the athletic trainer is licensed. This includes
4 programs to which licensees with substance use, addiction, or
5 mental health conditions are referred in lieu of adverse action.

6 Sec. 4. "Athletic training" means the prevention, examination,
7 assessment, treatment and rehabilitation of emergent, acute, or
8 chronic injuries and medical conditions as defined by applicable
9 member state laws.

10 Sec. 5. "Athletic trainer compact commission" or "compact
11 commission" means the government agency whose membership
12 consists of all states that have enacted this compact and which
13 operates as an instrumentality of the member states to administer
14 and implement the compact according to its terms.

15 Sec. 6. "BOC" means the Board of Certification, Inc. or any
16 successor organization.

17 Sec. 7. "CAATE" means the Commission on Accreditation of
18 Athletic Training Education or any successor organization.

19 Sec. 8. "Charter member state" means any member state which
20 enacted and made effective this compact by law before the compact
21 effective date specified in IC 25-5.3-12-1.

22 Sec. 9. "Commissioner" means the individual appointed by a
23 member state to serve as the member of the commission for that
24 member state.

25 Sec. 10. "Compact privilege" means the legal authorization
26 granted by a remote state, equivalent to a license, allowing a
27 licensee from another member state to provide athletic training
28 services in a remote state.

29 Sec. 11. "Compact qualifying license" means a license that is not
30 an encumbered license issued by a member state to practice
31 athletic training which qualifies the licensee to exercise a compact
32 privilege under IC 25-5.3-4.

33 Sec. 12. "Continuing competence" means a requirement, as a
34 condition of license renewal, to provide evidence of successful
35 participation, and completion of, educational and professional
36 activities relevant to practice or area of work. For purposes of this
37 compact, evidence of active BOC certification may satisfy the
38 meaning of continuing competence under this section.

39 Sec. 13. "Current significant investigative information" means
40 the existence of:

1 (1) investigative information that a licensing authority, after
2 a preliminary inquiry that includes notification and an
3 opportunity for the subject licensee to respond, if required by
4 state law, has reason to believe is not groundless and, if
5 proven true, would indicate more than a minor infraction; or
6 (2) investigative information that indicates that the subject
7 licensee represents an immediate threat to public health and
8 safety regardless of whether the subject licensee has been
9 notified and had an opportunity to respond.

10 Sec. 14. "Criminal background check" means the submission of
11 fingerprints or other biometric-based information for a license
12 applicant for the purpose of obtaining that applicant's criminal
13 history record information, as defined in 28 CFR 20.3(d) from the
14 Federal Bureau of Investigation and the state's criminal history
15 record repository as defined in 28 CFR 20.3(f).

16 Sec. 15. "Data system" means the commission's repository of
17 information about licensees, including examination, licensure,
18 investigative, compact privilege, adverse action, and alternative
19 program.

20 Sec. 16. "Encumbrance" or "encumbered" means a revocation
21 or suspension of, or any limitation or condition on, the full and
22 unrestricted practice of athletic training.

23 Sec. 17. "Executive committee" means a group of
24 commissioners elected or appointed to act on behalf of, and within
25 the powers granted to them by, the compact and commission.

26 Sec. 18. "Investigative information" means information,
27 records, and documents received or generated by a licensing
28 authority under an investigation.

29 Sec. 19. "Jurisprudence requirement" means the assessment of
30 an individual's knowledge of the laws and rules governing the
31 practice of athletic training, as applicable, in a state.

32 Sec. 20. "License" means current authorization by a member
33 state to engage in the practice of athletic training.

34 Sec. 21. "Licensee" or "licensed athletic trainer" means an
35 individual who currently holds an active, unrestricted license and
36 who meets all of the requirements outlined in IC 25-5.3-4.

37 Sec. 22. "Licensing authority" means the board or agency of a
38 state, or equivalent, that is responsible for the licensing and
39 regulation of athletic trainers.

40 Sec. 23. "Model compact language" the model language for the

1 athletic trainer compact on file with the Council of State
2 Governments or other entity as designated by the commission to
3 which all member states must substantively adhere and adopt.

4 Sec. 24. "Member state" means a state that has enacted the
5 compact.

6 Sec. 25. "Remote state" means a member state other than the
7 state of qualifying licensure.

8 Sec. 26. "Rule" means a regulation promulgated by an
9 authorized entity that has the force of law.

10 Sec. 27. "Scope of practice" means the procedures, actions, and
11 processes an athletic trainer licensed in a state is permitted to
12 undertake in that state and the circumstances under which the
13 licensee is permitted to undertake those procedures, actions, and
14 processes. The procedures, actions, and processes and the
15 circumstances under which they may be undertaken may be
16 established through means, including statute, regulations, case law,
17 and other processes available to the state licensing authority or
18 other government agency. The term includes any state
19 requirements regarding supervision or direction, if required by the
20 state and as further defined by the state's law.

21 Sec. 28. "Single state license" means a license issued by any
22 state that authorizes practice only within the issuing state.

23 Sec. 29. "State" means any state, commonwealth, district, or
24 territory of the United States of America.

25 Sec. 30. "State of qualifying licensure" means the member state
26 who has issued a compact qualifying license to a licensee under this
27 compact.

28 Sec. 31. "Unencumbered license" means a license that
29 authorizes a licensee to engage in the full and unrestricted practice
30 of athletic training.

31 Chapter 3. State Participation

32 Sec. 1. To be eligible to join this compact and to maintain
33 eligibility as a member state, the state must do the following:

- 34 (1) Enact and maintain a statute that is not materially
35 different from the model compact language.
- 36 (2) License and regulate the practice of athletic training.
- 37 (3) Require that licensees in that state maintain continuing
38 competence standards as part of their state practice act or
39 rules.
- 40 (4) Have a mechanism in place for receiving and investigating

1 complaints about licensees.

2 **(5) Grant the compact privilege to a licensee who meets all the**
3 **requirements outlined in IC 25-5.3-4 and complies with the**
4 **terms of the compact and any rules.**

5 **(6) Participate fully in the compact commission's data system,**
6 **including using the unique identifier as defined in rules.**

7 **(7) Notify the compact commission, in compliance with the**
8 **terms of the compact and rules, of any adverse action or the**
9 **availability of current significant investigative information**
10 **regarding a licensee.**

11 **(8) Within a time frame established by rule, implement or use**
12 **procedures for considering the criminal history records of**
13 **applicants for a compact qualifying license which includes**
14 **receiving the results of the Federal Bureau of Investigation**
15 **record search and using those results in making licensure**
16 **decisions. The procedures must include the submission of**
17 **fingerprints or other biometric-based information by**
18 **applicants for the purpose of obtaining an applicant's**
19 **criminal history record information from the Federal Bureau**
20 **of Investigation and the agency responsible for retaining that**
21 **state's criminal records, and:**

22 **(A) a member state must fully implement a criminal**
23 **background check requirement to participate in the**
24 **issuance and acceptance of compact privileges; and**

25 **(B) any communication between a member state and the**
26 **compact commission or among member states regarding**
27 **the verification of eligibility for licensure through the**
28 **compact must not include any information received from**
29 **the Federal Bureau of Investigation relating to a federal**
30 **criminal records check performed by a member state.**

31 **(9) Comply with and enforce the rules of the compact**
32 **commission.**

33 **Sec. 2. Member states may set and collect a fee for issuance and**
34 **renewal of a compact privilege to applicants.**

35 **Sec. 3. Individuals without a compact qualifying license may**
36 **apply for a member state's single state license as provided under**
37 **the laws of each member state.**

38 **Sec. 4. This compact does not affect the requirements**
39 **established by a member state for the issuance of a single state**
40 **license.**

Sec. 5. A compact qualifying license must be recognized by each remote state as authorizing that licensee to engage in the practice of athletic training, under a compact privilege, in another member state in accordance with this compact.

Chapter 4. Compact Privileges

Sec. 1. (a) To be eligible for a compact privilege under this compact, the licensee shall complete a criminal background check performed by the licensing authority in the state of qualifying licensure before entry in the compact.

(b) In addition to the background check required by subsection (a), the licensee shall meet the following:

(1) Either:

(A) hold a valid current active certification through the BOC, or its successor organization; or

(B) have completed an education program which is either:

(i) at least a bachelor's degree with a major course of study in athletic training, or an equivalent course of study from a college or university accredited at the time of graduation by CAATE, or its successor organization;

(ii) an academic degree from a college or university in a foreign country equivalent to the degree described in item (i) with a major course of study as described in item

(i) that is accredited by CAATE, or its successor organization; or

(iii) the substantial equivalent of the either item (i) or (ii) which the commission may determine by rule.

(2) Complete the exam administered by the BOC, or its successor organization, successfully at a date preceding the date of the licensee's application for licensure in their state of qualifying licensure or the substantial equivalent of this subdivision which the commission may determine by rule.

(3) Hold a compact qualifying license.

(4) Have not had any encumbrance against any license or compact privilege to practice athletic training within the previous two (2) years.

(5) Be eligible for a compact privilege in any member state under IC 25-5.3-4.

(6) Notify the compact commission that the licensee is seeking the compact privilege within a remote state.

(7) Pay any applicable fees, including any state fee, for the

compact privilege.

(8) Meet only the continuing competence requirements established by the state of qualifying licensure.

(9) Comply with any requirements of the state of qualifying licensure as set forth in IC 25-5.3-3.

(10) Meet any jurisprudence requirements established by a remote state in which the licensee is seeking a compact privilege.

(11) Report to the compact commission any adverse action, encumbrance, or restriction on a license taken by any non member state within thirty (30) days from the date the action is taken.

Sec. 2. The compact privilege is valid until the expiration date of the compact qualifying license. To maintain a compact privilege, renewal of the compact privilege must be congruent with the renewal of the compact qualifying license as the compact commission may define by rule. The licensee must comply with the requirements of this section to maintain the compact privilege in the remote state. A licensee may apply for and hold compact privileges in multiple member states.

Sec. 3. A licensed athletic trainer must follow the scope of practice of the member state where the patient is located. A licensee engaging in the practice of athletic training in a remote state under the compact privilege shall adhere to the scope of practice laws of the remote state. Licensees are responsible for educating themselves on, and complying with, any and all scope of practice laws and state laws relating to the remote practice of athletic training, as applicable.

Sec. 4. A licensee engaging in the practice of athletic training in a remote state is subject to the remote state's regulatory authority. A remote state may, in accordance with due process and the remote state's laws, remove a licensee's compact privilege in the remote state for a specific period of time, impose fines, or take any other necessary actions to protect the health and safety of the remote state's citizens. Any member state which undertakes an action under this section shall promptly notify the other member states and the commission as specified in the rules. The licensee may be deemed to be ineligible to exercise the compact privilege by any member state until the specific time for removal has passed and all fines are paid.

1 **Sec. 5.** All member state disciplinary orders that impose adverse
 2 action against a compact qualifying license must result in
 3 deactivation of the licensee's compact privilege in all member
 4 states during the pendency of the order. If a compact qualifying
 5 license is encumbered, the licensee loses the compact privilege in
 6 any remote state until the following occur:

7 (1) The compact qualifying license is no longer encumbered.

8 (2) The licensee has not had any encumbrance or restriction
 9 against any license, compact qualifying license, or compact
 10 privilege within the previous two (2) years.

11 **Sec. 6.** Once an encumbered license is restored to good standing
 12 as a compact qualifying license (as certified by the licensing
 13 authority), the licensee must meet the requirements of this chapter
 14 to obtain a compact privilege in any remote state.

15 **Sec. 7.** If a licensee's compact privilege in any remote state is
 16 removed, that licensee may also lose the compact privilege in other
 17 remote states, as each member state shall determine in its sole
 18 authority, until the following occur:

19 (1) The specific period of time for which the compact privilege
 20 was removed has ended.

21 (2) All fines have been paid.

22 (3) The licensee has not had any encumbrance or restriction
 23 against any license or compact privilege within the previous
 24 two (2) years.

25 **Sec. 8.** Once the requirements of section 7 of this chapter have
 26 been met, the licensee must meet the requirements in section 1 of
 27 this chapter to obtain a compact privilege in a remote state.

28 **Chapter 5. Qualifying License**

29 **Sec. 1.** A licensee may only designate one (1) license as their
 30 compact qualifying license at a time. The procedures for the
 31 designation may be further defined by compact commission rule.

32 **Sec. 2.** This chapter does not require that the state of qualifying
 33 licensure be the state of primary residence or state of primary
 34 practice for the licensee.

35 **Sec. 3.** This compact does not interfere with a licensee's ability
 36 to hold a single state license in multiple states.

37 **Sec. 4.** This compact does not affect the requirements
 38 established by a member state for the issuance of a single state
 39 license.

40 **Chapter 6. Active Military Members**

1 **Sec. 1. An active military member or their spouse is not**
2 **required to pay a fee to the commission for a compact privilege. If**
3 **a member state chooses to charge a member state fee, it may**
4 **choose to charge a reduced fee or no fee to an active military**
5 **member or their spouse for a compact privilege.**

6 **Chapter 7. Adverse Actions**

7 **Sec. 1. A member state in which a licensee is issued a compact**
8 **qualifying license has the exclusive authority to impose adverse**
9 **action against the compact qualifying license issued by that**
10 **member state.**

11 **Sec. 2. A member state may take adverse action based on**
12 **current significant investigative information of a remote state, so**
13 **long as the member state follows its own procedures for imposing**
14 **adverse action.**

15 **Sec. 3. This compact does not override a member state's decision**
16 **that participation in an alternative program may be used in lieu of**
17 **adverse action and that the participation remains non public if**
18 **required by the member state's laws or rules.**

19 **Sec. 4. (a) A remote state may:**

20 **(1) take adverse actions against a licensee's compact privilege**
21 **in that state; and**

22 **(2) issue subpoenas for both hearings and investigations that**
23 **require the attendance and testimony of witnesses as well as**
24 **the production of evidence.**

25 **(b) Subpoenas may be issued by a member state athletic training**
26 **licensing authority for the attendance and testimony of witnesses**
27 **and the production of evidence.**

28 **(c) A member state which issues a subpoena may request service**
29 **of that subpoena by another member state. The member state**
30 **receiving the request to serve a subpoena shall serve the subpoena**
31 **if it is deemed enforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction**
32 **according to the practice and procedure in the receiving member**
33 **state.**

34 **(d) The issuing authority shall pay any witness fees, travel**
35 **expenses, mileage, and other fees required by the service statutes**
36 **of the state where the witnesses or evidence are located.**

37 **Sec. 5. For purposes of taking adverse action, a member state**
38 **shall give the same priority and effect to reported conduct received**
39 **from another member state as it would if the conduct had occurred**
40 **within that state. In so doing, the investigating member state shall**

1 apply its own state laws to determine appropriate action.

2 **Sec. 6.** A member state, if otherwise permitted by state law, may
3 recover from the affected licensee the costs of investigations and
4 dispositions of cases resulting from any adverse action taken
5 against that licensee.

6 **Sec. 7. (a)** In addition to the authority granted to a member state
7 by its respective state law, any member state may participate with
8 other member states in joint investigations of licensees.

9 **(b)** Member states shall share any current significant
10 investigative information, litigation, or compliance materials in
11 furtherance of any joint or individual investigation initiated under
12 the compact. In sharing the information under this section between
13 member state athletic trainer licensing authorities, all information
14 obtained must be kept confidential, except as otherwise mutually
15 agreed upon by the sharing and receiving member state.

16 **(c)** A remote state may issue subpoenas on behalf of a member
17 state for both hearings and investigations that require the
18 attendance and testimony of witnesses as well as the production of
19 evidence.

20 **Sec. 8.** If a member state takes adverse action, the member state
21 shall promptly notify the administrator of the data system. The
22 administrator of the data system shall promptly notify all member
23 states of any adverse actions by remote states.

24 **Sec. 9.** This compact does not permit a member state to take any
25 adverse action against a licensee or holder of a compact privilege
26 for conduct or practice occurring in another member state that
27 was legal in the member state at the time the conduct or practice
28 was undertaken.

29 **Chapter 8. Commission**

30 **Sec. 1.** The compact member states establish a joint government
31 agency whose membership consists of all member states that have
32 enacted the compact known as the athletic trainer licensure
33 compact commission. The compact commission is an
34 instrumentality of the member states acting jointly and not an
35 instrumentality of any one (1) state. The compact commission
36 comes into existence on or after the effective date of the compact
37 as set forth in IC 25-5.3-12.

38 **Sec. 2. (a)** Each member state has and is limited to one (1)
39 commissioner selected by that member state's licensing authority
40 within sixty (60) days of the member state's effective date.

1 (b) The commissioner selected under subsection (a) must be an
2 administrator or their designated staff or current board member
3 of the licensing authority.

4 (c) The compact commission may recommend removal or
5 suspension of any commissioner from office.

6 (d) A member state's licensing authority shall fill any vacancy
7 of its commissioner occurring on the compact commission within
8 sixty (60) days of the vacancy.

9 (e) Each commissioner is entitled to one (1) vote on all matters
10 before the compact commission requiring a vote by the
11 commissioners.

12 (f) The compact commission shall meet at least once during each
13 calendar year. Additional meetings may be held as set forth in the
14 commission bylaws. A commissioner shall vote in person or by any
15 other means as provided in the bylaws. The bylaws may provide
16 for commissioners to meet by telecommunication, videoconference,
17 or other means of communication.

18 **Sec. 3. The compact commission has the following powers:**

19 (1) Promulgate, adopt, and amend rules and bylaws.

20 (2) Establish code of conduct, confidentiality, and conflict of
21 interest policies for commissioners.

22 (3) Establish the fiscal year of the compact commission.

23 (4) Maintain its financial records in accordance with the
24 bylaws.

25 (5) Purchase and maintain insurance and insurance bonds.

26 (6) Accept, or contract for services of personnel, including
27 employees of a member state.

28 (7) Conduct a financial review or audit.

29 (8) Hire employees, elect or appoint officers, fix
30 compensation, define duties, grant the individuals appropriate
31 authority to carry out the purposes of the compact, and
32 establish the compact commission's personnel policies and
33 programs relating to conflicts of interest, qualifications of
34 personnel, and other related personnel matters.

35 (9) Enter into contracts or arrangements for the management
36 of the affairs of the commission.

37 (10) Assess and collect fees.

38 (11) Accept any and all appropriate gifts, donations, grants of
39 money, other sources of revenue, equipment, supplies,
40 materials, and services, and receive, utilize, and dispose of the

1 same if at all times the compact commission avoids any
2 appearance of impropriety or conflict of interest.

3 (12) Lease, purchase, retain, own, hold, improve, invest, or use
4 any property, real, personal, or mixed, or any undivided
5 interest in the property.

6 (13) Sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange, abandon,
7 or otherwise dispose of any property real, personal, or mixed.

8 (14) Establish a budget and make expenditures.

9 (15) Borrow and invest money.

10 (16) Meet and take any action consistent with the provisions
11 of this compact, the compact commission's rules, and the
12 bylaw.

13 (17) Initiate and conclude legal proceedings or actions in the
14 name of the compact commission if the standing of any
15 licensing authority to sue or be sued under applicable law is
16 not affected.

17 (18) Maintain and certify records and information provided
18 to a member state as the authenticated business records of the
19 compact commission, and designate an agent to do so on the
20 compact commission's behalf.

21 (19) Provide and receive information from, and cooperate
22 with, law enforcement agencies.

23 (20) Determine whether a state's adopted language is
24 materially different from the model compact language such
25 that the state would not qualify for participation in the
26 compact.

27 (21) Establish and elect an executive committee, including a
28 chair and a vice chair, secretary, treasurer, and any other
29 offices as the commission establishes by rule or bylaw.

30 (22) Appoint committees, including standing committees,
31 composed of member state commissioners, state regulators,
32 state legislators or their representatives, and consumer
33 representatives, and any other interested persons as may be
34 designated in this compact and the bylaws.

35 (23) Perform any other function as may be necessary or
36 appropriate to achieve the purposes of this compact.

37 Sec. 4. (a) The executive committee has the power to act on
38 behalf of the compact commission according to the terms of this
39 compact. The powers, duties, and responsibilities of the executive
40 committee are as follows:

1 (1) Exercise the powers and duties of the compact commission
2 during the interim between compact commission meetings,
3 except for adopting or amending rules, adopting or amending
4 bylaws, and exercising any other powers and duties expressly
5 reserved to the compact commission by rule or bylaw.

6 (2) Oversee the day-to-day activities of the administration of
7 the compact including enforcement and compliance with the
8 provisions of the compact, its rules and bylaws, and other
9 duties as deemed necessary.

10 (3) Recommend to the compact commission changes to the
11 rules or bylaws, changes to this compact legislation, fees
12 charged to compact member states, fees charged to licensees,
13 and other fees.

14 (4) Ensure compact administration services are appropriately
15 provided, including by contract.

16 (5) Prepare and recommend the budget.

17 (6) Maintain financial records on behalf of the compact
18 commission.

19 (7) Monitor compact compliance of member states and
20 provide compliance reports to the compact commission.

21 (8) Establish additional committees as necessary.

22 (9) Other duties as provided in the rules or bylaws of the
23 compact commission.

24 (b) The executive committee is composed of not more than nine
25 (9) members, elected by the compact commission as follows:

26 (1) The chair and vice chair of the compact commission, as
27 voting members of the executive committee.

28 (2) Not more than three (3) additional voting members from
29 the current membership of the compact commission to include
30 the offices of treasurer, secretary, and one member-at-large.

31 (3) Not more than four (4) ex officio, nonvoting members from
32 recognized national athletic trainer organizations.

33 (c) The compact commission may remove any member of the
34 executive committee as provided in the compact commission's
35 bylaws.

36 (d) The executive committee shall meet at least one (1) time each
37 calendar year.

38 (e) Executive committee meetings are open to the public, except
39 that the executive committee may meet in a closed, nonpublic
40 meeting as provided in section 6 of this chapter.

1 (f) The executive committee shall give advance notice of its
2 meetings, posted on its website and as determined by rule or bylaw
3 to provide notice to persons with an interest in the business of the
4 compact commission.

5 (g) The executive committee may hold a special meeting in
6 accordance with this section.

7 Sec. 5. The compact commission shall adopt and provide to the
8 member states an annual report.

9 Sec. 6. (a) All meetings are open to the public, except that the
10 compact commission may meet in a closed, nonpublic meeting as
11 provided in this section.

12 (b) Public notice for all meetings of the full compact commission
13 of meetings must be given in the same manner as required under
14 the rulemaking provisions in this compact, except that the compact
15 commission may hold a special meeting as provided in this section.

16 (c) The compact commission may hold a special meeting when
17 it must meet to conduct emergency business by giving twenty-four
18 (24) hours' notice to all commissioners, on the compact
19 commission's website, and other means as provided in the compact
20 commission's rules. The compact commission's legal counsel shall
21 certify that the compact commission's need to meet qualifies as an
22 emergency.

23 (d) The compact commission or the executive committee or
24 other committees of the compact commission may convene in a
25 closed, nonpublic meeting for the compact commission or executive
26 committee or other committees of the compact commission to
27 receive legal advice or to discuss any of the following:

28 (1) Noncompliance of a member state with its obligations
29 under the compact.

30 (2) The employment, compensation, discipline or other
31 matters, practices or procedures related to specific employees.

32 (3) Current or threatened discipline of a licensee by a member
33 state's licensing authority.

34 (4) Current, threatened, or reasonably anticipated litigation.

35 (5) Negotiation of contracts for the purchase, lease, or sale of
36 goods, services, or real estate.

37 (6) Accusing any person of a crime or formally censuring any
38 person.

39 (7) Trade secrets or commercial or financial information that
40 is privileged or confidential.

1 (8) Information of a personal nature where disclosure would
2 constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

3 (9) Investigative records compiled for law enforcement
4 purposes.

5 (10) Information related to any investigative reports prepared
6 by or on behalf of or for use of the compact commission or
7 other committee charged with responsibility of investigation
8 or determination of compliance issues under the compact.

9 (11) Matters specifically exempted from disclosure by federal
10 or member state law.

11 (12) Other matters as specified in rules of the compact
12 commission.

13 If a meeting, or portion of a meeting, is closed, the compact
14 commission's legal counsel or designee shall certify that the
15 meeting will be closed and reference each relevant exempting
16 provision, and the reference must be recorded in the minutes. All
17 minutes and documents of a closed meeting must remain under
18 seal, subject to release only by a majority vote of the compact
19 commission or order of a court of competent jurisdiction.

20 Sec. 7. (a) The compact commission shall pay, or provide for the
21 payment of, the reasonable expenses of its establishment,
22 organization, and ongoing activities.

23 (b) The compact commission may accept any and all
24 appropriate revenue sources as provided in this section.

25 (c) The compact commission may levy on and collect an annual
26 assessment from each member state and impose fees on licensees
27 of member states to whom it grants a compact privilege to cover
28 the cost of the operations and activities of the compact commission
29 and its staff, which must be in a total amount sufficient to cover its
30 annual budget as approved each year for which revenue is not
31 provided by other sources. The aggregate annual assessment
32 amount for member states must be allocated based upon a formula
33 that the compact commission promulgates by rule.

34 (d) The compact commission shall not incur obligations of any
35 kind before securing the funds or a loan adequate to meet the
36 obligation. The compact commission shall not pledge the credit of
37 any of the member states, except by and with the authority of the
38 member state.

39 (e) The compact commission shall keep accurate accounts of all
40 receipts and disbursements. The receipts and disbursements of the

compact commission is subject to the financial review or audit and accounting procedures established under its bylaws. However, all receipts and disbursements of funds handled by the compact commission is subject to an annual financial review or audit by a certified or licensed public accountant, and the report of the financial review or audit must be included in and become part of the annual report of the compact commission.

Sec. 8. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), the members, officers, executive director, employees, and representatives of the compact commission are immune from suit and liability, both personally and in their official capacity, for any claim for damage to or loss of property or personal injury or other civil liability caused by or arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred, or that the person against whom the claim is made had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of commission employment, duties or responsibilities.

(b) Subsection (a) does not protect any person from suit or liability for any damage, loss, injury, or liability caused by the intentional or willful or wanton misconduct of that person.

(c) The procurement of insurance of any type by the commission does not in any way compromise or limit the immunity granted in subsection (a).

(d) If the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not result from that person's intentional or willful or wanton misconduct, the compact commission shall defend any member, officer, executive director, employee, and representative of the commission in any civil action seeking to impose liability arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the scope of commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or as determined by the commission that the person against whom the claim is made had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of commission employment, duties, or responsibilities.

(e) Subsection (d) does not prohibit a person from retaining the person's own counsel at the person's own expense.

(f) The commission shall indemnify and hold harmless any member, officer, executive director, employee, and representative of the commission for the amount of any settlement or judgment obtained against that person arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the scope of commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or that the

1 person had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the
 2 scope of commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, unless
 3 the actual or alleged act, error, or omission results from the
 4 person's intentional or willful or wanton misconduct.

5 (g) This section does not limit the liability of any licensee for
 6 professional malpractice or misconduct, which is governed solely
 7 by any other applicable state laws.

8 (h) This compact does not waive or otherwise abrogate a
 9 member state's state action immunity or state action affirmative
 10 defense with respect to antitrust claims under the Sherman Act,
 11 Clayton Act, or any other state or federal antitrust or
 12 anticompetitive law or regulation.

13 (i) This compact is not a waiver of sovereign immunity by the
 14 member states or by the compact commission.

15 Chapter 9. Data System

16 Sec. 1. The commission shall provide for the development,
 17 maintenance, operation, and use of a coordinated data system and
 18 reporting system containing licensure, compact privileges, adverse
 19 action, and the presence of current significant investigative
 20 information on all licensees and applicants for a license in member
 21 states.

22 Sec. 2. Notwithstanding any other state law to the contrary, a
 23 member state shall submit a uniform data set to the data system on
 24 all licensees, applicants, and others to whom this compact is
 25 applicable as required by the rules of the compact commission,
 26 including the following:

27 (1) Personally identifying information.

28 (2) Licensure data.

29 (3) Adverse actions against a licensee, license applicant, or
 30 compact privilege and related information.

31 (4) Nonconfidential information related to alternative
 32 program participation, the beginning and ending dates of the
 33 participation, and other information related to the
 34 participation.

35 (5) Any denial of an application for licensure, and the reason
 36 for the denial, (excluding the reporting of any criminal history
 37 record information where prohibited by law).

38 (6) A binary determination regarding the presence of current
 39 significant investigative information.

40 (7) Other information that may facilitate the administration

1 of this compact or the protection of the public, as determined
2 by the rules of the commission.

3 **Sec. 3.** The records and information provided to a member state
4 under this compact or through the data system, when certified by
5 the commission or an agent of the commission, constitute the
6 authenticated business records of the commission, and are entitled
7 to any associated hearsay exception in any relevant judicial,
8 quasi-judicial, or administrative proceedings in a member state.

9 **Sec. 4.** Current significant investigative information pertaining
10 to a licensee in any member state will only be available to other
11 member states.

12 **Sec. 5.** It is the responsibility of the member states to monitor
13 the data system to determine whether adverse action has been
14 taken against a licensee or license applicant. Adverse action
15 information pertaining to a licensee or license applicant in any
16 member state will be available to any other member state.

17 **Sec. 6.** Member states contributing information to the data
18 system may designate information that may not be shared with the
19 public without the express permission of the contributing state.

20 **Sec. 7.** Any information submitted to the data system that is
21 subsequently expunged under federal law or the laws of the
22 member state contributing the information must be removed from
23 the data system.

24 **Chapter 10. Rulemaking**

25 **Sec. 1.** The compact commission shall promulgate reasonable
26 rules to effectively and efficiently implement and administer this
27 compact. A rule may be invalidated and have no force or effect
28 only if a court of competent jurisdiction holds that the rule is
29 invalid because the compact commission exercised its rulemaking
30 authority in a manner that is beyond the scope and purposes of the
31 compact, or the powers granted hereunder, or based upon another
32 applicable standard of review.

33 **Sec. 2.** The rules of the compact commission have the force of
34 law in each member state. However, where the rules conflict with
35 the laws of a member state that relate to the scope of practice a
36 licensed athletic trainer is permitted to undertake in that state and
37 the circumstances under which they may do so, as held by a court
38 of competent jurisdiction, the rules of the compact commission are
39 ineffective in that state to the extent of the conflict.

40 **Sec. 3.** The compact commission shall exercise its rulemaking

1 powers under the criteria set forth in this chapter and the rules.
2 rules of this compact become binding on the day following adoption
3 or as of the date specified in the rule or amendment, whichever is
4 later.

5 Sec. 4. If a majority of the legislatures of the member states
6 rejects a rule or portion of a rule, by enacting a statute or
7 resolution in the same manner used to adopt the compact within
8 four (4) years of the date of adoption of the rule, then the rule has
9 no further force and effect in any member state.

10 Sec. 5. Rules must be adopted at a regular or special meeting of
11 the compact commission.

12 Sec. 6. Before adoption of a proposed rule, the compact
13 commission shall hold a public hearing and allow persons to
14 provide oral and written comments, data, facts, opinions, and
15 arguments. At least thirty (30) days in advance of the public
16 hearing on the proposed rule, the compact commission shall
17 provide a notice of proposed rulemaking:

- 18 (1) on the website of the compact commission or other
19 publicly accessible platform;
- 20 (2) to persons who have requested notice of the compact
21 commission's notices of proposed rulemaking; and
- 22 (3) in any other way as the compact commission may by rule
23 specify.

24 Sec. 7. The notice of proposed rulemaking under section 6 of this
25 chapter must include the following:

- 26 (1) The time, date, and location of the public hearing at which
27 the compact commission will hear public comments on the
28 proposed rule and, if different, the time, date, and location of
29 the meeting where the compact commission will consider and
30 vote on the proposed rule.
- 31 (2) If the hearing is held via telecommunication, video
32 conference, or other electronic means, the compact
33 commission shall include the mechanism for access to the
34 hearing in the notice of proposed rulemaking.
- 35 (3) The text of the proposed rule and the reason for the
36 proposed rule.
- 37 (4) A request for comments on the proposed rule from any
38 interested person.
- 39 (5) The manner in which interested persons may submit
40 written comments.

1 **Sec. 8. All hearings must be recorded. A copy of the recording**
2 **and all written comments and documents received by the compact**
3 **commission in response to the proposed rule must be available to**
4 **the public.**

5 **Sec. 9. This chapter does not require a separate hearing on each**
6 **rule. Rules may be grouped for the convenience of the compact**
7 **commission at hearings required by this chapter.**

8 **Sec. 10. (a) The compact commission shall, by majority vote of**
9 **all members, take final action on the proposed rule based on the**
10 **rulemaking record and the full text of the rule.**

11 **(b) The compact commission may adopt changes to the proposed**
12 **rule if the changes do not enlarge the original purpose of the**
13 **proposed rule.**

14 **(c) The compact commission shall provide an explanation of the**
15 **reasons for substantive changes made to the proposed rule as well**
16 **as reasons for substantive changes not made that were**
17 **recommended by commenters.**

18 **(d) The compact commission shall determine a reasonable**
19 **effective date for the rule. Except for an emergency as provided in**
20 **this section, the effective date of the rule must be no sooner than**
21 **thirty (30) days after issuing the notice that it adopted or amended**
22 **the rule.**

23 **(e) Upon determination that an emergency exists, the compact**
24 **commission may consider and adopt an emergency rule with**
25 **twenty-four (24) hours' notice, with opportunity to comment if the**
26 **usual rulemaking procedures provided in the compact and in this**
27 **section is retroactively applied to the rule as soon as reasonably**
28 **possible but in no event later than ninety (90) days after the**
29 **effective date of the rule. For the purposes of this subsection, an**
30 **emergency rule is one that must be adopted immediately in order**
31 **to:**

32 **(1) meet an imminent threat to public health, safety, or**
33 **welfare;**

34 **(2) prevent a loss of compact commission or member state**
35 **funds;**

36 **(3) meet a deadline for the promulgation of a rule that is**
37 **established by federal law or rule; or**

38 **(4) protect public health and safety.**

39 **(f) The compact commission or an authorized committee of the**
40 **compact commission may direct revisions to a previously adopted**

1 rule for purposes of correcting typographical errors, errors in
2 format, errors in consistency, or grammatical errors. Public notice
3 of any revisions must be posted on the website of the compact
4 commission. The revision must be subject to challenge by any
5 person for a period of at least thirty (30) days after posting. The
6 revision may be challenged only on grounds that the revision
7 results in a material change to a rule. A challenge must be made in
8 writing and delivered to the compact commission before the end of
9 the notice period. If no challenge is made, the revision takes effect
10 without further action. If the revision is challenged, the revision
11 may not take effect without the approval of the compact
12 commission.

13 (g) A member state's rulemaking requirements do not apply
14 under this compact.

15 Chapter 11. Oversight, Dispute Resolution, and Enforcement

16 Sec. 1. (a) The executive and judicial branches of state
17 government in each member state shall enforce this compact and
18 take all actions necessary and appropriate to implement the
19 compact.

20 (b) Except as otherwise provided in this compact, venue is
21 proper and judicial proceedings by or against the compact
22 commission must be brought solely and exclusively in a court of
23 competent jurisdiction where the principal office of the compact
24 commission is located. The compact commission may waive venue
25 and jurisdictional defenses to the extent it adopts or consents to
26 participate in alternative dispute resolution proceedings. This
27 section does not affect or limit the selection or propriety of venue
28 in any action against a licensee for professional malpractice,
29 misconduct or any such similar matter.

30 (c) The compact commission may receive service of process in
31 any proceeding regarding the enforcement or interpretation of the
32 compact and shall have standing to intervene in a proceeding
33 regarding the enforcement or interpretation of the compact for all
34 purposes. Failure to provide the compact commission service of
35 process renders a judgment or order void as to the compact
36 commission, this compact, or promulgated rules.

37 Sec. 2. (a) If the compact commission determines that a member
38 state has defaulted in the performance of its obligations or
39 responsibilities under this compact or the promulgated rules, the
40 commission shall provide written notice to the defaulting state. The

1 notice of default must describe the default, the proposed means of
2 curing the default, and any other action that the compact
3 commission may take, and must offer training and specific
4 technical assistance regarding the default.

5 (b) The compact commission shall provide a copy of the notice
6 of default to the other member states.

7 Sec. 3. If a state in default fails to cure the default, the defaulting
8 state may be terminated from the compact upon an affirmative
9 vote of a majority of the commissioners of the member states, and
10 all rights, privileges and benefits conferred on the defaulting state
11 by this compact may be terminated on the effective date of
12 termination. A cure of the default does not relieve the offending
13 state of obligations or liabilities incurred during the period of
14 default.

15 Sec. 4. Termination of membership in the compact must be
16 imposed only after all other means of securing compliance have
17 been exhausted. Notice of intent to suspend or terminate must be
18 given by the compact commission to the governor, the majority and
19 minority leaders of the defaulting state's legislature, the defaulting
20 state's licensing authority and each of the member states' licensing
21 authority.

22 Sec. 5. A state that has been terminated is responsible for all
23 assessments, obligations, and liabilities incurred through the
24 effective date of termination, including obligations that extend
25 beyond the effective date of termination.

26 Sec. 6. Upon the termination of a state's membership from this
27 compact, that state shall immediately provide notice to all licensees
28 within that state of the termination. The terminated state shall
29 continue to recognize all licenses and compact privileges granted
30 under this compact for a minimum of one hundred eighty (180)
31 days after the date of the notice of termination under this section.

32 Sec. 7. The compact commission shall not bear any costs related
33 to a state that is found to be in default or that has been terminated
34 from the compact, unless agreed upon in writing between the
35 compact commission and the defaulting state.

36 Sec. 8. The defaulting state may appeal the action of the
37 compact commission by petitioning the United States District
38 Court for the District of Columbia or the federal district where the
39 compact commission has its principal offices. The prevailing party
40 must be awarded all costs of the litigation, including reasonable

1 attorney's fees.

2 Sec. 9. (a) Upon request by a member state, the compact
3 commission shall attempt to resolve disputes related to the compact
4 that arise among member states and between member and non
5 member states.

6 (b) The compact commission shall promulgate a rule providing
7 for both mediation and binding dispute resolution for disputes as
8 appropriate.

9 Sec. 10. (a) By two-thirds (2/3) majority vote, the compact
10 commission may initiate legal action against a member state in
11 default in the United States District Court for the District of
12 Columbia or the federal district where the compact commission
13 has its principal offices to enforce compliance with the provisions
14 of the compact and its promulgated rules. The relief sought may
15 include both injunctive relief and damages. In the event judicial
16 enforcement is necessary, the prevailing party must be awarded all
17 costs of the litigation, including reasonable attorney's fees. The
18 remedies under this section are not the exclusive remedies of the
19 compact commission. The compact commission may pursue any
20 other remedies available under federal or the defaulting member
21 state's law.

22 (b) A member state may initiate legal action against the compact
23 commission in the United States District Court for the District of
24 Columbia or the federal district where the compact commission
25 has its principal offices to enforce compliance with the provisions
26 of the compact and its promulgated rules. The relief sought may
27 include both injunctive relief and damages. In the event judicial
28 enforcement is necessary, the prevailing party must be awarded all
29 costs of the litigation, including reasonable attorney's fees.

30 (c) No person other than a member state may enforce this
31 compact against the compact commission.

32 Chapter 12. Effective Date, Withdrawal, and Amendment

33 Sec. 1. (a) The compact comes into effect on the date on which
34 the compact statute is enacted into law in the seventh member
35 state.

36 (b) On or after the effective date of the compact, the compact
37 commission shall convene and review the enactment of each of the
38 first seven (7) member states ("charter member states") to
39 determine if the statute enacted and made effective by each charter
40 member state is materially different than the model compact

1 statute.

2 Sec. 2. (a) A charter member state whose enactment is found to
3 be materially different from the model compact language is
4 entitled to the default process set forth in IC 25-5.3-11.

5 (b) If any member state is later found to be in default, or is
6 terminated or withdraws from the compact, the compact
7 commission remains in existence and the compact remains in effect
8 even if the number of member states is less than seven (7).

9 Sec. 3. Member states enacting the compact after the seven (7)
10 initial charter member states are subject to the process set forth in
11 this chapter to determine if their enactments are materially
12 different from the model compact statute and whether they qualify
13 for participation in the compact.

14 Sec. 4. All actions taken for the benefit of the compact
15 commission or in furtherance of the purposes of the administration
16 of the compact before the effective date of the compact or the
17 compact commission coming into existence must be considered to
18 be actions of the compact commission unless specifically
19 repudiated by the compact commission.

20 Sec. 5. Any state that joins the compact after the compact
21 commission's initial adoption of the rules and bylaws is subject to
22 the rules and bylaws as they exist on the date on which the compact
23 becomes law in that state. Any rule that has been previously
24 adopted by the compact commission has the full force and effect of
25 law on the day the compact becomes law in that state.

26 Sec. 6. (a) Any member state may withdraw from this compact
27 by enacting a statute repealing this article.

28 (b) A member state's withdrawal does not take effect until one
29 hundred eighty (180) days after enactment of the repealing statute.

30 (c) Withdrawal does not affect the continuing requirement of
31 the withdrawing state's licensing authority to comply with the
32 investigative and adverse action reporting requirements of this
33 compact before the effective date of withdrawal.

34 (d) Upon the enactment of a statute withdrawing from this
35 compact, a state shall immediately provide notice of the
36 withdrawal to all licensees and privilege holders within that state.
37 Notwithstanding any subsequent statutory enactment to the
38 contrary, a withdrawing state shall continue to recognize all
39 compact privileges granted under this compact for a minimum of
40 one hundred eighty (180) days after the date of the notice of

1 withdrawal.

2 (e) This compact does not invalidate or prevent any licensure
3 agreement or other cooperative arrangement between a member
4 state and a non member state that does not conflict with the
5 provisions of this compact.

6 (f) This compact may be amended by the member states.
7 However, any amendment to this compact does not become
8 effective and binding upon any member state until it is enacted into
9 the laws of all member states.

10 Chapter 13. Construction and Severability

11 Sec. 1. This compact and the compact commission's rulemaking
12 authority must be liberally construed so as to effectuate the
13 purposes, and the implementation and administration of the
14 compact. Provisions of the compact expressly authorizing or
15 requiring the promulgation of rules do not limit the compact
16 commission's rulemaking authority solely for those purposes.

17 Sec. 2. The provisions of this compact are severable and if any
18 phrase, clause, sentence or provision of this compact is held by a
19 court of competent jurisdiction to be contrary to the constitution
20 of any member state, a state seeking participation in the compact,
21 or of the United States, or the applicability of any phrase, clause
22 sentence or provision of this compact to any government, agency,
23 person or circumstance is held to be unconstitutional by a court of
24 competent jurisdiction, the validity of the remainder of this
25 compact and the applicability of the remainder of this compact to
26 any other government, agency, person or circumstance remains
27 valid.

28 Sec. 3. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the compact commission
29 may deny a state's participation in the compact or terminate a
30 member state's participation in the compact if it determines that
31 a constitutional requirement of a member state is a material
32 departure from the compact. Otherwise, if this compact is held to
33 be contrary to the constitution of any member state, the compact
34 remains in full force and effect as to the remaining member states
35 and in full force and effect as to the member state affected as to all
36 severable matters.

37 Chapter 14. Consistent Effect and Conflicts

38 Sec. 1. This compact does not prevent or inhibit the enforcement
39 of any other law of a member state that is not inconsistent with the
40 compact.

1 **Sec. 2. Any laws, statutes, regulations, or other legal**
 2 **requirements in a member state in conflict with the compact are**
 3 **superseded to the extent of the conflict.**

4 **Sec. 3. All permissible agreements between the compact**
 5 **commission and the member states are binding in accordance with**
 6 **their terms.**

7 SECTION 282. IC 25-20-1-1.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.249-2019,
 8 SECTION 87, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 9 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1.5. (a) Subject to IC 25-1-6.5-3, there is
 10 established the committee of hearing aid dealer examiners which
 11 consists of ~~five (5)~~ **four (4)** members all appointed by the governor to
 12 a term under IC 25-1-6.5. Three (3) members must be hearing aid
 13 dealers licensed under this chapter, who are residents of this state and
 14 who have been practicing as hearing aid dealers for at least one (1) year
 15 prior to their appointment. One (1) member must be an
 16 otolaryngologist in this state, who is a resident of this state and who has
 17 been engaged in the practice of otolaryngology for at least one (1) year
 18 prior to appointment to the committee. ~~One (1) member must be a~~
 19 ~~resident of this state who is in no way associated with the business of~~
 20 ~~hearing aid dealers, audiology, or speech-language pathology other~~
 21 ~~than as a consumer.~~ Whenever a vacancy occurs on the committee, the
 22 governor shall appoint a successor under IC 25-1-6.5.

23 (b) Three (3) members present constitute a quorum. **The**
 24 **chairperson of the committee is not allowed to cast a vote on any**
 25 **matter before the committee unless the chairperson's vote is**
 26 **necessary to break a tie.**

27 (c) The members serve without compensation, except that each
 28 member is entitled to the salary per diem as provided by IC 4-10-11-2.1
 29 and to reimbursement for travel, lodging, meals, and other expenses as
 30 provided in the state travel policies and procedures established by the
 31 department of administration and approved by the state budget agency.

32 (d) A member may be removed under IC 25-1-6.5-4.

33 SECTION 283. IC 25-31.5-1-12, AS AMENDED BY P.L.2-2008,
 34 SECTION 65, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 35 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 12. "State chemist" refers to the state chemist
 36 appointed under ~~IC 15-16-2-24.~~ **IC 15-11-4.5-2.**

37 SECTION 284. IC 25-31.5-3-9 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 38 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. (a) The soil scientist
 39 registration fund is established as a separate fund in the ~~Purdue~~
 40 ~~University treasury~~ **Indiana state department of agriculture**

1 **established by IC 15-11-2-1** to carry out the purposes of this article.

2 The fund is administered by the board.

3 (b) The sources of money for the fund are the:

4 (1) registration fees paid under IC 25-31.5-4-10; and

5 (2) renewal fees paid under IC 25-31.5-6-3.

6 (c) Expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from money in
7 the fund.

8 (d) The state chemist shall collect all money paid under this article
9 and deposit the money in the fund.

10 (e) If required by the board, the state chemist shall obtain a surety
11 bond conditioned upon the faithful performance of the state chemist's
12 duties for the board in an amount determined by the board. The bond
13 must be issued by a surety company authorized to transact business in
14 Indiana. All costs of the surety bond shall be paid from money in the
15 fund.

16 (f) The ~~Purdue University~~ treasurer **of state** shall invest the money
17 in the fund not currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in
18 the same manner as other public funds may be invested. Interest that
19 accrues from these investments must be deposited in the fund.

20 (g) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not revert
21 to the state general fund.

22 SECTION 285. IC 25-35.6-2-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.249-2019,
23 SECTION 135, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
24 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. (a) There is established the
25 speech-language pathology and audiology board.

26 (b) The board shall be comprised of ~~five (5)~~ **four (4)** members, who
27 shall be appointed by the governor. Subject to IC 25-1-6.5-3, four (4)
28 board members shall have been residents of this state for at least one
29 (1) year immediately preceding their appointment and shall have been
30 engaged in rendering services to the public, teaching, or research in
31 speech-language pathology or audiology for at least five (5) years
32 immediately preceding their appointment. At least two (2) board
33 members shall be speech-language pathologists and at least two (2)
34 shall be audiologists. ~~Subject to IC 25-1-6.5-3, the fifth member of the~~
35 ~~board, to represent the general public, shall be a resident of this state~~
36 ~~who has never been associated with speech-language pathology or~~
37 ~~audiology in any way other than as a consumer. Except for the member~~
38 ~~representing the general public,~~ All board members shall at all times be
39 holders of active and valid licenses for the practice of speech-language
40 pathology or audiology in this state.

1 (c) A member may be removed under IC 25-1-6.5-4.

2 (d) Appointments shall be:

3 (1) for members appointed before July 1, 2019, for a three year
4 term; and

5 (2) for members appointed after June 30, 2019, for a term under
6 IC 25-1-6.5.

7 (e) The governor may consider, but shall not be bound to accept,
8 recommendations for board membership made by a statewide
9 association for speech-language and hearing. A statewide association
10 for speech-language and hearing may submit to the governor its
11 recommendations for board membership not less than sixty (60) days
12 after a vacancy. In the event of a mid-term vacancy, such association
13 may make recommendations for filling such vacancy.

14 (f) At the first meeting of the board each year, members shall elect
15 a chairperson for the subsequent twelve (12) month period. Further
16 meetings may be convened at the call of the chairperson or the written
17 request of any two (2) board members. All meetings of the board shall
18 be open to the public, except that the board may hold closed sessions
19 to prepare, approve, grade, or administer examinations or, upon request
20 of an applicant who fails an examination, to prepare a response
21 indicating any reason for the applicant's failure. All meetings of the
22 board must be held in Indiana.

23 (g) A quorum of the board consists of a majority of the appointed
24 members. A majority of the quorum may transact business. **The**
25 **chairperson of the board is not allowed to cast a vote on any matter**
26 **before the board unless the chairperson's vote is necessary to break**
27 **a tie.**

28 SECTION 286. IC 27-1-15.7-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.158-2024,
29 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
30 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 4. (a) The commissioner shall approve and
31 disapprove continuing education courses. ~~after considering~~
32 ~~recommendations made by the insurance producer education and~~
33 ~~continuing education commission established under section 6.5 of this~~
34 ~~chapter.~~

35 (b) The commissioner may not approve a course under this section
36 if the course:

37 (1) is designed to prepare an individual to receive an initial
38 license under this chapter;

39 (2) concerns only routine, basic office skills, including filing,
40 keyboarding, and basic computer skills; or

(3) may be completed by a licensee without supervision by an instructor, unless the course involves an examination process that is:

(A) completed and passed by the licensee as determined by the provider of the course; and

(B) approved by the commissioner.

(c) The commissioner shall approve a course under this section that is submitted for approval by an insurance trade association or professional insurance association if:

(1) the objective of the course is to educate a manager or an owner of a business entity that is required to obtain an insurance producer license under IC 27-1-15.6-6(d);

(2) the course teaches insurance producer management and is designed to result in improved efficiency in insurance producer operations, systems use, or key functions;

(3) the course is designed to benefit consumers; and

(4) the course is not described in subsection (b).

(d) Approval of a continuing education course under this section shall be for a period of not more than two (2) years.

(e) A prospective provider of a continuing education course shall pay:

(1) a fee of forty dollars (\$40) for each course submitted for approval of the commissioner under this section; or

(2) an annual fee of five hundred dollars (\$500) not later than January 1 of a calendar year, which entitles the prospective provider to submit an unlimited number of courses for approval of the commissioner under this section during the calendar year.

The commissioner may waive all or a portion of the fee for a course submitted under a reciprocity agreement with another state for the approval or disapproval of continuing education courses. Fees collected under this subsection shall be deposited in the department of insurance fund established under IC 27-1-3-28.

(f) A prospective provider of a continuing education course may electronically deliver to the commissioner any supporting materials for the course.

(g) The commissioner shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to establish procedures for approving continuing education courses.

SECTION 287. IC 27-1-15.7-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.158-2024, SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 5. (a) To qualify as a certified prelicensing

course of study for purposes of IC 27-1-15.6-6, an insurance producer program of study must meet all of the following criteria:

(1) Be conducted or developed by an:

(A) insurance trade association;

(B) accredited college or university;

(C) educational organization certified by the ~~insurance producer education and continuing education commissioner;~~
commissioner; or

(D) insurance company licensed to do business in Indiana.

(2) Provide for self-study or instruction provided by an approved instructor in a structured setting, as follows:

(A) For life insurance producers, not less than twenty (20) hours of instruction in a structured setting or comparable self-study on:

(i) ethical practices in the marketing and selling of insurance;

(ii) requirements of the insurance laws and administrative rules of Indiana; and

(iii) principles of life insurance.

(B) For health insurance producers, not less than twenty (20) hours of instruction in a structured setting or comparable self-study on:

(i) ethical practices in the marketing and selling of insurance;

(ii) requirements of the insurance laws and administrative rules of Indiana; and

(iii) principles of health insurance.

(C) For life and health insurance producers, not less than forty (40) hours of instruction in a structured setting or comparable self-study on:

(i) ethical practices in the marketing and selling of insurance;

(ii) requirements of the insurance laws and administrative rules of Indiana;

(iii) principles of life insurance; and

(iv) principles of health insurance.

(D) For property and casualty insurance producers, not less than forty (40) hours of instruction in a structured setting or comparable self-study on:

(i) ethical practices in the marketing and selling of

- 1 insurance;
- 2 (ii) requirements of the insurance laws and administrative
- 3 rules of Indiana;
- 4 (iii) principles of property insurance; and
- 5 (iv) principles of liability insurance.
- 6 (E) For personal lines producers, a minimum of twenty (20)
- 7 hours of instruction in a structured setting or comparable
- 8 self-study on:
 - 9 (i) ethical practices in the marketing and selling of
 - 10 insurance;
 - 11 (ii) requirements of the insurance laws and administrative
 - 12 rules of Indiana; and
 - 13 (iii) principles of property and liability insurance applicable
 - 14 to coverages sold to individuals and families for primarily
 - 15 noncommercial purposes.
- 16 (F) For title insurance producers, not less than ten (10) hours
- 17 of instruction in a structured setting or comparable self-study
- 18 on:
 - 19 (i) ethical practices in the marketing and selling of title
 - 20 insurance;
 - 21 (ii) requirements of the insurance laws and administrative
 - 22 rules of Indiana;
 - 23 (iii) principles of title insurance, including underwriting and
 - 24 escrow issues; and
 - 25 (iv) principles of the federal Real Estate Settlement
 - 26 Procedures Act (12 U.S.C. 2608).
- 27 (G) For annuity product producers, not less than four (4) hours
- 28 of instruction in a structured setting or comparable self-study
- 29 on:
 - 30 (i) types and classifications of annuities;
 - 31 (ii) identification of the parties to an annuity;
 - 32 (iii) the manner in which fixed, variable, and indexed
 - 33 annuity contract provisions affect consumers;
 - 34 (iv) income taxation of qualified and non-qualified
 - 35 annuities;
 - 36 (v) primary uses of annuities; and
 - 37 (vi) appropriate sales practices, replacement, and disclosure
 - 38 requirements.
- 39 (3) Instruction provided in a structured setting must be provided
- 40 only by individuals who meet the qualifications established by the

1 commissioner under subsection (b).

2 (b) The commissioner ~~after consulting with the insurance producer~~
 3 ~~education and continuing education commission~~, shall adopt rules
 4 under IC 4-22-2 prescribing the criteria that a person must meet to
 5 render instruction in a certified prelicensing course of study.

6 (c) The commissioner shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 prescribing
 7 the subject matter that an insurance producer program of study must
 8 cover to qualify for certification as a certified prelicensing course of
 9 study under this section.

10 (d) The commissioner may make recommendations that the
 11 commissioner considers necessary for improvements in course
 12 materials.

13 (e) The commissioner shall designate a program of study that meets
 14 the requirements of this section as a certified prelicensing course of
 15 study for purposes of IC 27-1-15.6-6.

16 (f) For each person that provides one (1) or more certified
 17 prelicensing courses of study, the commissioner shall annually
 18 determine, of all individuals who received classroom instruction in the
 19 certified prelicensing courses of study provided by the person, the
 20 percentage who passed the examination required by IC 27-1-15.6-5.
 21 The commissioner shall determine only one (1) passing percentage
 22 under this subsection for all lines of insurance described in
 23 IC 27-1-15.6-7(a) for which the person provides classroom instruction
 24 in certified prelicensing courses of study.

25 (g) The commissioner may, after notice and opportunity for a
 26 hearing, do the following:

27 (1) Withdraw the certification of a course of study that does not
 28 maintain reasonable standards, as determined by the
 29 commissioner for the protection of the public.

30 (2) Disqualify a person that is currently qualified under
 31 subsection (b) to render instruction in a certified prelicensing
 32 course of study from rendering the instruction if the passing
 33 percentage calculated under subsection (f) is less than forty-five
 34 percent (45%).

35 (h) Current course materials for a prelicensing course of study that
 36 is certified under this section must be submitted to the commissioner
 37 upon request, but not less frequently than once every three (3) years.

38 SECTION 288. IC 27-1-15.7-6.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.158-2024,
 39 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 40 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6.5. (a) As used in this section, "commission"

1 refers to the insurance producer education and continuing education
2 commission established by subsection (b).

3 (b) The insurance producer education and continuing education
4 commission is established within the department. The commissioner
5 shall appoint the following seven (7) individuals:

6 (1) One (1) individual nominated by the Professional Insurance
7 Agents of Indiana or its successor organization.

8 (2) One (1) individual nominated by the Independent Insurance
9 Agents of Indiana or its successor organization.

10 (3) One (1) individual nominated by the Indiana Association of
11 Insurance and Financial Advisors or its successor organization.

12 (4) One (1) individual nominated by the Indiana State Association
13 of Health Underwriters or its successor organization.

14 (5) One (1) individual nominated by the Association of Life
15 Insurance Companies or its successor organization.

16 (6) One (1) individual nominated by the Insurance Institute of
17 Indiana or its successor organization.

18 (7) One (1) individual nominated by the Indiana Land Title
19 Association or its successor organization.

20 The commissioner shall solicit nominations from the entities set forth
21 in this subsection. The commissioner may deny to make the
22 appointment of an individual nominated under this subsection only if
23 the commissioner determines that the individual is not in good standing
24 with the department or is not qualified. If the commissioner denies the
25 appointment of an individual nominated under this subsection, the
26 commissioner shall provide the nominating entity with the reason for
27 the denial and allow the nominating entity to submit an alternative
28 nomination.

29 (c) A member of the commission serves for a term of three (3) years
30 that expires June 30, 2027, and every third year thereafter. A member
31 may not serve more than two (2) consecutive terms.

32 (d) The commissioner shall appoint a member of the commission to
33 serve as chairperson, who serves at the will of the commissioner. The
34 commission shall meet:

35 (1) at the call of the chairperson; and

36 (2) at least semiannually.

37 The department shall staff the commission. Four (4) members
38 constitute a quorum of the commission.

39 (e) The commissioner shall fill a vacancy on the commission with
40 a nomination from the entity that nominated the predecessor or the

entity's successor. The individual appointed to fill the vacancy shall serve for the remainder of the predecessor's term.

(f) A member of the commission is entitled to the minimum salary per diem provided under IC 4-10-11-2.1(b). A member is also entitled to reimbursement for traveling expenses and other expenses actually incurred in connection with the member's duties, in accordance with state travel policies and procedures established by the Indiana department of administration and approved by the budget agency. Money paid under this subsection shall be paid from amounts appropriated to the department.

(g) The commission shall review and make recommendations to the commissioner concerning the following:

(1) Course materials and curriculum and instructor credentials for prelicensing courses of study for which certification by the commissioner is sought under section 5 of this chapter.

(2) Continuing education requirements for insurance producers.

(3) Continuing education courses for which the approval of the commissioner is sought under section 4 of this chapter.

(4) Rules proposed for adoption by the commissioner concerning continuing education under this chapter.

(h) A member of the commission or a designee of the commissioner is permitted access to any classroom while instruction is in progress to monitor the classroom instruction.

(i) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 289. IC 27-1-29-29, AS ADDED BY P.L.46-2023, SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 29. ~~(a) Except as provided in subsection (b);~~ This chapter expires ~~when the insurance commissioner certifies to the executive director of the legislative services agency that:~~

~~(1) the fund has no remaining members;~~

~~(2) all payments of liabilities of former members of the fund have been determined and finalized; and~~

~~(3) the balance in the fund has been distributed to former members of the fund in accordance with section 28(c)(4) of this chapter.~~

~~(b) This chapter does not expire under subsection (a) unless IC 27-1-29.1:~~

~~(1) has previously expired under IC 27-1-29.1-24; or~~

~~(2) expires under IC 27-1-29.1-24 at the same time as this chapter expires under subsection (a)(1) through (a)(3): December 31,~~

1 **2026.**

2 SECTION 290. IC 27-1-44.5-0.4, AS ADDED BY P.L.195-2021,
3 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
4 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 0.4. **(a)** As used in this chapter, "advisory board"
5 means the all payer claims data base advisory board established under
6 IC 27-1-44.6-5.

7 **(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.**

8 SECTION 291. IC 27-1-44.6-13 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
9 CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
10 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 13. This chapter expires**
11 **December 31, 2026.**

12 SECTION 292. IC 31-9-2-10.6, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006,
13 SECTION 175, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
14 [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 10.6. **(a)** "Board", for
15 purposes of IC 31-25-4, has the meaning set forth in IC 31-25-4-34(a).

16 **(b) "Board"; for purposes of IC 31-26-4, has the meaning set forth**
17 **in IC 31-26-4-2.**

18 SECTION 293. IC 31-9-2-21.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
19 CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
20 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 21.5. "Commission", for purposes**
21 **of IC 31-26-4, has the meaning set forth in IC 31-26-4-2.1.**

22 SECTION 294. IC 31-26-4-2, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006,
23 SECTION 272, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
24 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. **(a)** As used in this chapter,
25 "board" refers to the Indiana kids first trust fund board established by
26 section 5 of this chapter.

27 **(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.**

28 SECTION 295. IC 31-26-4-2.1 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
29 CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
30 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 2.1. As used in this chapter,**
31 **"commission" refers to the commission on improving the status of**
32 **children in Indiana established by IC 2-5-36-3.**

33 SECTION 296. IC 31-26-4-2.3, AS ADDED BY P.L.220-2011,
34 SECTION 506, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
35 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2.3. **(a)** After June 30, 2003, **and**
36 **before January 1, 2027**, any reference in a statute or rule referring to
37 the Indiana children's trust fund board is considered a reference to the
38 board.

39 **(b) This subsection does not apply after December 31, 2026.** On
40 July 1, 2003, the board becomes the owner of all the personal property

and assets and assumes the obligations and liabilities of the Indiana children's trust fund board, as it existed before July 1, 2003.

(c) After December 31, 2026, any reference in a statute or rule referring to the Indiana children's trust fund board is considered a reference to the commission.

(d) On January 1, 2027, the commission becomes the owner of all the personal property and assets and assumes the obligations and liabilities of the Indiana children's trust fund board, as it existed before January 1, 2027.

SECTION 297. IC 31-26-4-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.93-2021, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) The Indiana kids first trust fund board is established.

(b) The purpose of the board is to determine whether proposed projects under this chapter should be approved and to perform other duties given to the board by this chapter. The board shall approve projects and recommend to the department that the projects receive funds under sections 12 and 14 of this chapter.

(c) The board shall, before January 1 of each year, prepare a budget for expenditures from the fund for the following state fiscal year. The budget must contain priorities for expenditures from the fund to accomplish the projects that have been approved under this chapter. The budget shall be submitted to the department and the budget committee. **The board shall submit its final budget under this subsection before January 1, 2027.**

(d) The board may employ staff necessary to carry out the duties of the board.

(e) The board may establish a nonprofit subsidiary corporation under section 17 of this chapter.

(f) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 298. IC 31-26-4-5.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 5.5. (a) The commission shall determine whether proposed projects under this chapter should be approved and to perform other duties as directed by this chapter. The commission shall approve projects and recommend to the department that the projects receive funds under sections 12 and 14 of this chapter.**

(b) The commission shall annually prepare a budget for expenditures from the fund for the following state fiscal year. The

1 budget must contain priorities for expenditures from the fund to
 2 accomplish the projects that have been approved under this
 3 chapter. The commission shall submit a budget to the department
 4 and the budget committee before January 1, 2028, and each year
 5 thereafter.

6 (c) The commission may employ staff necessary to carry out the
 7 duties of the board.

8 (d) The commission may establish a nonprofit subsidiary
 9 corporation under section 17 of this chapter.

10 SECTION 299. IC 31-26-4-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.56-2023,
 11 SECTION 298, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 12 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. (a) The board consists of the
 13 following ten (10) members:

14 (1) Two (2) individuals who are not members of the general
 15 assembly, appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate
 16 with advice from the minority leader of the senate.

17 (2) Two (2) individuals who are not members of the general
 18 assembly, appointed by the speaker of the house of
 19 representatives with advice from the minority leader of the house
 20 of representatives.

21 (3) The director of the department or the director's designee.

22 (4) Four (4) individuals appointed by the governor as follows:

23 (A) One (1) individual who represents the general public.

24 (B) Two (2) individuals who represent child advocacy
 25 organizations.

26 (C) One (1) individual who represents the medical community.

27 (5) The commissioner of the Indiana department of health or the
 28 commissioner's designee. An individual designated by the
 29 commissioner under this subdivision must have knowledge of or
 30 experience in issues relating to:

31 (A) the prevention of child abuse and neglect; and

32 (B) the reduction of infant mortality.

33 (b) This section expires December 31, 2026.

34 SECTION 300. IC 31-26-4-7, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006,
 35 SECTION 272, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 36 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) The members shall annually
 37 choose a chairperson and vice chairperson from among the members
 38 of the board under this section.

39 (b) The director of the department or the director's designee may not
 40 serve as chairperson or vice chairperson.

(c) If the member chosen as chairperson was appointed as a member by the president pro tempore of the senate or the speaker of the house of representatives, the vice chairperson must be chosen from among the members appointed by the governor. If the member chosen as chairperson was appointed as a member by the governor, the vice chairperson must be chosen from among the members appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate or the speaker of the house of representatives.

(d) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 301. IC 31-26-4-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.93-2021, SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) The board shall meet at least quarterly and at the call of the chair.

(b) A majority of the appointed members of the board constitutes a quorum. The board may take action only in the presence of a quorum.

(c) The affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the board participating in a board meeting is necessary for the board to take any action at the meeting.

(d) The board shall post the minutes of a meeting on the board's Internet web site not later than ten (10) days after the minutes are approved by the board.

(e) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 302. IC 31-26-4-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.93-2021, SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. (a) The term of a board member begins on the later of the following:

(1) The day the term of the member whom the individual is appointed to succeed expires.

(2) The day the individual is appointed.

(b) The term of a member expires July 1 of the fourth year after the member is appointed. However, a member serves at the pleasure of the appointing authority.

(c) The appointing authority may reappoint a member for a new term.

(d) The appointing authority shall appoint an individual to fill a vacancy among the members.

(e) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 303. IC 31-26-4-10, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006, SECTION 272, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) Each member of the board

1 who is not a state employee is entitled to the minimum salary per diem
 2 provided by IC 4-10-11-2.1(b). The member is also entitled to
 3 reimbursement for traveling expenses as provided under IC 4-13-1-4
 4 and other expenses actually incurred in connection with the member's
 5 duties as provided in the state policies and procedures established by
 6 the Indiana department of administration and approved by the budget
 7 agency.

8 (b) Each member of the board who is a state employee is entitled to
 9 reimbursement for traveling expenses as provided under IC 4-13-1-4
 10 and other expenses actually incurred in connection with the member's
 11 duties as provided in the state policies and procedures established by
 12 the Indiana department of administration and approved by the budget
 13 agency.

14 **(c) This section expires December 31, 2026.**

15 SECTION 304. IC 31-26-4-11, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006,
 16 SECTION 272, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 17 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 11. The ~~board~~ **commission** shall
 18 adopt and make available to the public:

- 19 (1) a strategic plan to implement the purposes of this chapter; and
- 20 (2) a method for proposing projects and requesting funds from the
 21 Indiana kids first trust fund.

22 SECTION 305. IC 31-26-4-12, AS AMENDED BY P.L.93-2021,
 23 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 24 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 12. (a) The Indiana kids first trust fund is
 25 established to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

26 (b) The fund consists of the following:

- 27 (1) Appropriations made by the general assembly.
- 28 (2) Interest as provided in subsection (e).
- 29 (3) Fees from kids first trust license plates issued under
 30 IC 9-18-30 (before its expiration) or IC 9-18.5-14.
- 31 (4) Money donated to the fund, including donations from a
 32 nonprofit subsidiary corporation established under section 17 of
 33 this chapter.
- 34 (5) Money transferred to the fund from other funds.

35 (c) The treasurer of state shall administer the fund.

36 (d) The expenses of administering the fund and this chapter shall be
 37 paid from the fund.

38 (e) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not
 39 currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same
 40 manner as other public trust funds are invested. Interest that accrues

1 from these investments shall be deposited in the fund.

2 (f) An appropriation made by the general assembly to the fund shall
3 be allotted and allocated at the beginning of the fiscal period for which
4 the appropriation was made.

5 (g) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not revert
6 to the state general fund or any other fund.

7 (h) Subject to this chapter, there is annually appropriated to the
8 department all money in the fund for the purposes of this chapter.
9 However, the department may not request the allotment of money from
10 the appropriation for a project that has not been approved and
11 recommended by the ~~board~~ **commission**.

12 SECTION 306. IC 31-26-4-14, AS AMENDED BY P.L.156-2011,
13 SECTION 40, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
14 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 14. (a) The infant mortality account is established
15 within the fund for the purpose of providing money for education and
16 programs approved by the ~~board~~ **commission** under section 5(b) **5.5(a)**
17 of this chapter to reduce infant mortality in Indiana. The account shall
18 be administered by the treasurer of state.

19 (b) Expenses of administering the account shall be paid from money
20 in the account. The account consists of the following:

21 (1) Appropriations to the account.

22 (2) Money donated to the account.

23 (c) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the account not
24 currently needed to meet the obligations of the account in the same
25 manner as other public money may be invested. Interest that accrues
26 from these investments shall be deposited in the account.

27 (d) Money in the account at the end of a state fiscal year does not
28 revert to the state general fund.

29 SECTION 307. IC 31-26-4-15, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006,
30 SECTION 272, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
31 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 15. **(a) This subsection applies to**
32 **a calendar year ending before January 1, 2027.** Before October 1 of
33 each year, the board shall prepare a report concerning the program
34 established by this chapter for the public and the general assembly. A
35 report prepared under this section for the general assembly must be in
36 an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.

37 **(b) This subsection applies to a calendar year beginning after**
38 **December 31, 2026. Before October 1 of each year, the commission**
39 **shall prepare a report concerning the program established by this**
40 **chapter for the public and the general assembly. The commission**

1 **shall submit the report to the general assembly in an electronic**
 2 **format under IC 5-14-6.**

3 SECTION 308. IC 31-26-4-17, AS ADDED BY P.L.93-2021,
 4 SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 5 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 17. (a) The board may establish a nonprofit
 6 subsidiary corporation that is exempt from federal income taxation
 7 under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code to solicit and
 8 accept private funding, gifts, donations, bequests, devises, and
 9 contributions.

10 (b) The board shall study the topic of establishing a nonprofit
 11 subsidiary corporation described in subsection (a). Not later than
 12 December 31, 2021, the board shall submit a report to the general
 13 assembly in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6 addressing the
 14 board's findings and determinations under this subsection. If the board
 15 determines to establish a nonprofit subsidiary corporation as described
 16 in subsection (a), the report must also include an implementation plan
 17 and estimated budget for the establishment of the nonprofit subsidiary
 18 corporation.

19 (c) A subsidiary corporation established under this section is
 20 governed by a board of directors comprised of members appointed by
 21 the Indiana kids first trust fund board. Employees of the Indiana kids
 22 first trust fund board may serve on the board of directors of the
 23 subsidiary corporation. A subsidiary corporation established under this
 24 section:

25 (1) shall use money received under subsection (a) to carry out, in
 26 any manner, the purposes and programs of the board;

27 (2) shall report to the budget committee each year concerning:

28 (A) the use of money received; and

29 (B) the balances in any accounts or funds established by the
 30 subsidiary corporation;

31 (3) may donate money received to the Indiana kids first trust fund;
 32 and

33 (4) may deposit money received in an account or fund that is:

34 (A) administered by the subsidiary corporation; and

35 (B) not part of the state treasury.

36 (d) The board of directors of a subsidiary corporation established
 37 under this section shall post the minutes of a meeting on the subsidiary
 38 corporation's Internet web site not later than ten (10) days after the
 39 minutes are approved by the board of directors.

40 (e) Employees of the Indiana kids first trust fund board shall provide

1 administrative support for a subsidiary corporation established under
 2 this section. Employees of the board directly involved in the subsidiary
 3 corporation may engage in fundraising activities on behalf of the
 4 subsidiary corporation.

5 (f) The state board of accounts shall annually audit a subsidiary
 6 corporation established under this section.

7 **(g) This section expires December 31, 2026.**

8 SECTION 309. IC 31-27-2-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.56-2023,
 9 SECTION 300, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 10 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. The department may do the
 11 following:

12 (1) Prescribe forms for reports, statements, notices, and other
 13 documents required by this article or by the rules adopted under
 14 this article.

15 (2) Increase public awareness of this article and the rules adopted
 16 under this article by preparing and publishing manuals and guides
 17 explaining this article and the rules adopted under this article.

18 (3) Facilitate compliance with and enforcement of this article
 19 through the publication of materials under subdivision (2).

20 (4) Prepare reports and studies to advance the purpose of this
 21 article.

22 (5) Seek the advice and recommendations of state agencies whose
 23 information and knowledge would be of assistance in writing,
 24 revising, or monitoring rules developed under this article. These
 25 agencies, including the office of the attorney general, Indiana
 26 department of health, division of mental health and addiction,
 27 division of family resources, the state police department, and ~~fire~~
 28 ~~prevention and building safety commission,~~ **department of**
 29 **homeland security**, shall upon request supply necessary
 30 information to the department.

31 (6) Make the directory of licensees available to the public for a
 32 charge not to exceed the cost of reproducing the directory.

33 (7) Charge a reasonable processing fee for each license
 34 application and renewal as follows:

35 (A) For a child caring institution or group home license, a fee
 36 not to exceed three dollars (\$3) for each licensed bed based on
 37 total licensed bed capacity not to exceed a maximum fee of
 38 one hundred fifty dollars (\$150).

39 (B) For a child placing agency license, a fee not to exceed fifty
 40 dollars (\$50).

(8) Exercise any other regulatory and administrative powers necessary to carry out the functions of the department.

SECTION 310. IC 31-27-2-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.1-2025, SECTION 223, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) The department shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 concerning the licensing and inspection of:

(1) child caring institutions, foster family homes, group homes, and child placing agencies after consultation with the:

(A) Indiana department of health; and

(B) ~~fire prevention and building safety commission;~~
department of homeland security; and

(2) child caring institutions and group homes that are licensed for infants and toddlers after consultation with the division of family resources.

(b) The rules adopted under subsection (a) shall be applied by the department and state fire marshal in the licensing and inspection of applicants for a license and licensees under this article.

(c) The rules adopted under IC 4-22-2 must establish minimum standards for the care and treatment of children in a secure private facility.

(d) The rules described in subsection (c) must include standards governing the following:

(1) Admission criteria.

(2) General physical and environmental conditions.

(3) Services and programs to be provided to confined children.

(4) Procedures for ongoing monitoring and discharge planning.

(5) Procedures for the care and control of confined persons that are necessary to ensure the health, safety, and treatment of confined children.

(e) The department shall license a facility as a secure private facility if the facility:

(1) meets the minimum standards required under subsection (c);

(2) provides a continuum of care and services; and

(3) is licensed under IC 31-27-3.

(f) A waiver of the rules may not be granted for treatment and reporting requirements.

SECTION 311. IC 31-27-2-7, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006, SECTION 273, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) Except as provided in subsections (b) and (c), the department shall exempt from licensure a

child caring institution and a group home operated by a church or religious ministry that is a religious organization exempt from federal income taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (as defined in IC 6-3-1-11) and that does not:

(1) accept for care:

(A) a child who is a delinquent child under IC 31-37-1-1 or IC 31-37-2-1; or

(B) a child who is a child in need of services under IC 31-34-1-1 through IC 31-34-1-9; or

(2) operate a residential facility that provides child care on a twenty-four (24) hour basis for profit.

(b) The department shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to govern the inspection of a child caring institution and a group home operated by a church or religious ministry with regard to sanitation.

(c) ~~The fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to govern the inspection of a child caring institution and a group home operated by a church or religious ministry under this section. The rules must provide standards for fire alarms and fire drills.

(d) A child caring institution and a group home operated by a church or religious ministry under this section shall comply with the rules established by the department and the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** under this section.

SECTION 312. IC 31-27-2-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.183-2017, SECTION 13, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) Except as provided in subsection (f), the department may grant a variance or waiver of a rule governing child caring institutions, foster family homes, group homes, or child placing agencies. A variance or waiver granted under this section must promote statewide practices and must protect the rights of persons affected by this article.

(b) The department may grant a variance to a rule if an applicant for a license or a licensee under this article does the following:

(1) Submits to the department a written request for the variance in the form and manner specified by the department.

(2) Documents that compliance with an alternative method of compliance approved by the department will not be adverse to the health, safety, or welfare of a child receiving services from the applicant for the variance, as determined by the department.

(c) A variance granted under subsection (b) must be conditioned upon compliance with the alternative method approved by the department. Noncompliance constitutes the violation of a rule of the department and may be the basis for revoking the variance.

(d) The department may grant a waiver of a rule if an applicant for a license or a licensee under this article does the following:

(1) Submits to the department a written request for the waiver in the form and manner specified by the department.

(2) Documents that compliance with the rule specified in the application for the waiver will create an undue hardship on the applicant for the waiver, as determined by the department.

(3) Documents that the applicant for the waiver will be in substantial compliance with the rules adopted by the department after the waiver is granted, as determined by the department.

(4) Documents that noncompliance with the rule specified in the application for a waiver will not be adverse to the health, safety, or welfare of a child receiving services from the applicant for the waiver, as determined by the department.

(e) Except for a variance or waiver of a rule governing foster family homes, a variance or waiver of a rule under this section that conflicts with a building rule or fire safety rule adopted by the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** is not effective until the variance or waiver is approved by the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security**.

(f) A waiver may not be granted for an applicant who has been convicted of a nonwaivable offense, as defined in IC 31-9-2-84.8.

SECTION 313. IC 31-27-2-10, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006, SECTION 273, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) If the department determines that a waiver or variance expiring under section 9 of this chapter will continue to serve the public interest, the department may do the following:

(1) Renew the waiver or variance without modifications.

(2) Renew and modify the waiver or variance as needed to promote statewide practices and to protect the rights of persons affected by this chapter.

(b) Before taking an action under subsection (a), the department may require a licensee under this article to do the following:

(1) Apply for the renewal of a waiver or variance on the form

specified by the department.

(2) Provide the information required by the department.

(c) Except for a variance or waiver of a rule governing foster family homes, before taking an action under subsection (a), the department must obtain the approval of the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security, or if applicable, the state building commissioner**, for the action if either of the following occurs:

(1) The ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **substantially department of homeland security or state building commissioner** changes a building ~~rule requirement~~ or fire safety rule **adopted by the department of homeland security** affected by the waiver or variance after the date the ~~commission~~ **department of homeland security or state building commissioner** last approved the waiver or variance.

(2) The department substantially modifies any part of a waiver or variance that conflicts with a building rule or fire safety rule adopted by the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security**.

SECTION 314. IC 31-27-3-17, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006, SECTION 273, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 17. The ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** may not adopt rules requiring the installation of a sprinkler system in a living unit of a licensed child caring institution in which fewer than sixteen (16) children reside, each of whom is:

(1) ambulatory; and

(2) at least six (6) years of age.

SECTION 315. IC 31-27-4-4, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006, SECTION 273, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. The ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** shall provide consultation regarding the licensure of foster family homes to the department upon request.

SECTION 316. IC 32-21-2.5-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.26-2022, SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) As used in this section, "paper document" or "paper documents" means a tangible record that is received by a county recorder in a form that is not electronic.

(b) On or before July 1, 2022, a county recorder shall receive for

1 recording, indexing, storage, archiving, access to, searching of,
 2 retrieval, and transmittal all electronic documents proper for recording.
 3 A county recorder shall also accept electronically any fee or tax that the
 4 county recorder is authorized to collect under applicable laws. A
 5 county recorder shall implement the processing of electronic
 6 documents proper for recording in compliance with:

- 7 (1) this article;
- 8 (2) IC 33-42;
- 9 (3) IC 36-2-7.5;
- 10 (4) IC 36-2-11; and
- 11 (5) IC 36-2-13; and

12 the standards adopted by the electronic recording commission created
 13 under section 9 of this chapter **(before its repeal).**

14 (c) This section does not apply to the following documents:

- 15 (1) A military discharge under IC 10-17-2.
- 16 (2) A survey of real property.
- 17 (3) A plat of real property.

18 (d) A recorder who accepts electronic documents for recording
 19 shall:

- 20 (1) continue to accept paper documents as authorized by state
- 21 law; and
- 22 (2) place entries for paper documents and electronic documents
- 23 in the same index.

24 (e) A recorder who accepts electronic documents for recording may:

- 25 (1) convert paper documents accepted for recording into
- 26 electronic form;
- 27 (2) convert into electronic form information recorded before the
- 28 county recorder began to accept and index electronic documents;
- 29 or
- 30 (3) agree with other officials of a state or a political subdivision
- 31 of a state, or of the United States, on procedures or processes to
- 32 facilitate the electronic satisfaction of prior approvals and
- 33 conditions precedent to recording and the electronic payment of
- 34 fees and taxes.

35 SECTION 317. IC 32-21-2.5-9 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY
 36 1, 2026]. ~~Sec. 9: (a) The electronic recording commission is established~~
 37 ~~to adopt standards to implement this chapter before January 1, 2018.~~
 38 ~~The commission consists of the following five (5) members appointed~~
 39 ~~by the governor:~~

- 40 ~~(1) Three (3) members must be county recorders.~~

(2) One (1) member must be employed in Indiana in the banking or mortgage lending industry.

(3) One (1) member must be employed in Indiana in the land title industry.

(b) To keep the standards and practices of county recorders in Indiana in harmony with the standards and practices of recording offices in other jurisdictions that enact substantially this chapter and to keep the technology used by county recorders in Indiana compatible with technology used by recording offices in other jurisdictions that enact substantially this chapter, the electronic recording commission, so far as is consistent with the purposes, policies, and provisions of this chapter, in adopting, amending, and repealing standards shall consider:

(1) standards and practices of other jurisdictions;

(2) the most recent standards promulgated by national standard setting bodies, such as the Property Records Industry Association (PRIA);

(3) the views of interested persons and governmental officials and entities;

(4) the needs of counties of varying size, population, and resources; and

(5) standards requiring adequate information security protection to ensure that electronic documents are accurate, authentic, adequately preserved, and resistant to tampering.

SECTION 318. IC 32-21-5.2-3, AS ADDED BY P.L.157-2024, SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "local building department" means, in any county, city, or town, the department, division, agency, section, or office that enforces the Indiana building code adopted by the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission,~~ **department of homeland security**, as required by IC 36-7-2-9(1).

SECTION 319. IC 34-13-3-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.111-2021, SECTION 102, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. This chapter applies to a claim or suit in tort against any of the following:

(1) The bureau of motor vehicles commission established by IC 9-14-9-1.

(2) A member of the bureau of motor vehicles commission board established under IC 9-14-9-2.

(3) An employee of the bureau of motor vehicles commission.

(4) A member of the driver education advisory board established

by IC 9-27-6-5 **(before its expiration on December 31, 2026).**

(5) An approved postsecondary educational institution (as defined in IC 21-7-13-6(a)(1)), or an association acting on behalf of an approved postsecondary educational institution, that:

(A) shares data with the commission for higher education under IC 21-12-12-1; and

(B) is named as a defendant in a claim or suit in tort based on any breach of the confidentiality of the data that occurs after the institution has transmitted the data in compliance with IC 21-12-12-1.

(6) The state fair commission established by IC 15-13-2-1.

(7) A member of the state fair commission established by IC 15-13-2-1 or an employee of the state fair commission.

(8) The state fair board established by IC 15-13-5-1.

(9) A member of the state fair board established by IC 15-13-5-1.

SECTION 320. IC 34-13-3-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.46-2023, SECTION 6, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) Except as provided in section 9 of this chapter and subsection (b), a claim against a political subdivision is barred unless notice is filed with:

(1) the governing body of that political subdivision; and

(2) ~~unless IC 27-1-29 has expired under IC 27-1-29-29,~~ the Indiana political subdivision risk management commission created under IC 27-1-29 **(before its expiration December 31, 2026);**

within one hundred eighty (180) days after the loss occurs.

(b) A claim against a political subdivision is not barred for failure to file notice with the Indiana political subdivision risk management commission under subsection (a)(2) if the political subdivision was not a member of the political subdivision risk management fund established under IC 27-1-29-10 at the time the act or omission took place.

SECTION 321. IC 34-30-2.1-30 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. ~~Sec. 30: IC 5-2-2-14(b) (Concerning the state for violations of the law enforcement academy building commission law).~~

SECTION 322. IC 34-30-2.1-107 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 107: IC 9-27-7-6(c) (Concerning members of the advisory board to the motorcycle operator safety education program).~~

SECTION 323. IC 34-30-2.1-129.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.131-2024,

SECTION 12, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 129.5. IC 12-9-4-8, **before its expiration on December 31, 2026**, (Concerning providing information to the special service review team).

SECTION 324. IC 34-30-2.1-367.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 367.5. IC 25-5.3-8-8 (Concerning the members, officers, executive director, employees, and representatives of the athletic trainer compact commission under the athletic trainer interstate compact).**

SECTION 325. IC 35-44.2-3-3 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. ~~Sec. 3: A member or person employed by the law enforcement academy building commission who has a conflict of interest with respect to an action by the commission is subject to criminal prosecution under IC 5-2-2-11.~~

SECTION 326. IC 35-47.5-2-3 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. ~~Sec. 3: "Commission" refers to the fire prevention and building safety commission established by IC 22-12-2-1.~~

SECTION 327. IC 35-47.5-4-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021, SECTION 134, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) The department shall issue a regulated explosives magazine permit to maintain an explosives magazine to an applicant who qualifies under section 5 of this chapter.

(b) A permit issued under subsection (a) expires one (1) year after it is issued. The permit is limited to storage of the types and maximum quantities of explosives specified in the permit in the place covered by the permit and under the construction and location requirements specified in the rules of the ~~commission~~ **department**.

SECTION 328. IC 35-47.5-4-4.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021, SECTION 135, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4.5. (a) This section does not apply to:

- (1) a person who is regulated under IC 14-34; or
- (2) near surface or subsurface use of regulated explosives associated with oil and natural gas:
 - (A) exploration;
 - (B) development;
 - (C) production; or
 - (D) abandonment activities or procedures.

(b) The ~~commission~~ **department** shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2

1 to:

- 2 (1) govern the use of a regulated explosive; and
 3 (2) establish requirements for the issuance of a license for the use
 4 of a regulated explosive.

5 (c) The ~~commission~~ **department** shall include the following
 6 requirements in the rules adopted under subsection (b):

- 7 (1) Relicensure every three (3) years after the initial issuance of
 8 a license.
 9 (2) Continuing education as a condition of relicensure.
 10 (3) An application for licensure or relicensure must be submitted
 11 to the department on forms approved by the ~~commission~~
 12 **department**.
 13 (4) A fee for licensure and relicensure.
 14 (5) Reciprocal recognition of a license for the use of a regulated
 15 explosive issued by another state if the licensure requirements of
 16 the other state are substantially similar to the licensure
 17 requirements established by the ~~commission~~ **department**.

18 (d) A person may not use a regulated explosive unless the person
 19 has a license issued under this section for the use of a regulated
 20 explosive.

21 (e) The department shall carry out the licensing and relicensing
 22 program under the rules adopted by the ~~commission~~ **department**.

23 (f) As used in this section, "regulated explosive" does not include
 24 either of the following:

- 25 (1) Consumer fireworks (as defined in 27 CFR 555.11).
 26 (2) Commercially manufactured black powder in quantities not to
 27 exceed fifty (50) pounds, if the black powder is intended to be
 28 used solely for sporting, recreational, or cultural purposes in
 29 antique firearms or antique devices.

30 SECTION 329. IC 35-47.5-4-5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 31 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) To qualify for a
 32 regulated explosives permit, an applicant must:

- 33 (1) submit information on the form provided by the state fire
 34 marshal describing:
 35 (A) the location of the affected magazine;
 36 (B) the types and maximum quantities of explosives that will
 37 be kept in the place covered by the application; and
 38 (C) the distance that the affected magazine will be located
 39 from the nearest highway, railway, and structure that is also
 40 used as a place of habitation or assembly other than for the

- 1 manufacture of explosives;
- 2 (2) except as provided in subdivision (3), demonstrate through an
- 3 inspection that the magazine is constructed and located in
- 4 accordance with the rules adopted by the ~~commission;~~
- 5 **department;**
- 6 (3) demonstrate through an inspection that smoking, matches,
- 7 open flames, and spark producing devices are not allowed within
- 8 a room containing an indoor magazine; and
- 9 (4) pay the fee under IC 22-12-6-6.

10 (b) To qualify for the renewal of a regulated explosives permit, the
11 applicant must pay the fee under IC 22-12-6-6.

12 SECTION 330. IC 35-47.5-4-6 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
13 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. (a) This section does
14 not apply to storage that is exempted from the requirements of this
15 section in the rules adopted by the ~~commission~~ **department** under
16 IC 22-13-3.

17 (b) A person who:

- 18 (1) stores a regulated explosive;
 - 19 (2) has control over a regulated explosive that is stored; or
 - 20 (3) has control over a place where a regulated explosive is stored;
- 21 without a regulated explosives magazine permit issued under this
22 chapter that covers the storage commits a Class C infraction.

23 SECTION 331. IC 35-52-5-3 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY
24 1, 2026]. ~~Sec. 3: IC 5-2-2-11 defines a crime concerning the law~~
25 ~~enforcement academy building commission.~~

26 SECTION 332. IC 36-1-12-11, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021,
27 SECTION 138, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
28 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 11. (a) The board must, within sixty
29 (60) days after the completion of the public work project, file in the
30 department of homeland security a complete set of final record
31 drawings for the public work project. However, this requirement does
32 not apply to a public work project constructed at a cost less than one
33 hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000). In addition, the filing of the
34 drawings is required only if the project involves a public building.

35 (b) The department of homeland security shall provide a depository
36 for all final record drawings filed, and retain them for inspection and
37 loan under regulated conditions. The ~~fire prevention and building~~
38 ~~safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** may designate
39 the librarian of Indiana as the custodian of the final record drawings.
40 The librarian shall preserve the final record drawings in the state

1 archives as public documents.

2 SECTION 333. IC 36-7-2-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.22-2005,
3 SECTION 50, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
4 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. Each unit shall require compliance with:

5 (1) the code of building laws and fire safety laws that is adopted
6 in the rules of the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~
7 **department of homeland security** under IC 22-13;

8 (2) orders issued under IC 22-13-2-11 that grant a variance to the
9 code of building laws and fire safety laws described in
10 subdivision (1);

11 (3) orders issued under IC 22-12-7 that apply the code of building
12 laws described in subdivision (1);

13 (4) IC 22-15-3-7; and

14 (5) a written interpretation of a building law and fire safety law
15 binding on the unit under IC 22-13-5-3 or IC 22-13-5-4.

16 SECTION 334. IC 36-7-4-1108, AS AMENDED BY P.L.134-2024,
17 SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
18 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1108. (a) This section applies only to a child care
19 home that is used as the primary residence of the person who operates
20 the child care home regardless of whether the child care home meets
21 the definition set forth in IC 12-7-2-28.6.

22 (b) A zoning ordinance may not do any of the following:

23 (1) Exclude a child care home from a residential area solely
24 because the child care home is a business.

25 (2) Impose limits on the number of children that may be served by
26 a child care home at any one (1) time that vary from the limits set
27 forth in IC 12-7-2-33.7 and IC 12-7-2-33.8.

28 (3) Impose requirements or restrictions upon child care homes
29 that vary from the requirements and restrictions imposed upon
30 child care homes by rules adopted by the division of family
31 resources or the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~.
32 **department of homeland security.**

33 (c) Notwithstanding subsection (b), a child care home may be
34 required to meet the same:

35 (1) zoning requirements;

36 (2) developmental standards; and

37 (3) building codes;

38 that apply to other residential structures in the same residential district
39 or classification as the child care home.

40 SECTION 335. IC 36-7-8-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.208-2015,

SECTION 19, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) The legislative body of a county having a county department of buildings or joint city-county building department may, by ordinance, adopt building, heating, ventilating, air conditioning, electrical, plumbing, and sanitation standards for unincorporated areas of the county. These standards take effect only on the legislative body's receipt of written approval from the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security**.

(b) An ordinance adopted under this section must be based on occupancy, and it applies to:

(1) the construction, alteration, equipment, use, occupancy, location, and maintenance of buildings, structures, and appurtenances that are on land or over water and are:

(A) erected after the ordinance takes effect; and

(B) if expressly provided by the ordinance, existing when the ordinance takes effect;

(2) conversions of buildings and structures, or parts of them, from one occupancy classification to another; and

(3) the movement or demolition of buildings, structures, and equipment for the operation of buildings and structures.

(c) The rules of the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** are the minimum standards upon which ordinances adopted under this section must be based.

(d) An ordinance adopted under this section does not apply to private homes that are built by individuals and used for their own occupancy. However, onsite sewage systems of a private home described in this subsection must comply with state laws and rules.

SECTION 336. IC 36-7-8-4 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) The legislative body of a county having a county department of buildings or a joint city-county building department may, by ordinance, adopt minimum housing standards for unincorporated areas of the county. These standards must be consistent with the rules of the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security**.

(b) An ordinance adopted under this section applies to:

(1) residential buildings;

(2) residential parts of mixed occupancy buildings; and

(3) conversions of buildings from nonresidential to residential or partly residential.

(c) A municipality may elect, by ordinance, to make itself subject to an ordinance adopted under this section.

(d) This section does not affect IC 16-41-26.

SECTION 337. IC 36-8-17-1 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. ~~Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "commission" refers to the fire prevention and building safety commission.~~

SECTION 338. IC 36-8-17-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "fire safety law" means any law, including rules and orders of the ~~commission~~, **department**, safeguarding life or property from the hazards of fire or explosion.

SECTION 339. IC 36-8-17-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.107-2023, SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) A fire department serving an area that does not include a city may engage in an inspection program to promote compliance with fire safety laws. Upon the request of an owner or a primary lessee who resides in a private dwelling, the fire department may inspect the interior of the private dwelling to determine compliance with IC 22-11-18-3.5. The fire department shall maintain a written report for each inspection. These reports shall be made available to the department upon request.

(b) The fire department serving an area that includes a city shall inspect every place and public way within the jurisdiction of the city, except the interiors of private dwellings, for compliance with the fire safety laws. Upon the request of an owner or a primary lessee who resides in a private dwelling, the fire department may inspect the interior of the private dwelling to determine compliance with IC 22-11-18-3.5. Except as otherwise provided in the rules adopted by the ~~commission~~, **department**, the fire chief of the fire department shall specify the schedule under which places and public ways are inspected and may exclude a class of places or public ways from inspection under this section, if the fire chief determines that the public interest will be served without inspection. The fire department shall maintain a written report for each inspection. The fire department shall submit monthly reports to the department, on forms prescribed by the department, containing the following information:

- (1) The total number of inspections made.
- (2) The total number of defects found, classified as required by the office.
- (3) The total number of orders issued for correction of each class

1 of defect.

2 (4) The total number of orders complied with.

3 (c) Except as provided in subsection (d), an inspection may only be
4 carried out by an individual who:

5 (1) is a firefighter who meets, at a minimum, the training
6 requirements described in IC 36-8-10.5; or

7 (2) has:

8 (A) obtained certification as a:

9 (i) fire inspector I as described in 655 IAC 1-2.1-12;

10 (ii) fire inspector II as described in 655 IAC 1-2.1-13; or

11 (iii) fire inspector I/II as described in 655 IAC 1-2.1-13.1;

12 and

13 (B) in the case of an individual who is not an employee of a
14 fire department, completed at least two (2) years of experience
15 as a fire inspector described in clause (A)(i) through (A)(iii).

16 (d) A volunteer fire department may carry out inspections under this
17 section only through an individual who is certified under
18 IC 22-14-2-6(c).

19 SECTION 340. IC 36-8-17-11 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
20 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 11. (a) An order issued
21 under section 9 or 10 of this chapter may be appealed to the
22 ~~commission~~ **department** under IC 4-21.5-3-7. A decision to deny a
23 request to modify or reverse an order issued under section 10 of this
24 chapter is not appealable.

25 (b) If an order issued under section 9 or 10 of this chapter is
26 appealed, the ~~commission~~ **department** or its designee shall conduct all
27 administrative proceedings under IC 4-21.5. In its proceedings, the
28 ~~commission~~ **department** may modify or reverse the order.

29 SECTION 341. IC 36-8-17-13 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
30 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 13. The ~~commission~~
31 **department** may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to implement this
32 chapter.

33 SECTION 342. IC 36-10-3-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.133-2025,
34 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
35 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) This subsection applies only in a third class
36 city. A city board consists of four (4) members to be appointed by the
37 city executive. The members shall be appointed on the basis of their
38 interest in and knowledge of parks and recreation. In addition, the
39 creating ordinance may provide for one (1) or two (2) additional
40 members, those being:

- 1 (1) a member selected by the governing body of the school
- 2 corporation who is:
- 3 (A) a member of the governing body of the school corporation,
- 4 serving ex officio; or
- 5 (B) an individual who resides in the school corporation;
- 6 (2) a member selected by the governing body of the library district
- 7 who is:
- 8 (A) a member of the governing body of the library district,
- 9 serving ex officio; or
- 10 (B) an individual who resides in the library district, **selected**
- 11 **by the governing body of the library district;** or
- 12 (3) individuals under both subdivisions (1) and (2).
- 13 (b) This subsection applies in a county containing a consolidated
- 14 city and in a second class city. A city board consists of four (4)
- 15 members to be appointed by the city executive. The members shall be
- 16 appointed on the basis of their interest in and knowledge of parks and
- 17 recreation, but no more than two (2) members may be affiliated with
- 18 the same political party. In addition, the creating ordinance may
- 19 provide for one (1) or two (2) additional members, those being:
- 20 (1) either:
- 21 (A) a member of the governing body of the school corporation,
- 22 serving ex officio, selected by the governing body of the
- 23 school corporation; or
- 24 (B) an individual who resides in the school corporation,
- 25 selected by the governing body of the school corporation;
- 26 (2) a member of the governing body of the library district, serving
- 27 ex officio, selected by that body; or
- 28 (3) individuals described in both subdivisions (1) and (2).
- 29 (c) A town board consists of four (4) members to be appointed by
- 30 the town legislative body. The members shall be appointed on the basis
- 31 of their interest in and knowledge of parks and recreation. Except as
- 32 provided in section 4.1 of this chapter, not more than two (2) members
- 33 may be affiliated with the same political party. Members of the board
- 34 must be residents of the district. In addition, the creating ordinance
- 35 may provide for one (1) or two (2) additional members, those being:
- 36 (1) a member:
- 37 (A) of the governing body of the school corporation, serving
- 38 ex officio, selected by that body; or
- 39 (B) designated by the governing body of the school
- 40 corporation;

- 1 (2) a member selected by the governing body of the library district
 2 who is:
- 3 (A) a member of the governing body of the library district
 4 serving ex officio; or
 5 (B) an individual who resides in the library district; or
 6 (3) individuals under both subdivisions (1) and (2).
- 7 (d) A county board shall be appointed as follows:
- 8 (1) Two (2) members shall be appointed by the judge of the
 9 circuit court.
- 10 (2) One (1) member shall be appointed by the county executive.
- 11 (3) Two (2) members shall be appointed by the county fiscal
 12 body.
- 13 The members appointed under subdivisions (1), (2), and (3) shall be
 14 appointed on the basis of their interest in and knowledge of parks and
 15 recreation, but no more than one (1) member appointed under
 16 subdivisions (1) and (3) may be affiliated with the same political party.
- 17 In a county having at least one (1) first or second class city, the creating
 18 ordinance must provide for one (1) ex officio board member to be
 19 appointed by the executive of that city. The member appointed by the
 20 city executive must be affiliated with a different political party than the
 21 member appointed by the county executive. However, if a county has
 22 more than one (1) such city, the executives of those cities shall agree
 23 on the member. The member serves for a term coterminous with the
 24 term of the appointing executive or executives.
- 25 (e) Ex officio members have all the rights of regular members,
 26 including the right to vote. A vacancy in an ex officio position shall be
 27 filled by the appointing authority. All members serving on a county,
 28 city, or town board have the same rights, including the right to vote. A
 29 vacancy in the seat of a member shall be filled by the appointing
 30 authority.
- 31 (f) A municipal executive, a member of a county fiscal body, a
 32 member of the county executive, or a member of the municipal fiscal
 33 body may not serve on a board.
- 34 (g) The creating ordinance in any county may provide for:
- 35 (1) the county cooperative extension coordinator;
 36 (2) the county extension educator; or
 37 (3) a member of the county extension committee selected by the
 38 committee;
- 39 to serve as an ex officio member of the county board, in addition to the
 40 members provided for under subsection (d).

(h) The creating ordinance in a county having no first or second class cities may provide for a member of the county board to be selected by the board of supervisors of a soil and water conservation district in which a facility of the county board is located. The member selected under this subsection is in addition to the members provided for under subsections (d) and (g).

SECTION 343. [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE] **(a) The terms of all of the members serving on the advisory committee established by IC 4-23-7.2-21 (before its repeal by this act) expire June 30, 2026.**

(b) This SECTION expires July 1, 2027.

SECTION 344. [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE] **(a) As used in this SECTION, "commission" means the Indiana commission for arts and humanities in education created by IC 4-23-12-1 (before its repeal by this act).**

(b) As used in this SECTION, "department" means the department of education.

(c) On July 1, 2026, all agreements and liabilities of the commission are transferred to the department, as the successor agency.

(d) On July 1, 2026, all records and property of the commission, including appropriations and other funds under the control or supervision of the commission, are transferred to the department, as the successor agency.

(e) After July 1, 2026, any amounts owed to the commission before July 1, 2026, are considered to be owed to the department, as the successor agency.

(f) After July 1, 2026, a reference to the commission in a statute, rule, contract, lease, or other document is considered a reference to the department, as the successor agency.

(g) All powers, duties, agreements, and liabilities of the commission with respect to bonds issued by the commission in connection with any trust agreement or indenture securing those bonds are transferred to the department, as the successor agency. The rights of the trustee under any trust agreement or indenture and the rights of the bondholders of the commission remain unchanged, although the powers, duties, agreements, and liabilities of the commission have been transferred to the department, as the successor agency.

1 (h) The terms of all members serving on the commission expire
2 June 30, 2026.

3 (i) This SECTION expires July 1, 2027.

4 SECTION 345. [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE] (a) As used in
5 this SECTION, "commission" means the law enforcement
6 academy building commission created by IC 5-2-2-1 (before its
7 repeal by this act).

8 (b) As used in this SECTION, "department" means the state
9 police department.

10 (c) On July 1, 2026, all agreements and liabilities of the
11 commission are transferred to the department, as the successor
12 agency.

13 (d) On July 1, 2026, all records and property of the commission,
14 including appropriations and other funds under the control or
15 supervision of the commission, are transferred to the department,
16 as the successor agency.

17 (e) After July 1, 2026, any amounts owed to the commission
18 before July 1, 2026, are considered to be owed to the department,
19 as the successor agency.

20 (f) After July 1, 2026, a reference to the commission in a statute,
21 rule, contract, lease, or other document is considered a reference
22 to the department, as the successor agency.

23 (g) All powers, duties, agreements, and liabilities of the
24 commission with respect to bonds issued by the commission in
25 connection with any trust agreement or indenture securing those
26 bonds are transferred to the department, as the successor agency.
27 The rights of the trustee under any trust agreement or indenture
28 and the rights of the bondholders of the commission remain
29 unchanged, although the powers, duties, agreements, and liabilities
30 of the commission have been transferred to the department, as the
31 successor agency.

32 (h) The terms of all members serving on the commission expire
33 June 30, 2026.

34 (i) This SECTION expires July 1, 2027.

35 SECTION 346. [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE] (a) As used in
36 this SECTION, "council" means the advisory council established
37 by IC 14-9-6-1 (before its repeal by this act).

38 (b) As used in this SECTION, "department" means the
39 department of natural resources.

1 (c) On July 1, 2026, all agreements and liabilities of the council
2 are transferred to the department, as the successor agency.

3 (d) On July 1, 2026, all records and property of the council,
4 including appropriations and other funds under the control or
5 supervision of the council, are transferred to the department, as
6 the successor agency.

7 (e) After July 1, 2026, any amounts owed to the council before
8 July 1, 2026, are considered to be owed to the department, as the
9 successor agency. The department shall transfer any amounts
10 received under this subsection to the state comptroller for deposit
11 in the state general fund.

12 (f) After July 1, 2026, a reference to the council in a statute,
13 rule, or other document is considered a reference to the
14 department, as the successor agency.

15 (g) All powers, duties, agreements, and liabilities of the council
16 with respect to bonds issued by the council in connection with any
17 trust agreement or indenture securing those bonds are transferred
18 to the department, as the successor agency. The rights of the
19 trustee under any trust agreement or indenture and the rights of
20 the bondholders of the council remain unchanged, although the
21 powers, duties, agreements, and liabilities of the council have been
22 transferred to the department, as the successor agency.

23 (h) The terms of all members serving on the council expire June
24 30, 2026.

25 (i) This SECTION expires July 1, 2027.

26 SECTION 347. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026] (a) As used in this
27 SECTION, "CHLA" refers to the commission on Hispanic/Latino
28 affairs established by IC 4-23-28-2 (before its repeal by this act).

29 (b) As used in this SECTION, "CSSBM" refers to the
30 commission on the social status of black males established by
31 IC 4-23-31-2 (before its repeal by this act).

32 (c) As used in this SECTION, "ICW" refers to the Indiana
33 commission for women created by IC 4-23-25-3 (before its repeal
34 by this act).

35 (d) As used in this SECTION, "NAIAC" refers to the Native
36 American Indian affairs commission established by IC 4-23-32-3
37 (before its repeal by this act).

38 (e) As used in this SECTION, "commission" refers to the
39 Indiana cultural commission established by IC 4-23-36-3 (as added
40 by this act).

(f) On July 1, 2026, all agreements and liabilities of the:

- (1) CHLA;**
- (2) CSSBM;**
- (3) ICW; or**
- (4) NAIAC;**

are transferred to the commission as the successor entity.

(g) On July 1, 2026, all records and property, including appropriations and other funds under an entity's control or supervision, of the:

- (1) CHLA;**
- (2) CSSBM;**
- (3) ICW; or**
- (4) NAIAC;**

are transferred to the commission as the successor entity.

(h) After June 30, 2026, any amount owed to the:

- (1) CHLA;**
- (2) CSSBM;**
- (3) ICW; or**
- (4) NAIAC;**

is considered to be owed to the commission as the successor entity. The commission shall transfer any amounts received under this subsection to the state comptroller for deposit in the state general fund.

(i) After June 30, 2026, any reference to the:

- (1) CHLA;**
- (2) CSSBM;**
- (3) ICW; or**
- (4) NAIAC;**

in a statute, rule, or other document is considered a reference to the commission as the successor entity.

(j) All powers, duties, agreements, and liabilities of the:

- (1) CHLA;**
- (2) CSSBM;**
- (3) ICW; or**
- (4) NAIAC;**

relating to bonds issued by the board in connection with any trust agreement or indenture securing those bonds are transferred to the commission as the successor entity. The rights of the trustee under any trust agreement or indenture and the rights of bondholders described in this subsection remain unchanged although the

1 powers, duties, agreements, and liabilities of the ICW, CHLA,
 2 CSSBM, and NAIAC, as applicable, have been transferred to the
 3 commission as the successor entity.

4 (k) The term of any member serving as of June 30, 2026, on the:

5 (1) CHLA;

6 (2) CSSBM;

7 (3) ICW; or

8 (4) NAIAC;

9 expires July 1, 2026.

10 (l) This SECTION expires July 1, 2027.

11 SECTION 348. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026] (a) The legislative
 12 services agency shall prepare for introduction in 2027 any
 13 legislation necessary to conform the Indiana code to:

14 (1) the expiration of IC 14-10 (natural resources commission)
 15 on July 1, 2027; or

16 (2) the expiration or repeal of any other board, commission,
 17 committee, council, or similar entity enacted in this act.

18 (b) This SECTION expires July 1, 2027.

19 SECTION 349. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026] (a) Not later than
 20 January 1, 2028, the treasurer of Purdue University shall transfer
 21 to the state comptroller the balance of any funds that remain on
 22 December 31, 2027, and are being held to administer the following:

23 (1) IC 15-15-1.

24 (2) IC 15-15-2.

25 (3) IC 15-15-5.

26 (4) IC 15-15-7.

27 (5) IC 15-15-13.

28 (6) IC 15-16-2-35.

29 (7) IC 15-16-2-36.

30 (8) IC 15-16-4.

31 (9) IC 15-16-5.

32 (10) IC 15-19-7.

33 (11) IC 25-31.5-3-9.

34 (12) Any other law administered by the state chemist or state
 35 seed commissioner.

36 (b) This SECTION expires July 1, 2028.

37 SECTION 350. An emergency is declared for this act.

(Reference is to HB 1003 as introduced.)