
HOUSE BILL No. 1003

AM100307 has been incorporated into January 22, 2026 printing.

Synopsis: Boards and commissions.

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January 22, 2026

Second Regular Session of the 124th General Assembly (2026)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2025 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1003

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning state and local administration and to make an appropriation.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 2-5-1.3-13, AS AMENDED BY P.L.186-2025,
2 SECTION 270, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
3 [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 13. (a) A study committee shall
4 study the issues assigned by the legislative council that are within the
5 subject matter for the study committee, as described in section 4 of this
6 chapter.
7 (b) In addition to the issues assigned under subsection (a), the
8 interim study committee on roads and transportation shall advise the
9 bureau of motor vehicles regarding the suitability of a special group (as
10 defined in IC 9-13-2-170) to receive a special group recognition license
11 plate for the special group (as defined in IC 9-13-2-170) for the first
12 time under IC 9-18.5-12-4 and the suitability of a special group (as
13 defined in IC 9-13-2-170) to continue participating in the special group
14 recognition license plate program under IC 9-18.5-12-5.
15 (c) In addition to the issues assigned under subsection (a), the
16 interim study committee on corrections and criminal code shall review
17 current trends with respect to criminal behavior, sentencing,

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incarceration, and treatment and may:

(1) identify particular needs of the criminal justice system that can be addressed by legislation; and

(2) prepare legislation to address the particular needs found by the committee.

(d) 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, consider, and make recommendations concerning all requests for new courts, new judicial officers, and changes in jurisdiction of existing courts. A request under this subsection must include at least the following information to receive full consideration by the committee:

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

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

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

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

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

(6) A description of the:

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

(B) projected population growth in the county for the ten (10) years after the date of the request, to the extent available;

and any documentation to support the information provided under this subdivision.

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

(8) If the request is a request for a new court or new courts, an acknowledgment from the county fiscal body (as defined in

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- 1 IC 36-1-2-6) with the funding sources and estimated costs the
 2 county intends to pay toward the county's part of the operating
 3 costs associated with the new court or new courts.
 4 The office of judicial administration shall post the list of required
 5 information provided under this subsection on its website.
 6 (e) In each even-numbered year, in addition to the issues assigned
 7 under subsection (a), the interim study committee on courts and the
 8 judiciary shall review the most recent weighted caseload measurement
 9 system report published by the office of judicial administration and do
 10 the following:
 11 (1) Identify each county in which the number of courts or
 12 judicial officers exceeds the number used by the county in that
 13 report year.
 14 (2) Determine the number of previous report years in which the
 15 number of courts or judicial officers in a county identified in
 16 subdivision (1) exceeded the number used by the county in that
 17 particular report year.
 18 (3) Make a recommendation on whether the number of courts or
 19 judicial officers in the county should be decreased.
 20 The office of judicial administration shall post a list of the number of
 21 courts or judicial officers used in each county for each report year, and
 22 the number of years in which the number of courts or judicial officers
 23 in the county has exceeded the number used by the county, on its
 24 website.
 25 (f) In addition to studying the issues assigned under subsection (a),
 26 the interim study committee on child services shall:
 27 (1) review the annual reports submitted by:
 28 (A) each local child fatality review team under
 29 IC 16-49-3-7;
 30 (B) the statewide child fatality review committee under
 31 IC 16-49-4-11; and
 32 (C) the department of child services under IC 31-25-2-24;
 33 during the immediately preceding twelve (12) month period, and
 34 may make recommendations regarding changes in policies or
 35 statutes to improve child safety; and
 36 (2) report to the legislative council before November 1 of each
 37 interim, in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6, the results of:
 38 (A) the committee's review under subdivision (1); and
 39 (B) the committee's study of any issue assigned to the
 40 committee under subsection (a).
 41 (g) In each even-numbered year, in addition to the issues assigned

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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;**

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(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

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

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oversight body, which may incorporate members of an existing committee or 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.

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(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 4-4-16-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.83-2005, SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) The Indiana main street council is established. The council consists of:

(1) the secretary of agriculture and rural development or a person designated by the secretary, who shall serve as chairman; and

(2) at least seven (7) but not more than ten (10) persons appointed by the secretary, who represent organizations concerned with the purposes of the program established by this chapter and who represent all geographic regions of the state.

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(b) Members appointed to the council by the secretary shall serve for a term of three (3) years, beginning on July 1 after their appointment. However, a member appointed to fill a vacancy on the council shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.

(c) The council shall:

- (1) develop and direct policy;
- (2) coordinate administrative techniques; and
- (3) provide assistance;

to carry out the purposes of the Indiana main street program.

(d) Each member of the council who is not a state employee is entitled to the minimum salary per diem provided by IC 4-10-11-2.1(b). Each member 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 state budget agency.

(e) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 6. IC 4-4-16-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.83-2005, SECTION 8, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 3. **(a)** To carry out the purposes described in section 1 of this chapter, the office of rural affairs ~~acting for and on behalf of the Indiana main street council and the Indiana main street program~~, may:

- (1) execute contractual agreements;
- (2) receive money from any source;
- (3) expend money for an activity appropriate to the purposes of this chapter; and
- (4) execute agreements and cooperate with:
 - (A) any other state or federal department or agency;
 - (B) Indiana political subdivisions; or
 - (C) any private person or corporation.

(b) The office of rural affairs shall:

- (1) develop and direct policy;**
- (2) coordinate administrative techniques; and**
- (3) provide assistance;**

to carry out the purposes of the Indiana main street program.

SECTION 7. IC 4-13.6-1-11 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 11. "Professional services" mean the services of:

- (1) a person registered or certified under ~~IC 25-4~~; **IC 25-4-1 or IC 25-4-2;**
- (2) a person licensed under ~~IC 25-34~~; **IC 25-4-3;** or

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(3) a person who performs services or studies that:

(A) relate to the design or the feasibility of a building, structure, or improvement; and

(B) are recognized in the industry as professional in nature.

SECTION 8. 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.

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SECTION 9. IC 4-21-1-22.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 22.5. (a) The review board shall establish the Indiana historical marker program for marking historical sites in Indiana. As a part of this program, the review board shall fix a state format for historical markers. No person may erect an historical marker in the state format without the approval of the review board. All historical markers in the state format shall be provided by the review board using appropriated funds, local matching funds, donations, grants, or any other funds provided for that purpose according to the guidelines and rules of the historical marker program.**

(b) The review board may appoint a historical marker advisory committee to serve without compensation. The committee may advise the review board and the director concerning the following:

- (1) Guidelines and rules for the historical marker program.**
- (2) Appropriate sites to be marked.**
- (3) Other matters concerning the historical marker program as requested by the review board or the director.**

(c) Historical markers approved under this section, including state format markers installed after 1945 and markers installed by the Indiana Civil War centennial commission, are the property of the state. Maintenance of state historical markers is part of the historical marker program. The review board may cooperate with individuals, local and state agencies, and private institutions and organizations for the maintenance of the historical markers. Funds made available to the historical marker program, as approved by the review board, may be used for necessary maintenance.

(d) No historical marker may be erected on a highway of the state highway system without the approval of the review board as to its historical accuracy. This provision is in addition to any other requirement of law.

SECTION 10. 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

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1 **security after June 30, 2026.**

2 SECTION 11. IC 4-22-2.6-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.213-2025,
3 SECTION 56, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
4 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) To readopt a rule, an agency must conduct
5 a review of the rule to consider the continued need for the rule and
6 whether the rule, if readopted, will meet each of the standards in
7 IC 4-22-2-19.5 and (if applicable) the requirements for fees, fines, and
8 civil penalties in IC 4-22-2-19.6.

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

- 19 (1) The nature of any complaints or comments received from the
20 public, including small businesses (as defined in IC 4-22-2.1-4),
21 concerning the rule or the rule's implementation by the agency.
22 (2) The complexity of the rule, including any difficulties
23 encountered by:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

41 **(3) The rationale for the agency's determination under**
42 **subsection (a) that the rule, if readopted, will meet each of**



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the standards in IC 4-22-2-19.5 and (if applicable) the requirements for fees, fines, and civil penalties in IC 4-22-2-19.6.

(4) Either of the following:

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

- (i) IC 4-3-22-13;**
- (ii) IC 4-22-2-22.7;**
- (iii) IC 4-22-2-22.8;**
- (iv) IC 4-22-2-28; or**
- (v) IC 4-22-2.1-5;**

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

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

- (i) IC 4-3-22-13;**
- (ii) IC 4-22-2-22.7;**
- (iii) IC 4-22-2-22.8;**
- (iv) IC 4-22-2-28; or**
- (v) IC 4-22-2.1-5;**

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

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

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

(7) Any difficulties encountered by:

- (A) the agency in administering the rule; or**
- (B) small businesses (as defined in IC 4-22-2.1-4) or other regulated persons in complying with the rule.**

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



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

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

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

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

SECTION 12. IC 4-22-2.6-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.93-2024, SECTION 24, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE MAY 15, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) If an agency elects to readopt a rule under this chapter, the agency shall submit a copy of the written findings under section 4 of this chapter to the office of management and budget and the legislative council not later than the first regular business day in July of the year preceding the year in which the rule expires under this chapter.

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

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

(1) A general description of the subject matter of all rules



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proposed to be readopted.

(2) A listing of rules that are proposed to be readopted, listed by their titles and subtitles only.

(3) A written public comment period of thirty (30) days and instructions on how to submit written comments to the agency.

(4) A request for comments on whether specific rules should be reviewed through the regular rulemaking process under IC 4-22-2-23 through IC 4-22-2-36 (as modified by IC 13-14-9, when applicable).

(5) ~~A summary of~~ The agency's **written** findings under section 4 of this chapter.

(6) Any other information required by the publisher.

~~(c)~~ (d) The agency shall submit the material in the form required by IC 4-22-2-20. The agency need not resubmit the documents required by IC 4-22-2-21 if the publisher received a copy of the documents when the rule was previously adopted or amended. The publisher shall review the material submitted under this section and determine the date that the publisher intends to include the material in the Indiana Register. After:

(1) establishing the intended publication date; and

(2) receiving the material as required by this section;

the publisher shall provide an electronic mail authorization to proceed to the agency and publish the material on the intended publication date.

SECTION 13. IC 4-23-5.5-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.34-2013, SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. As used in this chapter:

~~(1) "board" refers to the Indiana recycling market development board created by this chapter;~~

(1) "department" refers to the department of environmental management established by IC 13-13-1-1;

(2) "division" refers to the division of pollution prevention established by IC 13-27-2-1; and

(3) "office" refers to the Indiana office of energy development established by IC 4-3-23-3.

SECTION 14. IC 4-23-5.5-2 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 2: ~~(a) The Indiana recycling market development board is created and constitutes a public instrumentality of the state. The exercise by the board of the powers conferred by this chapter is an essential governmental function.~~

~~(b) The board consists of nine (9) members; one (1) of whom shall be the lieutenant governor or the lieutenant governor's designee and~~



eight (8) of whom shall be appointed by the governor for four (4) year terms. The governor's appointees shall be chosen from among representatives of:

- (1) the waste management industry;
- (2) the recycling industry;
- (3) Indiana universities and colleges with expertise in recycling research and development;
- (4) industrial and commercial consumers of recycled feedstock;
- (5) environmental groups; and
- (6) private citizens with a special interest in recycling.

No more than four (4) appointed members shall be of the same political party.

(c) A vacancy in the office of an appointed member, other than by expiration, shall be filled in like manner as the original appointment for the remainder of the term of that retiring member. Appointed members may be removed by the governor for cause.

(d) The board shall have seven (7) ex officio advisory members as follows:

- (1) The governor;
- (2) The director of the department of natural resources;
- (3) The commissioner of the department of environmental management;
- (4) Two (2) members from the house of representatives of opposite political parties appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives for two (2) year terms that expire June 30 of each odd-numbered year;
- (5) Two (2) members from the senate of opposite political parties appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate for two (2) year terms that expire June 30 of each odd-numbered year;

(e) The division shall serve as the staff of the board.

(f) An ex officio advisory member identified in subsection (d) may, in writing, designate a representative to serve in an advisory capacity when the ex officio member is unable to attend a board meeting.

(g) The terms of the members of the board appointed by the governor under subsection (b) expire as follows:

- (1) For four (4) of the members, as determined by the governor, December 31, 2025, and every fourth year thereafter;
- (2) For four (4) of the members, as determined by the governor, December 31, 2027, and every fourth year thereafter.

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SECTION 15. IC 4-23-5.5-2.5 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 2-5: (a) Each member of the board 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.

(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) Each member of the board 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 services agency.

(d) Expenses paid under subsections (a) and (b) shall be paid from appropriations made to the department of environmental management.

SECTION 16. IC 4-23-5.5-3 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 3: The governor shall appoint one (1) of the appointed members as chairperson. Five (5) members of the board shall constitute a quorum and the affirmative vote of a majority of the membership shall be necessary for any action taken by the board. A vacancy in the membership of the board does not impair the right of the quorum to act.

SECTION 17. IC 4-23-5.5-4 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 4: A representative appointed by the division, in consultation with the lieutenant governor or the lieutenant governor's designee, shall be the chief administrative officer for the board and shall direct and supervise the administrative affairs and technical activities of the board in accordance with rules, regulations, and policies established by the board. The division may appoint the employees as the board may require and the agents or consultants as may be necessary for implementing this chapter. The division shall prepare an annual administrative budget for review by the budget agency and the budget committee.

SECTION 18. IC 4-23-5.5-5 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY

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1, 2026]. Sec. 5: A member of the board must disclose to the board any interest in a project the board may be considering for action. The board shall determine whether that member shall be allowed to participate in activities related to that project.

SECTION 19. IC 4-23-5.5-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.42-2024, SECTION 41, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. (a) The **board department** shall do the following:

(1) Adopt procedures for the regulation of its affairs and the conduct of its business.

(2) Meet at the offices of the division on call of the chairperson at least once each calendar quarter. The meetings shall be upon ten (10) days written notification, shall be open to the public, and shall have official minutes recorded for public scrutiny.

(3) (1) Report annually in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6 to the legislative council concerning:

(A) the projects in which it has participated and is currently participating with a complete list of expenditures for those projects; and

(B) the information obtained through the recycling activity reports submitted to the commissioner of the department of **environmental management** under IC 13-20-25 concerning the calendar year most recently ended.

(4) Annually prepare an administrative budget for review by the budget agency and the budget committee.

(5) (2) Keep proper records of accounts **of the department's activities under this chapter** and make an annual report of its **condition** to the state board of accounts.

(6) (3) Receive petitions and make determinations under IC 13-20.5-2-2.

(b) The **board department** shall consider projects involving the creation of the following:

(1) Markets for products made from recycled materials.

(2) New products made from recycled materials.

(c) The **board department** may promote, fund, and encourage programs facilitating the development and implementation of waste reduction, reuse, and recycling in Indiana.

SECTION 20. IC 4-23-5.5-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.204-2007, SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. The **board, department**, upon approval by the governor and the budget agency, may make the following expenditures:



(1) Matching grants to federal, state, and local governmental agencies for research and development of:

(A) recycling projects; and

(B) recycling market development projects; in Indiana.

(2) Matching grants to individuals, corporations, limited liability companies, partnerships, educational institutions, and other private sector groups for recycling and recycling market research and development.

(3) Direct grants, loans, or loan guarantees to those individuals and organizations specified in subdivision (1) or (2) of this section.

(4) Contractual services for recycling and recycling market research and development programs.

(5) Other projects and expenses consistent with this chapter.

SECTION 21. IC 4-23-5.5-8 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. The **board department** does not have the authority to exercise the power of eminent domain **in carrying out its powers and duties under this chapter.**

SECTION 22. IC 4-23-5.5-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.204-2007, SECTION 10, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. The **board department** may:

(1) on behalf of the state, receive and accept grants, gifts, and contributions from public agencies, including the federal government, and from private agencies and private sources, including the Indiana business modernization and technology corporation, for the purpose of researching and developing recycling within the state, and may administer ~~such~~ **money received under this section**, including contracting with other public and private organizations, to carry out the purposes for which ~~such the~~ grants, gifts, and contributions were made;

(2) establish application forms and procedures for programs consistent with this chapter;

(3) accept applications from private and public sources for funding of programs consistent with this chapter;

(4) provide funding for studies, research projects, and other activities required to assess the nature and extent of recycling markets in Indiana and the nature and extent of recycling resources to meet the needs of the state;

(5) deposit funds not currently needed to meet the obligations of

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the board with the treasurer of state to the credit of the fund, or invest in obligations as provided by IC 5-13-10.5; and (6) participate in or sponsor programs, conferences, or seminars aimed at assisting the state in promoting recycling market development.

SECTION 23. IC 4-23-5.5-14, AS AMENDED BY P.L.9-2024, SECTION 101, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 14. (a) The Indiana recycling promotion and assistance fund is established. The purpose of the fund is to promote and assist recycling throughout Indiana by focusing economic development efforts on businesses and projects involving recycling. The fund shall be administered by the ~~board~~ **department**.

(b) Sources of money for the fund consist of the following:

- (1) Appropriations from the general assembly.
- (2) Repayment proceeds of loans made from the fund.
- (3) Gifts and donations.
- (4) Money from the solid waste management fund.
- (5) Variable recycling fee revenue deposited under IC 13-20.5-2-1.

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

(d) The ~~board~~ **department** may use money in the fund to make loans to assist:

- (1) persons in establishing new recycling businesses;
- (2) in the expansion of existing recycling businesses; and
- (3) manufacturers in retrofitting equipment necessary to reuse or recycle secondary materials.

(e) The ~~board~~ **department** shall establish loan:

- (1) amounts;
- (2) terms; and
- (3) interest rates.

(f) The ~~board~~ **department** may use money in the fund to make grants for research and development projects involving recycling. The board shall establish amounts for grants.

(g) A person, business, or manufacturer that wants a grant or loan from the fund must file an application with the ~~board~~ **department**.

(h) The ~~board~~ **department** shall establish criteria for awarding grants and loans under this section.

(i) To implement the central Indiana waste diversion project as described in IC 13-20-26, the ~~board~~ **department** shall award not more than four million dollars (\$4,000,000) in total to applicants chosen to

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participate in the project based on:

(1) ~~the recommendations of the department of environmental management after conducting~~ an evaluation of the proposals submitted under IC 13-20-26-2; and

(2) the requirements set forth in subsection (j).

(j) In awarding the funds described in subsection (i), the ~~board~~ **department** shall:

(1) ~~consult with the department of environmental management when reviewing the review~~ proposals under IC 13-20-26-2;

(2) consider the:

(A) type; and

(B) amount of;

waste that is proposed to be diverted during the project under IC 13-20-26;

(3) consider the potential for productive reuse of the waste that is being diverted based on the information provided in the proposal submitted under IC 13-20-26-2; and

(4) give priority to proposals with the largest amount of waste diversion potential throughout the project under IC 13-20-26.

(k) The ~~board~~ **department** may transfer money in the fund to the state solid waste management fund established by IC 13-20-22-2 ~~for use by the department of environmental management~~ to make payments under IC 13-20-17.7-6.

SECTION 24. IC 4-23-5.5-15 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 15. (a) The Indiana energy efficiency loan fund is established for the purpose of assisting Indiana industries and governing bodies (as defined in IC 36-1-12.5-1.5) in undertaking energy efficiency projects. The fund shall be administered by the ~~board~~ **department**.

(b) Sources of money for the fund consist of the following:

(1) Appropriations from the general assembly.

(2) Repayment proceeds, including interest, of loans made from the fund.

(3) Donations, gifts, and money received from any other source, including transfers from other funds or accounts.

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

(d) 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. Interest that accrues from these investments shall be deposited in the fund.



(e) The ~~board~~ **department** shall establish:

(1) amounts, terms, and interest rates for loans under this section; and

(2) criteria for awarding loans under this section.

(f) A person, business, governing body, or manufacturer that wants a loan from the fund must file an application in the manner prescribed by the ~~board~~ **department**.

SECTION 25. IC 4-23-6-7 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 26. IC 4-23-6.5-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.56-2023, SECTION 30, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) The board consists of seven (7) members. The board must include the following:

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

~~(2) The chairman of the commission on forensic sciences or the chairman's designee.~~

~~(3)~~ **(2)** The superintendent of the state police department or the superintendent's designee.

~~(4)~~ **(3)** Four (4) county coroners appointed by the governor, who shall consider appointing coroners who are women or members 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 27. IC 4-23-7-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.84-2012, SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) The management and control of the Indiana library and historical department is hereby vested in a board which shall be known as the Indiana library ~~and historical~~ board, and which shall consist of five (5) members, who shall be appointed by the governor.

(b) All members shall be appointed for terms of four (4) years. A person may not be appointed as a member of the Indiana library ~~and historical~~ board unless the person is a citizen of high standing and probity and has a known and active interest in library or historical work. The members of the board shall be appointed as follows:

(1) One (1) member of the library ~~and historical~~ board shall be appointed on recommendation of the state board of education.

(2) One (1) member must be appointed on the recommendation



of the Indiana Library Federation.

(3) At least one (1) member shall be appointed on recommendation of the Indiana historical society.

(4) At least one (1) member must be a public library trustee appointed on the recommendation of the Indiana Library Trustee Association.

(c) The members of the board shall serve without compensation, but shall be entitled to receive their actual expenses necessarily incurred in attending the meetings and transacting the business of the board, and in participating in such other activities as may be in the interest of the department.

(d) Any vacancy which may occur in the membership of the board for any cause shall be filled by appointment by the governor for the unexpired term.

(e) The board may prepare plans subject to the approval of the governor and advise with the proper officials in the construction of alterations and additions to the building and provide necessary equipment and furnishings within the appropriations of funds for these purposes.

(f) The board may receive and administer any state or federal aid which may become available for the improvement and development of library and historical services in Indiana.

SECTION 28. IC 4-23-7-2.1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.42-2018, SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2.1. (a) The Indiana library ~~and historical~~ board shall elect one (1) of its members as president, another as secretary, and such other officers as it determines, each of whom shall hold office for a term of one (1) year.

(b) The board may designate the director of the state library as the executive secretary of the board with duties as prescribed by the board.

SECTION 29. IC 4-23-7-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.42-2018, SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. Subject to the provisions of this chapter, the Indiana library ~~and historical~~ board shall formulate policies for the care, management, and expansion of the Indiana library and historical department so that the department is operated according to the most approved standards of library and historical service.

SECTION 30. IC 4-23-7-5.2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5.2. The Indiana library ~~and historical~~ board may accept gifts, bequests, and devises of personal and real property for the maintenance, use, or benefit of the Indiana

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1 library and historical department under such terms and conditions and
 2 with such obligations, liabilities, and burdens as in the judgment of the
 3 board and the governor is in the best interest of the Indiana library and
 4 historical department; however, no obligation, liability, or burden shall
 5 be assumed that is in excess of appropriations made by law for the
 6 payment of such obligations, liabilities, and burdens.

7 SECTION 31. IC 4-23-7-5.3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.1-2009,
 8 SECTION 11, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 9 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5.3. (a) The Indiana library ~~and historical~~ board
 10 may, on the recommendation of the director of the state library, sell,
 11 lease, exchange, or otherwise dispose of library materials under:

12 (1) IC 5-22-21; or

13 (2) IC 5-22-22.

14 (b) The Indiana library ~~and historical~~ board may, on the
 15 recommendation of the director of the state library and in accordance
 16 with policies and procedures adopted by the board, sell, donate, or
 17 exchange library materials to or with other public or nonprofit libraries
 18 or historical societies.

19 (c) The Indiana library ~~and historical~~ board may, on the
 20 recommendation of the director of the state library, adopt policies and
 21 procedures for evaluating a proposal to:

22 (1) accept gifts of;

23 (2) sell;

24 (3) exchange; or

25 (4) otherwise dispose of;

26 library materials described in IC 4-23-7.1-3.

27 SECTION 32. IC 4-23-7-5.4 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 28 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5.4. (a) The library and
 29 historical department fund is established as a dedicated fund to be
 30 administered by the Indiana library ~~and historical~~ board. The monies
 31 in the fund may be expended by the board exclusively for the
 32 maintenance, use, or benefit of the Indiana library and historical
 33 department.

34 (b) The proceeds from the sale of items as directed by law or by
 35 the Indiana library ~~and historical~~ board, from gifts of money or the
 36 proceeds from the sale of gifts donated to the fund, and from
 37 investment earnings from any portion of the fund, shall be deposited in
 38 the fund.

39 (c) All monies accruing in the fund are hereby appropriated
 40 continuously for the purposes specified in this section.

41 (d) No portion of the fund shall revert to the general fund of the

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1 state at the end of a fiscal year; however, if the fund is abolished, its
2 contents shall revert to the general fund of the state.

3 SECTION 33. IC 4-23-7.1-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.42-2018,
4 SECTION 6, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
5 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. As used in this chapter:

6 (1) "Agency" means any state administration, agency, authority,
7 board, bureau, commission, committee, council, department,
8 division, institution, office, service, or other similar body of state
9 government.

10 (2) "Board" means the Indiana library ~~and historical~~ board
11 established by IC 4-23-7-2.

12 (3) "Department" means the Indiana library and historical
13 department established by IC 4-23-7-1.

14 (4) "Director" means director of the Indiana state library.

15 (5) "Historical bureau" means the Indiana historical bureau
16 established by IC 4-23-7.2-2.

17 (6) "Public library" has the meaning set forth in IC 36-12-1-5.

18 (7) "State library" means the Indiana state library established by
19 IC 4-23-7-3.

20 (8) "Statewide library card program" refers to the program
21 established by section 5.1 of this chapter.

22 SECTION 34. IC 4-23-7.1-4 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
23 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. The state library
24 shall initiate or participate in plans or programs for historical or library
25 development in Indiana that are considered appropriate by the Indiana
26 library ~~and historical~~ board.

27 SECTION 35. IC 4-23-7.1-23 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
28 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 23. The enumeration
29 of the specific powers and duties in this chapter does not exclude the
30 state library from engaging in any other activity, not contrary to law,
31 that the Indiana library ~~and historical~~ board may consider appropriate
32 in the development of library service to state government, to the
33 libraries and library profession of Indiana, and to the citizens of the
34 state.

35 SECTION 36. IC 4-23-7.1-32, AS AMENDED BY P.L.84-2012,
36 SECTION 8, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
37 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 32. Any book or other library material, unless
38 restricted because of its value, physical condition, historical
39 importance, demand, requirement for research, or legal or contractual
40 restriction, belonging to or in custody of the state library may be
41 borrowed for use outside of the library by any resident of the state or

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any library in accordance with policies adopted by the Indiana library
and historical board.

SECTION 37. 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 38. IC 4-23-7.2-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.42-2018,
SECTION 17, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. The following definitions apply throughout this

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1 chapter:

2 (1) "Agency" means any state administration, agency, authority,
3 board, bureau, commission, committee, council, department,
4 division, institution, office, service, or other similar body of state
5 government.

6 (2) "Board" means the Indiana library and historical board
7 established by IC 4-23-7-2.

8 (3) "Department" means the Indiana library and historical
9 department established by IC 4-23-7-1.

10 (4) "Deputy director" means the deputy director of the Indiana
11 historical bureau.

12 (5) "Director" means director of the library.

13 (6) "Historical bureau" means the Indiana historical bureau
14 established by section 2 of this chapter.

15 (7) "Library" means the Indiana state library established by
16 IC 4-23-7-3.

17 SECTION 39. IC 4-23-7.2-11 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY
18 1, 2026]: Sec. 11. (a) The historical bureau shall establish the Indiana
19 historical marker program for marking historical sites in Indiana. As a
20 part of this program, the historical bureau shall fix a state format for
21 historical markers. No person may erect an historical marker in the
22 state format without the approval of the historical bureau. All historical
23 markers in the state format shall be provided by the historical bureau
24 using appropriated funds, local matching funds, donations, grants, or
25 any other funds provided for that purpose according to the guidelines
26 and rules of the historical marker program.

27 (b) The board may appoint a historical marker advisory committee
28 to serve without compensation. The committee may advise the board
29 and the director concerning the following:

30 (1) Guidelines and rules for the historical marker program.

31 (2) Appropriate sites to be marked.

32 (3) Other matters concerning the historical marker program as
33 requested by the board or the director.

34 (c) Historical markers approved under this section, including state
35 format markers installed after 1945 and markers installed by the
36 Indiana Civil War centennial commission, are the property of the state.
37 Maintenance of state historical markers is part of the historical marker
38 program. The historical bureau may cooperate with individuals, local
39 and state agencies, and private institutions and organizations for the
40 maintenance of the historical markers. Funds made available to the
41 historical marker program, as approved by the board, may be used for

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necessary maintenance.

(d) No historical marker may be erected on a highway of the state highway system without the approval of the historical bureau as to its historical accuracy. This provision is in addition to any other requirement of law.

SECTION 40. IC 4-23-7.2-21 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. See: 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 the following eight (8) members:

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

(2) One (1) member of the general assembly appointed by the minority leader of the house of representatives.

(3) One (1) member of the general assembly appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate.

(4) One (1) member of the general assembly appointed by the minority leader of the senate.

(5) Four (4) members appointed by the governor as follows:

(A) One (1) member nominated by the Indiana library and historical board.

(B) One (1) member nominated by the Indiana Historical Society.

(C) One (1) member nominated by the Center for the Study of History and Memory at Indiana University.

(D) One (1) member nominated by the board of trustees of The History Museum in South Bend.

(b) The following apply to the governor's appointments under subsection (a)(5):

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

(2) The appointments must be made so that the northern, central, and southern regions of Indiana are represented on the committee.

(c) Members of the committee serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority. If a vacancy occurs on the committee, the appointing authority that appointed the member whose position is vacant shall appoint an individual to fill the vacancy. An individual appointed to fill a vacancy must have the qualifications that a member appointed by the appointing authority must have.

(d) The:



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(1) chairman of the legislative council; with the advice of the vice-chairman; shall designate the chair; and
 (2) vice-chairman of the legislative council; with the advice of the chairman; shall designate a vice-chair; of the committee from among the legislative members of the committee. The chair and vice-chair of the committee serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority.

(e) Each member of the committee is entitled to receive the same 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 41. IC 4-23-12 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. (Indiana Commission for Arts and Humanities in Education).

SECTION 42. 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 43. 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 44. 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.

~~(c)~~ (d) A member appointed by the governor under section 3(a)(1) 3 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 45. 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 46. 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 47. 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.

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(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 services agency.

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

SECTION 48. IC 4-23-24.1-8 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. The civil rights commission shall furnish the necessary staff **and administrative** support for the commission.

SECTION 49. IC 4-23-24.1-11 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 11. Funding for the commission is derived from money appropriated to the civil rights commission. Money appropriated to the civil rights commission for the purposes of this chapter does not revert to the state general fund at the end of a state fiscal year, but remains available to the civil rights commission until the purpose for which the money was appropriated is fulfilled.**

SECTION 50. IC 4-23-24.1-12 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 12. (a) The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday commission special fund is established to provide money for special projects of the commission.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

SECTION 51. IC 4-23-25 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. (Indiana Commission for Women).

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SECTION 52. IC 4-23-26-10 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 10. This chapter expires December 31, 2026.**

SECTION 53. 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 54. IC 4-23-28 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. (Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs).

SECTION 55. IC 4-23-31 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. (Commission on the Social Status of Black Males).

SECTION 56. IC 4-23-32 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. (Native American Indian Affairs Commission).

SECTION 57. 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)



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

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

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

(c) This section expires July 1, 2030.

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

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

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

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

(1) historical records planning; and

(2) projects:

(A) funded by the NHPRC; and

(B) developed and carried out within Indiana.

(b) The board may do the following:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sec. 9. (a) Each member of the board who is not a state



employee is not entitled to the minimum salary per diem provided by IC 4-10-11-2.1(b). A member is, however, entitled to reimbursement for 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) The expenses of the board shall be paid in the same manner in which the board's expenses were paid under Executive Orders 06-01, 13-13, and 17-06.

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

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

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

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

SECTION 58. IC 4-23-36 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]:

Chapter 36. Indiana Cultural Commission

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

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

- (1) An Alaska native as defined in 43 U.S.C. 1602(b).
- (2) An Indian as defined in 25 U.S.C. 450b(d).
- (3) A native Hawaiian as defined in 20 U.S.C. 7517(1).

Sec. 3. The Indiana cultural commission is established.

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

- (1) Two (2) members of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives. The members appointed under this subdivision must be from different political parties.
- (2) Two (2) members of the senate appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate. The members appointed under this subdivision must be from different political parties.
- (3) One (1) individual who is not a member of the general assembly appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.



- 1 (4) One (1) individual who is not a member of the general
- 2 assembly appointed by the president pro tempore of the
- 3 senate.
- 4 (5) The secretary of the family and social services
- 5 administration, or the secretary's designee.
- 6 (6) The commissioner of the Indiana department of health,
- 7 or the commissioner's designee.
- 8 (7) The secretary of education, or the secretary's designee.
- 9 (8) The commissioner of the department of correction, or the
- 10 commissioner's designee.
- 11 (9) The director of the civil rights commission, or the
- 12 director's designee.
- 13 (10) Four (4) individuals appointed by the governor in
- 14 accordance with subsection (b).
- 15 (b) The following apply to members of the commission
- 16 appointed by the governor under subsection (a)(10):
- 17 (1) The appointed individuals may not be members of the
- 18 general assembly or state employees.
- 19 (2) The appointed individuals must represent the following:
- 20 (A) African Americans.
- 21 (B) The Hispanic/Latino community.
- 22 (C) Women.
- 23 (D) Native American Indians.
- 24 (c) If a legislative member of the commission ceases to be a
- 25 member of the legislative chamber from which the member was
- 26 appointed, the member ceases to be a member of the commission.
- 27 (d) A member of the commission:
- 28 (1) serves at the pleasure of the member's appointing
- 29 authority; and
- 30 (2) may be removed at any time by the appointing authority.
- 31 (e) If a vacancy on the commission occurs, the appointing
- 32 authority who appointed the former member whose position has
- 33 become vacant shall appoint an individual to fill the vacancy. An
- 34 individual appointed to fill a vacancy serves on the commission for
- 35 the remainder of the unexpired term of the individual's
- 36 predecessor.
- 37 Sec. 5. (a) A member of the commission may be reappointed
- 38 for successive terms.
- 39 (b) The following members serve a two (2) year term that
- 40 expires June 30 of an odd-numbered year:
- 41 (1) A member of the general assembly appointed to the
- 42 commission under section 4 of this chapter.

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

3 (c) A member appointed to the commission under section
4 4(a)(10) of this chapter serves a term that expires December 31,
5 2028, and each fourth year thereafter.

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

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

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

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

12 (1) African American affairs.

13 (2) Hispanic/Latino affairs.

14 (3) Women and families.

15 (4) Native American Indian affairs.

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

18 (c) The chairperson may:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

41 (b) A member elected to serve as chairperson or vice
42 chairperson of the commission shall serve for a term of one (1)



1 year. The term of office expires at the first commission meeting
2 held in the following year.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

37 (1) Identify, study, and research issues affecting
38 underrepresented and minority groups, including the groups
39 described in section 6(b) of this chapter, in the following
40 areas:

41 (A) Health care.

42 (B) Economic and business development.

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- 1 (C) Employment.
- 2 (D) Education.
- 3 (E) Social and family development.
- 4 (F) Housing.
- 5 (G) Civil rights.
- 6 (H) The justice system.
- 7 (I) Any other aspect of society identified by the
- 8 commission.
- 9 (2) Promote cooperation and understanding between
- 10 communities throughout Indiana.
- 11 (3) Assess the needs of underrepresented and minority
- 12 groups and identify recommendations to resolve those needs.
- 13 (4) Promote full participation of underrepresented and
- 14 minority groups in all aspects of society.
- 15 (5) Identify legal and social barriers to underrepresented and
- 16 minority groups.
- 17 (6) Identify measures that could facilitate easier access to
- 18 state and local government services by underrepresented and
- 19 minority groups.
- 20 (7) Make recommendations to appropriate governmental
- 21 agencies regarding issues of preservation and excavation of
- 22 Native American Indian historical and archeological sites,
- 23 including the reburial of remains of Native American
- 24 Indians, that are consistent with IC 14-21-1-25.5.
- 25 (8) Monitor legislation, policies, and other legal
- 26 developments in order to make recommendations to the
- 27 general assembly and the governor that support the
- 28 commission's purposes.
- 29 (9) Gather, study, and disseminate information on
- 30 underrepresented and minority groups through publications,
- 31 public hearings, conferences, and other means.
- 32 (10) Before November 1 of each year, submit an annual
- 33 report on the commission's activities to:
- 34 (A) the governor; and
- 35 (B) the legislative council in an electronic format under
- 36 IC 5-14-6.
- 37 Sec. 11. The commission may study topics that are not
- 38 described in section 10 of this chapter as assigned by:
- 39 (1) statute;
- 40 (2) the governor;
- 41 (3) the legislative council; or
- 42 (4) the chairperson of the commission.

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

2 (1) Designate and appoint members to subcommittees in
3 accordance with section 6 of this chapter.

4 (2) Transact business and enter into contracts that support
5 the commission's purposes.

6 (3) Apply for, receive, and disburse gifts, contributions, and
7 grants of funds or in-kind services.

8 (4) Adopt, rescind, and amend bylaws to regulate the
9 conduct of the commission's business.

10 (5) Assign duties to the commission's officers under the
11 commission's bylaws.

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

14 (1) Negotiations between a Native American Indian tribe and
15 the state or federal government concerning tribal
16 sovereignty.

17 (2) Gaming on tribal land.

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

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

23 (c) Money appropriated to the civil rights commission for the
24 purposes of this chapter does not revert to the state general fund
25 at the end of a state fiscal year, but remains available to the civil
26 rights commission until the purpose for which the money was
27 appropriated is fulfilled.

28 **Sec. 15. (a) The Indiana cultural commission special fund is**
29 **established to provide money for special projects of the**
30 **commission.**

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

32 (c) Expenses of administering the fund must be paid from
33 money in the fund.

34 (d) The fund consists of gifts, contributions, and money
35 donated to the commission.

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

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

42 (g) Money in the fund is continuously appropriated for the

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purposes described in subsection (a).

Sec. 16. (a) As used in this section, "license plate revenue" refers to money attributable to license plate sales under IC 9-18.5 that was paid to the Native American Indian affairs commission (before its repeal) or to the commission under IC 9-18.5-22-4.

(b) The commission and the civil rights commission shall assist members of the Native American Indian community in establishing a nonprofit corporation to:

(1) advocate for the Native American Indians residing in Indiana; and

(2) promote events, programming, and services for the benefit of Native American Indians residing in Indiana.

(c) Not later than thirty (30) days after executive director of the civil rights commission determines that the:

(1) nonprofit corporation described in subsection (b) has been established; and

(2) officers of the corporation are in place and prepared to fulfill their official duties;

the executive director shall inform the bureau of motor vehicles that the nonprofit corporation has been established and is prepared to receive revenue under IC 9-18.5-22-4 in the ensuing calendar year.

(d) Before January 1 of the calendar year following the calendar year in which a nonprofit corporation described in subsection (b) is established under this section, the commission shall transfer any remaining license plate revenue under its control to the treasurer of the nonprofit corporation.

SECTION 59. IC 4-31-11-7 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. A member of a development committee is not entitled to the minimum salary per diem provided by IC 4-10-11-2.1(b) ~~However, a member is entitled to or 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.~~

SECTION 60. IC 5-1.5-2-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.259-2019, SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) There is established a board of directors to govern the bank. The powers of the bank are vested in this board.

(b) The board is composed of:

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

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

(3) ~~five (5) directors~~ **one (1) director** appointed by the governor;
(4) two (2) directors appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate; and
(5) two (2) directors appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

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

(1) must be a resident of Indiana;

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

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

(4) is eligible for reappointment;

(5) is entitled to receive the same minimum salary per diem as is provided in IC 4-10-11-2.1(b) while performing the director's duties. Such a director is also entitled to the same reimbursement for traveling expenses and other expenses, actually incurred in connection with the director's duties as is provided in the state travel policies and procedures, established by the department of 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 61. IC 5-2-2 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. (Law Enforcement Academy Building Commission).

SECTION 62. 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.

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

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

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

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

(k) Each member of the board who is not a state employee is entitled to the minimum salary per diem provided by IC 4-10-11-2.1(b) for each day that the member is engaged in the official business of the board. The member is also entitled to reimbursement for mileage, 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

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approved by the budget agency.

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

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

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

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

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

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

(n) The board may select and direct the treasurer of state to contract with accountants, attorneys, regulated investment advisors, money managers, and other finance and investment professionals to make investments and provide for the public accounting and legal compliance necessary to ensure and maintain the safety, liquidity, and yield of the investment pool.

SECTION 63. IC 5-16-3-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021, SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. The department of homeland security shall provide a safe depository for all blueprints and specifications filed as provided in section 1 of this chapter and retain them for inspection and loan under the conditions and restrictions as the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** shall determine by rule. The ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** may designate the librarian of the state of Indiana as the custodian of any blueprints and specifications filed with it, at any time, and it shall be the duty of the state librarian to safely preserve the same in the state archives as public documents.

SECTION 64. IC 5-16-10-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.2-2006, SECTION 31, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1) "Affiliate" means a parent, descendant, spouse, spouse of a



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descendant, brother, sister, spouse of a brother or sister, employee, director, officer, partner, limited liability company manager or member, joint venturer, a corporation subject to common control with the architect, engineer or construction manager, a shareholder or corporation who controls the architect, engineer or construction manager, or a corporation controlled by the architect, engineer, or construction manager.

(2) "Architect" means the person registered under IC 25-4-1.

(3) "Construction manager" means a person designated as a construction manager by contract who provides professional management services, which contribute to the control of time and the cost and quality of a public construction project, and who performs those services concurrent with architectural and engineering services rendered during the design and construction phases of a construction project.

(4) "Engineer" means the person registered under ~~IC 25-31-1~~ **IC 25-4-3**.

(5) "Person" means a natural person, a partnership, a limited liability company, or a corporation.

(6) "Public construction project" means the construction, remodeling, rehabilitation, or repair of any building or other facility of a unit of local government, whether the building or facility is owned by the unit or leased by the unit with an option to purchase under IC 36-1-10 or any other law. However, "public construction project" does not mean highway or bridge construction.

(7) "Unit of local government" includes any county, city, town, township, and any other political subdivision, commission, or agency created under law. However, the term does not include a school corporation or lessor corporation qualifying under IC 20-47-2 or IC 20-47-3.

SECTION 65. IC 5-16-10-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 3. The limitations expressed in section 2 of this chapter should not be interpreted to permit any person who is not a registered architect under IC 25-4-1 or a registered engineer under ~~IC 25-31-1~~ **IC 25-4-3** to do any act which constitutes the practice of architecture or engineering nor to prevent any unit of local government from employing any person who is a registered architect under IC 25-4-1 or a registered engineer under ~~IC 25-31-1~~ **IC 25-4-3** to perform services which constitute the practice of architecture or engineering.

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SECTION 66. IC 5-16-11.1-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.57-2013, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "professional services" means those services that are:

(1) within the scope of practice specified by IC 25-4 for architecture, ~~IC 25-34~~ IC 25-4 for professional engineering, or IC 25-21.5 for surveying; or

(2) performed by any licensed architect, professional engineer, or professional surveyor in connection with the architect's, engineer's, or surveyor's professional employment or practice.

SECTION 67. IC 5-16-13-16, AS ADDED BY P.L.70-2023, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 16. (a) As used in this section, "adequate welding standards" means specifications, guidelines, tests, and other methods used to ensure that all structural steel welds meet, at minimum, the codes and standards for such welds established in the welding code and under rules adopted by the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission under IC 22-13-2-2.~~ **department of homeland security.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SECTION 68. IC 5-28-15-13, AS AMENDED BY P.L.146-2018, SECTION 14, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 13. (a) There is established in each enterprise zone an urban enterprise association (U.E.A.). The ~~twelve (12)~~ **ten (10)** members of the U.E.A. shall be chosen as follows:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(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

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advance of meetings. The secretary shall provide a list of members to each member and shall notify members of any changes in membership.

SECTION 69. IC 5-30-1-5, AS ADDED BY P.L.74-2005, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 5. "Design criteria developer" means a person registered under IC 25-4 as an architect or ~~IC 25-31~~ **IC 25-4-3** as a professional engineer who is responsible for preparing the design criteria package for the public agency for a design-build project.

SECTION 70. IC 5-30-1-7, AS ADDED BY P.L.74-2005, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 7. "Design services" means services that are:

- (1) within the scope of practice specified by IC 25-4 for architecture or ~~IC 25-31~~ **IC 25-4** for professional engineering; or
- (2) performed by a registered architect or professional engineer in connection with the architect's or engineer's professional employment or practice.

SECTION 71. IC 5-30-4-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.166-2011, SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 1. (a) Before entering into a design-build contract, a public agency must appoint a technical review committee of at least three (3) individuals.

(b) The members of the technical review committee must include the following:

- (1) A representative of the public agency.
- (2) At least two (2) of the following, but not more than one (1) under each clause:
 - (A) An architect registered under IC 25-4.
 - (B) A professional engineer registered under ~~IC 25-31~~ **IC 25-4-3**.
 - (C) A qualified contractor under IC 4-13.6 or an individual employed by the qualified contractor.

(c) A member of the technical review committee who is an architect or a professional engineer may be:

- (1) an employee of the public agency; or
- (2) an outside consultant retained by the public agency for the specific purpose of evaluating proposals submitted under this article.

(d) The design criteria developer may serve as:

- (1) a full member; or
- (2) a nonvoting adviser;

of the committee.

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SECTION 72. IC 5-32-2-8, AS ADDED BY P.L.128-2014, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 8. "Engineer" refers to a person registered under ~~IC 25-31-1~~. **IC 25-4-3.**

SECTION 73. 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%).

(E) For distributions in calendar year 2027, six percent

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- 1 (6%).
- 2 (F) For distributions in calendar year 2028, five percent
- 3 (5%).
- 4 (G) For distributions in calendar year 2029, four percent
- 5 (4%).
- 6 (H) For distributions in calendar year 2030, three percent
- 7 (3%).
- 8 (I) For distributions in calendar year 2031, two percent
- 9 (2%).
- 10 (J) For distributions in calendar year 2032, one percent
- 11 (1%).
- 12 (K) For distributions after calendar year 2032, zero percent
- 13 (0%).
- 14 The department of natural resources is not required to provide
- 15 additional state resources to the state park described in this
- 16 subdivision as a result of the reduction of revenue set forth in
- 17 this subdivision.
- 18 (6) The following amounts shall be distributed to the county
- 19 fiscal body for the purposes set forth in subsection (c):
- 20 (A) For distributions in calendar year 2023, zero percent
- 21 (0%).
- 22 (B) For distributions in calendar year 2024, one percent
- 23 (1%).
- 24 (C) For distributions in calendar year 2025, two percent
- 25 (2%).
- 26 (D) For distributions in calendar year 2026, three percent
- 27 (3%).
- 28 (E) For distributions in calendar year 2027, four percent
- 29 (4%).
- 30 (F) For distributions in calendar year 2028, five percent
- 31 (5%).
- 32 (G) For distributions in calendar year 2029, six percent
- 33 (6%).
- 34 (H) For distributions in calendar year 2030, seven percent
- 35 (7%).
- 36 (I) For distributions in calendar year 2031, eight percent
- 37 (8%).
- 38 (J) For distributions in calendar year 2032, nine percent
- 39 (9%).
- 40 (K) For distributions after calendar year 2032, ten percent
- 41 (10%).



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- 1 (7) Twenty percent (20%) shall be distributed as determined by
 2 the county fiscal body.
- 3 (c) Amounts distributed to the county fiscal body under subsection
 4 (b)(6) may only be used for tourism or quality of life purposes,
 5 including:
- 6 (1) mixed use development projects;
 7 (2) quality public spaces;
 8 (3) multiple transportation options;
 9 (4) multiple housing options;
 10 (5) revitalization of historic, blighted, or vacant properties;
 11 (6) arts, culture, and creativity; and
 12 (7) recreation and green spaces.
- 13 (d) An advisory commission consisting of the following members
 14 is established:
- 15 (1) The director of the department of natural resources or the
 16 director's designee.
 17 (2) The public finance director or the public finance director's
 18 designee.
 19 (3) A member appointed by the ~~Native American Indian affairs~~
 20 **Indiana cultural** commission.
 21 (4) A member appointed by Historic Prophetstown.
 22 (5) A member appointed by the community development
 23 corporation described in subsection (b)(2).
 24 (6) A member appointed by the Wabash River Enhancement
 25 Corporation.
 26 (7) A member appointed by the commission.
 27 (8) A member appointed by the county fiscal body.
 28 (9) A member appointed by the town board of the town of
 29 Battleground.
 30 (10) A member appointed by the mayor of the city of Lafayette.
 31 (11) A member appointed by the mayor of the city of West
 32 Lafayette.
- 33 (e) The following apply to the advisory commission:
- 34 (1) The governor shall appoint a member of the advisory
 35 commission as chairman of the advisory commission.
 36 (2) Six (6) members of the advisory commission constitute a
 37 quorum. The affirmative votes of at least six (6) advisory
 38 commission members are necessary for the advisory commission
 39 to take official action other than to adjourn or to meet to hear
 40 reports or testimony.
 41 (3) The advisory commission shall make recommendations



concerning the use of any proceeds of bonds issued to finance the development of Prophetstown State Park.

(4) Members of the advisory commission who are state employees:

(A) are not entitled to any salary per diem; and

(B) are entitled to reimbursement for traveling expenses as provided under IC 4-13-1-4 and to reimbursement for 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.

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

SECTION 74. IC 7.1-4-13-7 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) The wine grape market development fund is created.

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

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

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

SECTION 75. IC 7.1-4-13-8 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) The wine grape market development council is created.

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

(1) The director or the director's designee.

(2) The chairman of the horticulture department at Purdue University or chairman's designee.

(3) The chairman of the food science department at Purdue University or the chairman's designee.

(4) Other members that the director shall appoint.

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

(d) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 76. IC 7.1-4-13-9 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. (a) The council shall adopt bylaws governing the terms of office, filling unexpired terms,



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1 expenses, quorum, duties, and other administrative matters. The bylaws
 2 may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present, if
 3 a quorum is present.

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

5 SECTION 77. IC 7.1-4-13-10 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 6 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) The council
 7 shall do the following:

8 (1) Elect a chairman and any other officers.

9 (2) Recommend expenditures from the wine grape market
 10 development fund for the administration of the wine grape
 11 market development program and for the administration of this
 12 chapter.

13 (3) Perform any other necessary duties.

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

15 SECTION 78. IC 7.1-4-13-11 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 16 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 11. (a) The director
 17 shall consider the advice, recommendations, and assistance of the
 18 council for the expenditure of funds for the wine grape market
 19 development program and for the administration of this chapter.

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

21 SECTION 79. IC 8-1-1.1-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 22 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. As used in this
 23 chapter:

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

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

29 "Deputy consumer counselor" means the deputy consumer
 30 counselor for Washington affairs that may be established under section
 31 9.1 of this chapter.

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

34 SECTION 80. IC 8-1-1.1-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.53-2014,
 35 SECTION 74, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 36 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) There is created the advisory council to the
 37 office of the utility consumer counselor. The council consists of nine
 38 (9) members. Each Indiana congressional district must be represented
 39 by at least one (1) individual appointed under this section who is a
 40 resident of that congressional district. However, the reduction in
 41 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 81. IC 8-1-30.3-5.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.160-2020, SECTION 6, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 5.5. (a) For purposes of this section, an individual, or the company employing the individual, is qualified to perform an appraisal if the individual is:

(1) an engineer registered under ~~IC 25-34~~; **IC 25-4-3**; or

(2) an appraiser licensed under IC 25-34.1-8.

(b) For purposes of this section, an individual performing an appraisal, or the company employing the individual, is disinterested if:

(1) the fee for the appraisal services is fixed before the individual performs the appraisal;

(2) the individual is not an employee of one (1) of the parties to the acquisition;

(3) the individual is not a state or municipal employee; and

(4) the:

(A) individual; and

(B) company, if applicable;

do not have affiliated interests (as defined in IC 8-1-2-49) in one

(1) of the parties to the acquisition.

(c) An appraisal under section 5(c)(2) of this chapter must be performed by three (3) qualified and disinterested appraisers,

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- 1 including:
- 2 (1) at least one (1) appraiser qualified under subsection (a)(1);
- 3 and
- 4 (2) at least one (1) appraiser qualified under subsection (a)(2).
- 5 (d) If the three (3) appraisers performing an appraisal for purposes
- 6 of section 5(c)(2) of this chapter cannot agree as to an appraised value,
- 7 the appraisal is sufficient for purposes of section 5(c)(2) of this chapter
- 8 if the appraisal is signed by two (2) of the appraisers.

9 SECTION 82. IC 8-1.5-2-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.229-2019,

10 SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE

11 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 4. Whenever the municipal legislative body

12 or the municipal executive determines to sell or otherwise dispose of

13 nonsurplus municipally owned utility property, it shall provide for the

14 following in a writing that shall be made available, upon request, for

15 inspection and copying at the offices of the municipality's municipally

16 owned utility in accordance with IC 5-14-3:

- 17 (1) The appointment, as follows, of three (3) residents of Indiana
- 18 to serve as appraisers:
- 19 (A) One (1) disinterested person who is an engineer
- 20 licensed under ~~IC 25-31-1~~; **IC 25-4-3.**
- 21 (B) One (1) disinterested appraiser licensed under
- 22 IC 25-34.1.
- 23 (C) One disinterested person who is either:
- 24 (i) an engineer licensed under ~~IC 25-31-1~~; **IC 25-4-3;**
- 25 or
- 26 (ii) an appraiser licensed under IC 25-34.1.
- 27 (2) The appraisal of the property.
- 28 (3) The time that the appraisal is due.

29 It is sufficient for purposes of this section that the municipal legislative

30 body or municipal executive provides for the appointment in written

31 contracts with the appraisers or the firms with whom the appraisers are

32 employed.

33 SECTION 83. IC 8-10-9-6 IS AMENDED TO READ AS

34 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. (a) The district shall

35 be governed by a board of directors consisting of ~~seven (7)~~ **five (5)**

36 members, four (4) of whom are appointed by the executive of the city

37 in which the district is formed, ~~two (2) of whom are appointed by the~~

38 ~~governor~~, and one (1) of whom is appointed by the legislative body of

39 the city in which the district is formed.

- 40 (b) Members of the board serve terms of three (3) years. A
- 41 member's term may be extended by any partial term to which the

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1 member was appointed to fill a vacancy.

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

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

11 SECTION 84. IC 8-14-11-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
12 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. (a) As used in this
13 chapter, "board" refers to the local bridge grant board established by
14 section 9 of this chapter.

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

16 SECTION 85. IC 8-14-11-9 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
17 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. (a) The local bridge
18 grant board is established to receive and review applications for grants
19 under this chapter. The board consists of the following members:

- 20 (1) The director of the department, or the director's designee.
21 (2) Six (6) persons appointed by the governor, no more than
22 three (3) of whom may be of the same political party, as follows:
23 (A) Two (2) members of a county executive.
24 (B) One (1) county highway engineer.
25 (C) One (1) mayor of a city.
26 (D) One (1) member of a town board of trustees.
27 (E) One (1) person with substantial experience or education
28 in the design or construction of bridges.

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

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

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

38 (d) A member of the board, other than the director of the
39 department, is entitled to the minimum salary per diem provided by
40 IC 4-10-11-2.1(b). Each member of the board is entitled to
41 reimbursement for traveling expenses and other expenses actually

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1 incurred in connection with the member's duties, as provided in the
 2 state travel policies and procedures established by the department of
 3 administration and approved by the budget agency.

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

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

8 SECTION 86. IC 8-14-11-10 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 9 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) The department
 10 shall provide staff support to the board.

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

12 SECTION 87. IC 8-14-11-11 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 13 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 11. The ~~board~~
 14 **department** shall establish criteria to be used in evaluating
 15 applications for grants from the fund. These criteria:

- 16 (1) must be consistent with the purposes of the federal local
- 17 bridge program (23 U.S.C. 144(n));
- 18 (2) must be based on good engineering practices; and
- 19 (3) must provide for an equitable distribution of grants to
- 20 counties located throughout Indiana.

21 SECTION 88. IC 8-17-5-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 22 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 2. The county
 23 highway engineer must be a registered engineer, licensed by the ~~state~~
 24 **board of registration for professional engineers, Indiana board of**
 25 **registration for design professionals**, experienced in highway
 26 engineering and construction and a resident of Indiana during the
 27 engineer's employment.

28 SECTION 89. IC 8-17-5-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.9-2024,
 29 SECTION 297, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 30 [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 9. The auditor of each county
 31 that employs a full-time county highway engineer shall annually certify
 32 that employment to the state comptroller. The certification must
 33 include:

- 34 (1) the name and address of the county highway engineer; and
- 35 (2) the serial number of the engineer's certificate of registration
- 36 issued by the ~~state board of registration for professional~~
 37 **engineers. Indiana board of registration for design**
 38 **professionals.**

39 SECTION 90. IC 8-23-9-60, AS ADDED BY P.L.70-2023,
 40 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 41 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 60. (a) As used in this section, "adequate welding

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standards" means specifications, guidelines, tests, and other methods used to ensure that all structural steel welds meet, at minimum, the codes and standards for such welds established in the welding code and under rules adopted by the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission under IC 22-13-2-2.~~ **department of homeland security.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(f) If the department reasonably suspects a contractor has violated this section, the department shall require the contractor to remedy the violation not later than thirty (30) days after the department notifies the contractor of the violation. The notification to the contractor must be signed by the commissioner and sent by a method that enables the department to verify receipt of the notice by the contractor. During the thirty (30) day period, the contractor may continue to work on the project. If the contractor fails to remedy the violation within the thirty (30) day period, the department shall find the contractor not responsible and determine the length of time the contractor is



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considered not responsible by the department.

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

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

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

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

SECTION 91. IC 9-18.5-22-1, AS ADDED BY P.L.198-2016, SECTION 327, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. The bureau shall, with the advice of the ~~Native American Indian affairs commission established under IC 4-23-32~~, **Indiana cultural commission established under IC 4-23-36**, design and issue an Indiana Native American trust license plate as a special group recognition license plate under IC 9-18.5-12.

SECTION 92. IC 9-18.5-22-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.118-2022, SECTION 14, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) The Indiana Native American trust fund is established.

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

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

(d) The bureau shall distribute at least one (1) time each month the money from the fund ~~to the Native American Indian affairs commission established under IC 4-23-32~~ as follows:

(1) Before January 1 of the calendar year following the calendar year in which a nonprofit corporation is established under IC 4-23-36-16, to the Indiana cultural commission established under IC 4-23-36.

(2) After December 31 of the calendar in which a nonprofit corporation is established under IC 4-23-36-16, to the

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treasurer of the nonprofit corporation.

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

SECTION 93. 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 94. 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.

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1 (5) One (1) member must be a representative of the insurance
2 industry.

3 (d) A member of the advisory board serves a two (2) year term. A
4 member may not be appointed to more than two (2) consecutive full
5 terms. Each member serves until the member's successor is appointed
6 and qualified.

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

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

13 (g) The advisory board shall:

14 (1) consult with and advise the commissioner in the
15 administration of the policies of the commission and the bureau
16 regarding driver education; and

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

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

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

25 SECTION 95. IC 9-27-7-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.85-2013,
26 SECTION 78, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
27 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. (a) The commissioner shall appoint a five (5)
28 member advisory board consisting of at least three (3) active
29 motorcyclists to serve in an advisory capacity to the program.

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

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

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

40 (e) A member of the advisory board is not subject to liability in a
41 civil action for bodily injury or property damage arising from or

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1 thought to have arisen from an action taken in good faith as a member
2 of the advisory board.

3 **(f) This section expires December 31, 2026.**

4 SECTION 96. IC 10-13-2-9 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
5 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. ~~(a)~~ The
6 superintendent shall adopt rules necessary to accomplish the purposes
7 of this chapter.

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

11 SECTION 97. IC 10-13-2-10 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
12 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) The criminal
13 justice advisory committee is established.

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

16 (1) The superintendent, who shall act as chairman.

17 (2) The attorney general.

18 (3) The executive director of the criminal justice planning
19 agency.

20 (4) The commissioner of corrections.

21 (5) One (1) county sheriff serving in the sheriff's second or
22 subsequent term of office.

23 (6) One (1) chief of police with at least two (2) years of
24 experience as chief.

25 (7) One (1) prosecuting attorney in the prosecuting attorney's
26 second or subsequent term of office.

27 (8) One (1) judge of a court of general criminal jurisdiction.

28 (9) The executive director of the law enforcement training
29 academy.

30 (10) A criminologist or forensic scientist.

31 (c) A member of the committee:

32 (1) must be appointed by the governor on a nonpartisan basis;
33 and

34 (2) shall serve at the pleasure of the governor.

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

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

40 **(f) This section expires December 31, 2026.**

41 SECTION 98. IC 10-13-3-4 IS AMENDED TO READ AS



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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 99. 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 100. IC 10-14-1-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 3. "Commission" refers to the Indiana ~~emergency medical services fire and EMS standards and education~~ commission established by ~~IC 16-31-2-1~~ **IC 16-31-2-1.5**.

SECTION 101. 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:



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- 1 (A) zoning;
- 2 (B) building;
- 3 (C) other land use controls;
- 4 (D) safety measures for securing mobile homes or other
- 5 nonpermanent or semipermanent structures; and
- 6 (E) other preventive and preparedness measures designed
- 7 to eliminate or reduce disaster or its impact;
- 8 that must be disseminated to ~~both the fire prevention and~~
- 9 ~~building safety commission and~~ local authorities.
- 10 (6) Assistance to local officials in designing local emergency
- 11 action plans.
- 12 (7) Authorization and procedures for the erection or other
- 13 construction of temporary works designed to protect against or
- 14 mitigate danger, damage, or loss from flood, conflagration, or
- 15 other disaster.
- 16 (8) Preparation and distribution to the appropriate state and local
- 17 officials of state catalogs of federal, state, and private assistance
- 18 programs.
- 19 (9) Organization of manpower and chains of command.
- 20 (10) Coordination of federal, state, and local disaster activities.
- 21 (11) Coordination of the state disaster plan with the disaster
- 22 plans of the federal government.
- 23 (12) Other necessary matters.
- 24 (b) The agency shall take an integral part in the development and
- 25 revision of local and interjurisdictional disaster plans prepared under
- 26 section 17 of this chapter. The agency shall employ or otherwise secure
- 27 the services of professional and technical personnel capable of
- 28 providing expert assistance to political subdivisions, a political
- 29 subdivision's disaster agencies, and interjurisdictional planning and
- 30 disaster agencies. These personnel:
- 31 (1) shall consult with subdivisions and government agencies on
- 32 a regularly scheduled basis;
- 33 (2) shall make field examinations of the areas, circumstances,
- 34 and conditions to which particular local and interjurisdictional
- 35 disaster plans are intended to apply; and
- 36 (3) may suggest revisions.
- 37 (c) In preparing and revising the state disaster plan, the agency
- 38 shall seek the advice and assistance of local government, business,
- 39 labor, industry, agriculture, civic and volunteer organizations, and
- 40 community leaders. In advising local and interjurisdictional agencies,
- 41 the agency shall encourage local and interjurisdictional agencies to

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1 seek advice from the sources specified in this subsection.

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

4 (e) The agency shall do the following:

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

8 (2) Procure and pre-position supplies, medicines, materials, and
9 equipment.

10 (3) Adopt standards and requirements for local and
11 interjurisdictional disaster plans.

12 (4) Provide for mobile support units.

13 (5) Assist political subdivisions, political subdivisions' disaster
14 agencies, and interjurisdictional disaster agencies to establish
15 and operate training programs and public information programs.

16 (6) Make surveys of industries, resources, and facilities in
17 Indiana, both public and private, necessary to carry out this
18 chapter.

19 (7) Plan and make arrangements for the availability and use of
20 any private facilities, services, and property, and if necessary and
21 if the private facilities, services, or property is used, provide for
22 payment for the use under agreed upon terms and conditions.

23 (8) Establish a register of persons with types of training and
24 skills important in emergency prevention, preparedness,
25 response, and recovery.

26 (9) Establish a register of mobile and construction equipment
27 and temporary housing available for use in a disaster emergency.

28 (10) Prepare, for issuance by the governor, executive orders,
29 proclamations, and regulations necessary or appropriate in
30 coping with disaster.

31 (11) Cooperate with the federal government and any public or
32 private agency or entity in achieving any purpose of this chapter
33 and in implementing programs for disaster prevention,
34 preparation, response, and recovery.

35 (12) Do other things necessary, incidental, or appropriate to
36 implement this chapter.

37 (f) The agency shall ascertain the rapid and efficient
38 communications that exist in times of disaster emergencies. The agency
39 shall consider the desirability of supplementing these communications
40 resources or of integrating these resources into a comprehensive
41 intrastate or state-federal telecommunications or other communications

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1 system or network. In studying the character and feasibility of any
 2 system, the agency shall evaluate the possibility of multipurpose use of
 3 the system for general state and local governmental purposes. The
 4 agency shall make appropriate recommendations to the governor.

5 (g) The agency shall assist political subdivisions in implementing
 6 the intrastate mutual aid compact created by section 10.8 of this
 7 chapter.

8 SECTION 102. IC 10-18-1-1 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
 9 JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "commission"~~
 10 ~~refers to the Indiana war memorials commission established by section~~
 11 ~~2 of this chapter.~~

12 SECTION 103. IC 10-18-1-1.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
 13 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 14 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 1.5. As used in this chapter,**
 15 **"department" refers to the department of veterans affairs**
 16 **established by IC 10-17-1-2.**

17 SECTION 104. IC 10-18-1-1.6 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
 18 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 19 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 1.6. (a) On January 1, 2027, all**
 20 **powers, duties, agreements, and liabilities of the Indiana war**
 21 **memorials commission are transferred to the department.**

22 **(b) On January 1, 2027, all records and property of the**
 23 **Indiana war memorials commission, including appropriations and**
 24 **other funds under the control or supervision of the Indiana war**
 25 **memorials commission, are transferred to the department.**

26 **(c) After December 31, 2026, a reference to the Indiana war**
 27 **memorials commission in a statute, rule, or other document is**
 28 **considered a reference to the department.**

29 **(d) The rules adopted by the Indiana war memorials**
 30 **commission before January 1, 2027, are considered, after**
 31 **December 31, 2026, rules of the department.**

32 SECTION 105. IC 10-18-1-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.149-2016,
 33 SECTION 39, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 34 JANUARY 1, 2027]: **Sec. 2. (a) The Indiana war memorials**
 35 **commission is established:**

36 **(b) The commission consists of nine (9) members. Each Indiana**
 37 **congressional district must be represented by at least one (1) member**
 38 **who is:**

- 39 **(1) a resident of that congressional district;**
- 40 **(2) a veteran of service in the armed forces of the United States**
 41 **of America in time of war;**
- 42 **(3) a citizen of Indiana at the time of the service; and**

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(4) appointed:

(A) in the manner;

(B) for the terms;

(C) to have the powers; and

(D) to perform the duties;

as provided in this chapter.

(c) (a) The **department**: commission:

(1) as the commission and in the commission's name; may prosecute and defend suits; and

(2) has all other duties, rights, and powers that are:

(A) necessary to implement this chapter; and

(B) not inconsistent with this chapter.

(d) The members of the commission are not liable in their individual capacity, except to the state, for any act done or omitted in connection with the performance of their duties under this chapter.

(e) (b) A suit against the **commission department** must be brought in a court with jurisdiction in Marion County. Notice or summons of the suit shall be served upon the **director of the department**, president, vice president, or secretary of the commission. In a suit against the commission, it is not necessary to name the individual members of the commission as either plaintiff or defendant. Commission members may sue and be sued in the name of the Indiana war memorials commission.

(f) The commission shall:

(1) report to the governor through the adjutant general; and

(2) be under the adjutant general for administrative supervision.

SECTION 106. IC 10-18-1-3 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 3: (a) The governor shall appoint members of the commission for a term of three (3) years; subject to removal as provided in this section:

(b) The commissioners:

(1) must be persons of high standing and character; and

(2) serve without compensation; except for reimbursement for any reasonable expenses necessarily incurred by the commissioners in the performance of their duties.

(c) The commissioners shall be selected without regard to their political affiliations. However, not more than six (6) of the commissioners at any time may be members of the same political party.

(d) The governor may, for just cause, based upon written charges specifying alleged misconduct, remove any member of the commission, after notice to the member and a public hearing.



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(e) The governor shall appoint a qualified person to fill the unexpired term of a member who does not complete the member's term.

SECTION 107. IC 10-18-1-4 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 4: (a) The governor shall execute a certificate of appointment that makes reference to this chapter and sets forth the term of appointment for each member of the commission. The governor shall deposit the certificates of appointment in the office of the secretary of state, who shall record the certificates in a book kept for that purpose.

(b) The secretary of state shall notify each person appointed as a commissioner of the person's appointment. The person's acceptance of the appointment shall be signified by subscribing to an oath, to be endorsed on the certificate of appointment:

(1) to support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Indiana; and

(2) to faithfully and honestly discharge the person's duty under the law as a commissioner.

(c) The secretary of state shall deliver the certificate, when recorded, to the person named in the certificate. The certificate constitutes the commission of the person named as a member of the commission for the term specified.

(d) If a person appointed fails to qualify under this section within ten (10) days after notice of the person's appointment, the governor shall appoint another qualified person as a commissioner.

SECTION 108. IC 10-18-1-5 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 5: The commission shall elect the following:

(1) One (1) member of the commission to serve as president.

(2) One (1) member of the commission to serve as vice president.

(3) One (1) qualified person who is not a member of the commission to serve as secretary of the commission.

The commission shall elect officers each year. Officers shall hold their respective offices for one (1) year or during the pleasure of the commission.

SECTION 109. IC 10-18-1-6 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 6: (a) The president and vice president of the commission shall, before entering upon the discharge of their duties, give bond to the approval of the governor, each in the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), conditioned for the faithful performance of the duties as may be imposed upon them by law.

(b) The officers and any other officers required to give a bond



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under this chapter may furnish as surety any surety company authorized to transact business in Indiana that meets the approval of the commission, and the premium on any bond shall be paid as a part of the expenses of the commission.

SECTION 110. IC 10-18-1-7 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 7: (a) The president shall do the following:

(1) Preside over the meetings of the commission.

(2) Sign all vouchers approved by the commission under this chapter.

(3) Sign all contracts and agreements in the name of the commission that have been authorized by the commission. The secretary shall attest to contracts signed by the president.

(b) If the president is absent or unable to act, the vice president shall perform the president's duties.

SECTION 111. IC 10-18-1-8 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 8: (a) The secretary appointed by the commission shall take an oath to faithfully perform the duties of the secretary's office.

(b) The secretary shall do the following:

(1) Keep a record of the proceedings of the commission.

(2) Make a record of contracts and obligations.

(3) Furnish each contractor with a copy of the contractor's contract that:

(A) is endorsed "approved by order of the commission";

(B) lists the date of the approval; and

(C) is signed by the secretary.

A contract is not valid until endorsed and delivered by the secretary.

(4) Certify all vouchers ordered by the commission.

(5) Keep a set of books to show the financial condition of the commission.

(6) Make quarterly statements as provided in this chapter of the costs and expenditures of the commission; a complete list of vouchers; and for what purpose and to whom paid. The reports shall be filed with the state comptroller as provided in this chapter and are open to the inspection and use of the general assembly.

(c) The secretary shall give a bond in the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for the faithful performance of the secretary's duties.

(d) The contracts for any purpose connected with the Indiana World War Memorial shall be recorded by the secretary in a book kept

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for that purpose. The secretary shall retain on file all vouchers and other valuable papers of value to the commission, to the contractor, and to the public.

SECTION 112. IC 10-18-1-9 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 9. (a) The ~~commission~~ **department** may employ a superintendent.

(b) The superintendent shall give bond in an amount and with surety to be approved by the ~~commission~~ **department**.

(c) The superintendent's duties and compensation shall be prescribed by the ~~department~~ **commission**.

SECTION 113. IC 10-18-1-10 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 10. (a) The ~~commission~~ **department** shall employ an individual who is responsible for the care and preservation of all personal property owned by the ~~commission~~ **department** that has historic significance.

(b) The individual employed by the ~~commission~~ **department** under subsection (a) must meet the qualifications set by the division of state museums and historic sites of the department of natural resources.

SECTION 114. IC 10-18-1-11, AS AMENDED BY P.L.9-2024, SECTION 319, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 11. (a) The ~~commission~~ **department** shall do the following:

(1) Keep a record of the commission's proceedings.

(2) Make a quarterly report for public use that includes the following:

(A) A detailed account of the expenditures of the ~~commission~~ **department to administer this chapter**.

(B) A summary of ~~the commission's proceedings~~ that includes:

(i) a statement of all contracts let;

(ii) the name of the person to whom the contracts were let; and

(iii) the amount of each contract.

(b) The report required under subsection (a) must be filed with the state comptroller.

(c) Reports created and filed under this section are public records.

SECTION 115. IC 10-18-1-12 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 12: (a) The commission may adopt rules that set forth:~~

~~(1) the time, place, and method of calling and conducting meetings; and~~



1 (2) the manner and method of the conduct of business, including:
 2 (A) the government and regulation of the commission's
 3 employees; and
 4 (B) the management of the ground and premises under the
 5 commission's care and control;
 6 as the commission considers prudent and not inconsistent with this
 7 chapter and other statutes.

8 (b) The commission shall meet at the call of the commission's
 9 president or at the time set forth in the commission's rules. A majority
 10 of the members constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business.
 11 However, all official action of the commission must receive the
 12 approval in a meeting of a majority of all the members of the
 13 commission.

14 SECTION 116. IC 10-18-1-13 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 15 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 13. (a) The
 16 commission shall designate one (1) of its members to **department**
 17 **shall** do the following:

18 (1) Assume general charge of and preserve all Indiana battle
 19 flags.

20 (2) Have custody of all battle and organization flags in the
 21 possession of the state that were used by any of the military
 22 organizations of the state:

23 (A) in any of the wars or campaigns in which the United
 24 States has been engaged; and

25 (B) in which Indiana veterans have participated.

26 (3) In the preservation of the battle flags, as far as possible, see
 27 that the name and the branch of service in which the
 28 organization served are attached to or preserved with the flag.

29 (4) Collect data in reference to each organization or military unit
 30 whose flag is in the possession of the commission and place the
 31 data with the flag or banner of each of the organizations or
 32 military units.

33 (b) The **commission department** shall do the following:

34 (1) Collect Indiana battle flags not in the possession of the state
 35 from the United States, patriotic societies, or individuals.

36 (2) Reinforce, collect the data for, and otherwise prepare all
 37 battle flags for preservation.

38 (3) Collect, systematize, and prepare a brief history of each flag
 39 and index and catalogue each flag.

40 (4) Collect, purchase, and procure all necessary materials for the
 41 preservation of the flags.



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(5) For the purpose of collecting and preparing the necessary data, reinforcing the flags, and performing other duties required by this chapter:

- (A) with the approval of the budget agency, employ and fix the compensation of employees as may be necessary; and
- (B) purchase material of any character that is required in carrying out this chapter.

SECTION 117. IC 10-18-1-14, AS AMENDED BY P.L.30-2013, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 14. (a) The Indiana battle flags fund is established to restore and preserve Indiana battle flags.

(b) The ~~department~~ ~~commission~~:

- (1) shall administer the fund; and
- (2) may spend the money in the fund for the purposes of the fund.

(c) The expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from money in the fund.

(d) 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. Interest that accrues from these investments shall be deposited in the fund.

(e) All money accruing to the fund is appropriated continuously for the purposes of the fund.

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

SECTION 118. IC 10-18-1-15 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 15. (a) All flag cases completed shall be in the custody of the ~~department~~ ~~commission~~. The superintendent shall have the cases cleaned periodically as necessary.

(b) The ~~department~~ ~~commission~~ may determine the method and manner in which the flags shall be preserved.

SECTION 119. IC 10-18-1-16 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 16. (a) Out-lot five (5) and out-lot thirty-six (36), in Indianapolis, according to the original plat of the city, are dedicated and set apart as grounds for the Indiana War Memorial subject to the provisions of this chapter.

(b) Out-lots five (5) and thirty-six (36) dedicated in subsection (a), together with all or any part of squares five (5) and sixteen (16) or any part of those squares, in Indianapolis, according to the original plat of the city, that are acquired, dedicated, and set apart and added to the real

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estate dedicated in subsection (a) by:

(1) the state; or

(2) Indianapolis, by Marion County, or Indianapolis and Marion County jointly and then conveyed by the city, county, or city and county jointly by proper deed, grant, or contract to the state;

for War Memorial and other public purposes constitutes and shall be referred to as "Memorial Place". The permanent name of "Memorial Place" shall be selected by the **department. commission.**

(c) A necessity is declared to exist to limit:

(1) the kind, character, and height of buildings upon; and

(2) the use of real estate and buildings that are located within three hundred (300) feet of the outside boundaries of;

Memorial Place as constituted in this chapter. The **department commission** may acquire, by purchase, donation, or condemnation, the right to limit the kind, character, and height of buildings upon and the use of real estate and buildings on real estate within three hundred (300) feet of the outside boundaries of Memorial Place.

(d) The **department commission** shall erect and maintain in Indianapolis, upon or within grounds dedicated or acquired under this chapter, as the **department commission** considers best, a suitable structure or structures:

(1) to commemorate the valor and sacrifice of the soldiers, sailors, and marines of the United States and of all others who rendered faithful, loyal, heroic, and self-sacrificing service at home and overseas in World War I;

(2) to provide a place or places of meeting and headquarters for organizations of soldiers, sailors, and marines or any other patriotic societies or associations;

(3) to keep records, archives, documents, flags, mementos, and relics; and

(4) for other public meetings and other public purposes;

to inculcate a true understanding and appreciation of the duties, benefits, and privileges of American citizenship and inspire patriotism and respect for the law to the end that peace may prevail, good will be promoted, justice be administered and established, public order maintained, and liberty and freedom under the law perpetuated.

SECTION 120. IC 10-18-1-17 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 17. (a) If squares five (5) and sixteen (16) or any part of those squares in Indianapolis, according to the original plat of the city, are acquired, dedicated, and set apart and added to the real estate dedicated in this chapter by the

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1 state for war memorial and other public purposes by Indianapolis, by
 2 Marion County, or by the city and county jointly by proper deed,
 3 contract, or grant, by which the city or county, or the city and county
 4 jointly, convey the real estate or any part of the real estate to the state
 5 for war memorial and other public purposes, the **department**
 6 ~~commission~~ may accept from the city, the county, or the city and
 7 county jointly the deed, grant, or contract by which the real estate or
 8 any part of the real estate is conveyed to the state for war memorial and
 9 other public purposes, subject to the terms, conditions, and provisions
 10 contained in the deed, grant, or contract.

11 (b) The **department** ~~commission~~ may agree that, to the extent that
 12 the city, the county, or the city and county jointly appropriate and use
 13 money in the acquisition of the real estate or any part of the real estate,
 14 the real estate and interests in the real estate and the memorial
 15 structures erected on the real estate (to the extent of the money so
 16 appropriated and used by the city, by the county, or by the county and
 17 city jointly) shall be a city war memorial, a county war memorial, or a
 18 joint war memorial.

19 (c) If the real estate or any part of the real estate is acquired and
 20 conveyed to the state, the **department** ~~commission~~ may erect structures
 21 on outlots five (5) and thirty-six (36) dedicated in this chapter or upon
 22 any part of the real estate so dedicated or acquired as provided in this
 23 chapter as the **department** ~~commission~~ considers best.

24 (d) The **department** ~~commission~~ shall develop any part or all of
 25 the real estate described in this chapter that has been dedicated or
 26 acquired as provided in this chapter as a memorial place, together with
 27 square twenty-five (25), known as University Square in Indianapolis,
 28 according to the original plat of the city, to secure a harmonious and
 29 unified architectural and aesthetic effect of the entire series of grounds
 30 used and dedicated for memorial purposes. The grounds must include
 31 square twenty-five (25), known as University Square, which shall be
 32 and constitute a part of the memorial park, and shall be used as a public
 33 park.

34 (e) The **department** ~~commission~~ may sell buildings and
 35 improvements situated on outlots five (5) and sixteen (16) when they
 36 come under the ~~commission's~~ **department's** jurisdiction, custody, and
 37 control or remove the buildings and improvements as the **department**
 38 ~~commission~~ considers best. The **department** ~~commission~~ may contract
 39 with Indianapolis, with Marion County, or with the county and city
 40 jointly, concerning the use and rents of the buildings and improvements
 41 on squares five (5) and sixteen (16) until it is necessary to remove the

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buildings for the purpose of erecting the memorial structure or structures. The ~~department commission~~ may contract with the city or county or the city and county jointly with reference to the sale of buildings and improvements upon the real estate that may be acquired and conveyed to the state by the city or county or by the city and county jointly for War Memorial and other public purposes. The contracts must provide how the proceeds from the rent or sale of buildings and improvements shall be applied.

SECTION 121. IC 10-18-1-18, AS AMENDED BY P.L.17-2005, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 18. The ~~department commission~~ may do the following:

- (1) Make and execute contracts and other instruments that may be required in connection with the erection and maintenance of a suitable structure or structures upon or within Memorial Place.
 - (2) Adopt rules for the following:
 - (A) The proper management, government, and use of Memorial Place and the structures situated on Memorial Place.
 - (B) The government of employees.
 - (3) Acquire by condemnation the right to limit the kind, character, and height of buildings upon and the use of real estate or buildings located within three hundred (300) feet of the outside boundaries.
 - (4) Adopt reasonable rules as are proper to limit the kind, character, and height of buildings located or erected within three hundred (300) feet of the outside boundaries of Memorial Place and the use of the buildings or real estate. A building constructed or maintained or business conducted in violation of any rule may be abated as a nuisance in an action begun and prosecuted by the ~~department. commission~~.
 - (5) Receive donations, gifts, devises, and bequests and use them in connection with the purposes of this chapter.
 - (6) Establish a nonprofit corporation to do the following:
 - (A) Promote public support for the purposes of the ~~department commission~~ and this chapter.
 - (B) Preserve and promote the historical and educational activities of the commission.
 - (C) Operate for the benefit of the purposes of the ~~department commission~~ and this chapter.
- The corporation is subject to audit by the state board of accounts

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as if it were a state agency.

(7) Transfer money donated to the ~~department commission~~ for the purposes described in subdivision (6) to a corporation established under subdivision (6).

(8) Transfer:

(A) artifacts;

(B) images; or

(C) documents of cultural heritage, historical, or museum relevance;

under the commission's control to a corporation established under subdivision (6) without complying with IC 5-22-21 and IC 5-22-22.

SECTION 122. IC 10-18-1-20 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 20. The ~~department commission~~ shall adopt rules **under IC 4-22-2** for the government of the monument and Monument Circle. ~~The rules are binding and effective when approved by the governor.~~

SECTION 123. IC 10-18-1-21 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 21. (a) The ~~department: commission:~~

(1) has general control of the State Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument Circle; and

(2) may employ a superintendent.

(b) The superintendent may, with the advice and consent of the ~~department commission~~, appoint engineers, elevator operators, electricians, and watchmen as are actually required, all of whom are subject to removal at any time by the ~~department commission~~ for any reason satisfactory to the commission.

(c) The superintendent:

(1) has direct charge and supervision of the monument and Monument Circle, subject to the orders of the **department;** ~~commission;~~ and

(2) may require watchmen to act as elevator operators and elevator operators to act as watchmen.

(d) The superintendent and the engineers, watchmen, and elevator operators have police powers with all powers of a constable.

SECTION 124. IC 10-18-1-22, AS AMENDED BY P.L.9-2024, SECTION 320, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 22. (a) The superintendent shall execute a bond in the penal sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000), to be approved by the ~~department. commission:~~



(b) The superintendent shall:

(1) on the first day of each month, make a sworn statement to the state comptroller of all receipts and expenditures, with vouchers attached for the preceding month, on account of the monument; and

(2) at the same time, pay over to the treasurer of state all money received by the superintendent from all sources in the operation of the monument for the preceding month.

The state comptroller shall draw a warrant on the treasurer of state, payable to the superintendent, engineers, elevator operators, and watchmen, for the amounts due them as salaries and to the superintendent for a total of expenditures other than salaries incurred in the management of the monument and Monument Circle as shown by the vouchers.

SECTION 125. IC 10-18-1-23 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 23. The Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument and all approaches to the monument and all surroundings belonging to the state shall be maintained perpetually and inviolate for the purpose originally designed.

SECTION 126. IC 10-18-1-25 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 25. A person who intentionally damages or removes any of the property of the state on Monument Circle is liable for the payment of a penalty not less than twice the sum necessary to repair the damage or restore the lost property. The penalty may be collected by the ~~department commission~~ in a civil action.

SECTION 127. IC 10-18-1-26 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 26. (a) The ~~department commission~~ may do the following:

(1) Make or sell the following:

(A) Pictures, models, books, and other representations of the monuments and grounds.

(B) Souvenirs.

(2) Establish and maintain souvenir shops on property that the ~~department commission~~ manages.

(3) Hire and pay salaries for full-time or part-time employees for the souvenir shops.

(4) Contract with a nonprofit organization or corporation for the continuous management of the souvenir shops.

(5) Report annually to the governor on the activities, revenues, expenditures, and profits of the souvenir shops.

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(b) Notwithstanding section 27 of this chapter, the following apply to the profits from souvenir shop sales:

(1) The souvenir shop fund is established. The souvenir shop fund shall be administered by the **department. commission.**

(2) Profits from the sales at souvenir shops established under subsection (a) shall be deposited in the souvenir shop fund.

(3) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the souvenir shop fund not currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same manner as other public funds may be invested.

(4) The expenses of administering the souvenir shop fund shall be paid from money in the fund.

(5) The **department commission** may spend the money in the souvenir shop fund for the following purposes:

(A) Maintenance or repair of properties managed by the **department. commission.**

(B) Maintenance, repair, and acquisition of the following:

(i) Battle flags.

(ii) Appropriate artifacts.

(iii) Appropriate memorabilia.

(6) All money accruing to the souvenir shop fund is appropriated continuously for the purposes listed in subdivision (5).

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

(c) A person may not make or sell pictures, models, books, or other representations of the monuments or grounds unless the person is authorized to do so by the **department. commission.**

SECTION 128. IC 10-18-1-28 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 28. The superintendent of the State Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument and of Monument Circle and those serving under the superintendent who are appointed by the **department commission** have police powers and may make arrests or do other things as may be needed to enforce the laws for the protection and care of the monuments and Monument Circle.

SECTION 129. IC 10-18-1-29 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 29. The **department commission** may grant the use for public purposes of any structures or any parts of structures erected by the commission under this chapter without rent or charge or for only a nominal rental:

(1) to any organizations of soldiers, sailors, and marines and others as a place for their meeting and headquarters and for the keeping of records, archives, documents, flags, mementos, and



1 relics; and
 2 (2) for other public meetings and other public purposes not
 3 inconsistent with the purpose of this chapter;
 4 for the time and upon the terms and conditions as the commission
 5 determines.

6 SECTION 130. IC 10-18-1-30 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 7 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 30. (a) The
 8 **department commission** may not enter into a contract for:

- 9 (1) the purchase or sale of property, material, or supplies; or
 10 (2) the performance of work or labor, except for salaries of
 11 employees;

12 if the work and labor or materials and supplies cost more than ten
 13 thousand dollars (\$10,000) without first giving notice of its intention
 14 to purchase or sell the materials or supplies or to contract for the work
 15 or labor by publication in a newspaper of general circulation printed
 16 and published in the English language in Indianapolis for two (2)
 17 successive weeks before the time fixed for the letting of the contract or
 18 the sale of the property.

19 (b) A contract under this section must be in writing. The other
 20 contracting party shall furnish bond for the faithful performance of the
 21 contract in an amount fixed by the **department commission** and with
 22 surety to the **department's commission's** approval, conditioned upon
 23 the faithful performance of the contract. However, if the **department**
 24 **commission** decides to purchase a patented article or material or an
 25 article or material of a special type, character, or design of construction
 26 or make that may be purchased from only one (1) person, firm, limited
 27 liability company, or corporation, their agents or representatives, or for
 28 which there is a fixed, standard price, the **department commission** is
 29 not required to take or receive competitive bids. However, the
 30 **department commission** shall publish in the manner set forth under
 31 subsection (a) the number and character of the article or kind and
 32 quality of material proposed to be purchased, the unit price, and the
 33 total sum to be paid.

34 (c) A contract made in violation of this section is void.

35 SECTION 131. IC 10-18-1-32 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 36 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 32. The
 37 **department, commission,** with the approval of the governor, may let
 38 a contract for the erection of additional structures on the site of the
 39 Indiana World War Memorial, in accordance with plans and
 40 specifications adopted by the commission, with the approval of the
 41 governor, to any competent and reliable contractor.

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1 SECTION 132. IC 10-18-1-33 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 2 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 33. (a) The
 3 **department** ~~commission~~ shall commemorate the valor of those loyal
 4 citizens of this state who served with the armed forces of the United
 5 States during World War II and the Korean Conflict by placing their
 6 names in the archives of the World War Memorial located at
 7 Indianapolis.

8 (b) The names must be placed in the archives in the same manner
 9 as those honored by Indiana who served in World War I.

10 SECTION 133. IC 10-18-1-34 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 11 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 34. (a) The
 12 **department** ~~commission~~ shall commemorate the valor of those loyal
 13 citizens of Indiana who served with the armed forces of the United
 14 States during the Vietnam conflict by placing their names in the
 15 archives of the World War Memorial located at Indianapolis.

16 (b) The names must be placed in the archives in the same manner
 17 as those honored by Indiana who served in World War I, World War II,
 18 and the Korean Conflict.

19 SECTION 134. IC 10-18-1-38, AS AMENDED BY P.L.158-2013,
 20 SECTION 169, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 21 [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 38. It is a Level 6 felony for
 22 a ~~member of the commission or the architect, secretary, superintendent,~~
 23 or any other person in the employ of the **department** ~~commission~~ to:

24 (1) knowingly be interested in or derive any profit from any
 25 contract, employment, or purchase connected with the Indiana
 26 World War Memorial or with any action of the **department**;
 27 ~~commission~~; or

28 (2) knowingly be interested in any claim against the **department**
 29 ~~commission~~ or the state growing out of the erection or
 30 maintenance of the Indiana World War Memorial;

31 other than for the compensation for their services or for their expenses
 32 as provided in this chapter.

33 SECTION 135. IC 10-18-2-18 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 34 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 18. In the
 35 establishment and maintenance of a county world war memorial, a
 36 county executive or a board of trustees of a joint county and city world
 37 war memorial has all the powers and duties conferred upon the **Indiana**
 38 **department of veterans' affairs** ~~Indiana War Memorials Commission~~
 39 under IC 10-18-1, in so far as the powers and duties are not
 40 inconsistent with this chapter. However, a county executive or board
 41 may not employ a secretary.



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SECTION 136. IC 10-18-3-18, AS AMENDED BY P.L.9-2024, SECTION 321, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 18. (a) The governor may appoint a commission known as the memorial art commission.

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

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

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

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

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

(e) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 137. IC 10-18-4-19 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 19. In the establishment and maintenance of a World War memorial, a city's board of public works or the board of trustees of a joint county and city World War memorial has all the powers and duties conferred upon the **Indiana department of veterans' affairs** ~~Indiana war memorials commission~~ under IC 10-18-1 to the extent the powers and duties conferred in IC 10-18-1 are not inconsistent with this chapter. However, this chapter does not authorize a city's board of public works or a board of trustees of a joint county and city World War memorial to employ a secretary.

SECTION 138. IC 10-19-3-3.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.56-2023, SECTION 77, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 3.5. (a) For purposes of this section, "EMS" means emergency medical services.

(b) For purposes of this section, "state EMS medical director" refers to the state emergency medical services medical director appointed under subsection (c).

(c) The executive director shall appoint an individual to serve as the state emergency medical services medical director. The individual must have the following qualifications:

- (1) Thorough knowledge of state EMS laws and administrative



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- 1 rules and regulations.
- 2 (2) At least five (5) years experience in the following:
- 3 (A) Medical direction of out of hospital EMS.
- 4 (B) Emergency department treatment of acutely ill and
- 5 injured patients.
- 6 (3) Significant experience and familiarity with the following:
- 7 (A) The design and operation of statewide EMS systems.
- 8 (B) Working with national and other state EMS committees.
- 9 (4) At the time of the individual's appointment, has a valid and
- 10 unrestricted license to practice medicine in Indiana.
- 11 (5) Be certified by the American Board of Emergency Medicine.
- 12 (6) Other areas of knowledge and expertise that the executive
- 13 director determines essential.
- 14 The state EMS medical director shall be an employee of the
- 15 department.
- 16 (d) The executive director shall submit the name of the individual
- 17 whom the executive director would like to appoint as state EMS
- 18 medical director to the Indiana ~~emergency medical services~~ **fire and**
- 19 **EMS standards and education** commission created by ~~IC 16-31-2-1.~~
- 20 **IC 16-31-2-1.5.** The commission may, by a majority of the members,
- 21 vote not later than thirty (30) days after the submission on whether to
- 22 approve the appointment. If the commission:
- 23 (1) does not take any action; or
- 24 (2) by a majority of the commission votes to approve the
- 25 appointment of the individual;
- 26 not later than thirty (30) days after, the appointment shall become
- 27 effective. If a majority of the commission votes not later than thirty (30)
- 28 days after the submission of the appointment to not approve the
- 29 appointment, the executive director shall restart the appointment
- 30 process and submit an alternative individual for appointment.
- 31 (e) The state EMS medical director shall oversee all pre-hospital
- 32 aspects of the statewide EMS system, including the following:
- 33 (1) Medical components for systems of care that interface or
- 34 integrate with the statewide EMS system, including the
- 35 following:
- 36 (A) Statewide planning for trauma, burn, cardiac, and stroke
- 37 care.
- 38 (B) Domestic preparedness.
- 39 (C) EMS for children.
- 40 (2) For all levels of emergency responders, establishment of the
- 41 following:

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- 1 (A) Statewide model guidelines and best practices for all
 2 patient care activities to ensure delivery of medical care
 3 consistent with professionally recognized standards.
 4 (B) A statewide EMS continuous quality improvement
 5 program.
 6 (C) A statewide EMS advocacy program.
 7 (3) In cooperation with appropriate state and local agencies,
 8 training and certification of all EMS providers.
 9 (f) The state EMS medical director shall assist the executive
 10 director on all issues related to statewide EMS, including the following:
 11 (1) Consulting with EMS medical directors.
 12 (2) In consultation with the Indiana ~~emergency medical services~~
 13 **fire and EMS standards and education** commission created by
 14 ~~IC 16-31-2-1~~, **IC 16-31-2-1.5**, providing guidance and assistance
 15 on the following matters:
 16 (A) Scope of practice for EMS providers.
 17 (B) Restrictions placed on EMS certifications.
 18 (C) Appropriate corrective and disciplinary actions for EMS
 19 personnel.
 20 (D) Education and training on emerging issues in EMS.
 21 (3) EMS system research.
 22 (4) Coordination of all medical activities for disaster planning
 23 and response.
 24 (5) Improving quality of care, research, and injury prevention
 25 programs.
 26 (6) Partnering with state agencies, including the Indiana
 27 department of health and state educational institutions, to
 28 develop public safety education and outreach programs.
 29 SECTION 139. IC 10-19-3-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.156-2020,
 30 SECTION 50, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 31 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) Except as provided in this section, for
 32 purposes of IC 4-22-2, the executive director is the authority that
 33 adopts rules for the department.
 34 (b) The Indiana ~~emergency medical services~~ **fire and EMS**
 35 **standards and education** commission is the authority that adopts rules
 36 under IC 16-31.
 37 (c) Except as provided in subsection (d), ~~the fire prevention and~~
 38 ~~building safety commission~~ **is the authority that adopts rules under any**
 39 ~~of the following:~~
 40 (1) ~~IC 22-11.~~
 41 (2) ~~IC 22-12.~~



- 1 ~~(3) IC 22-13.~~
 2 ~~(4) IC 22-14.~~
 3 ~~(5) IC 22-15.~~
 4 ~~(d) (c) The board of firefighting personnel standards and education~~
 5 **Indiana fire and EMS standards and education commission** is the
 6 authority that adopts rules under IC 22-14-2-7(c)(7) and IC 36-8-10.5.
 7 ~~(e) (d)~~ The executive director may adopt rules governing:
 8 (1) emergency action plans; or
 9 (2) emergency response plans;
 10 for outdoor performances (as defined in IC 22-12-1-17.5) where
 11 outdoor event equipment (as defined in IC 22-12-1-17.7) is used.
 12 SECTION 140. IC 10-19-7-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,
 13 SECTION 40, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 14 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) The state fire marshal appointed under
 15 IC 22-14-2-2 shall manage the department's administration of the
 16 following:
 17 (1) IC 22-11.
 18 (2) IC 22-12.
 19 (3) IC 22-13.
 20 (4) IC 22-14.
 21 (5) IC 22-15.
 22 (b) In carrying out the duties under subsection (a), the state fire
 23 marshal shall ~~do the following~~:
 24 ~~(1) Provide department staff to support the fire prevention and~~
 25 ~~building safety commission established by IC 22-12-2-1.~~
 26 ~~(2)~~ partner with state agencies, including the Indiana department
 27 of health and state educational institutions, to develop public
 28 safety education and outreach programs.
 29 (c) The state fire marshal may not exercise any powers or perform
 30 any duties specifically assigned to ~~either of the following~~:
 31 ~~(1) The fire prevention and building safety commission.~~
 32 ~~(2)~~ the state building commissioner.
 33 (d) The state fire marshal may delegate the state fire marshal's
 34 authority to the appropriate department staff.
 35 SECTION 141. IC 11-12-4-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.56-2023,
 36 SECTION 82, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 37 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. (a) The department shall adopt under IC 4-22-2
 38 minimum standards for county jails governing:
 39 (1) general physical and environmental conditions;
 40 (2) services and programs to be provided to confined persons;
 41 (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 142. 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.

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

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

5 SECTION 143. IC 12-7-2-44, AS AMENDED BY P.L.6-2012,
6 SECTION 81, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
7 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 44. "Council" means the following:

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

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

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

14 ~~(4)~~ **(3)** For purposes of IC 12-12-7-2, the meaning set forth in
15 IC 12-12-7-2-2.

16 ~~(5)~~ **(4)** For purposes of IC 12-21-4, the meaning set forth in
17 IC 12-21-4-1.

18 SECTION 144. IC 12-7-2-87.8, AS AMENDED BY
19 P.L.210-2015, SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
20 [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 87.8. "Food retailer", for
21 purposes of IC 12-13-14, has the meaning set forth in ~~IC 12-13-14-1(f).~~
22 **IC 12-13-14-1.**

23 SECTION 145. IC 12-7-2-142, AS AMENDED BY P.L.171-2011,
24 SECTION 11, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
25 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 142. "Political subdivision", for purposes of
26 the following statutes, has the meaning set forth in IC 36-1-2-13:

27 (1) IC 12-8.

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

29 ~~(3)~~ **(2)** IC 12-32-1.

30 SECTION 146. IC 12-8-2.5-11, AS ADDED BY P.L.160-2012,
31 SECTION 17, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
32 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 11. (a) A member who is not a state employee is
33 **not** entitled to ~~both~~ **either** of the following:

34 (1) The minimum salary per diem provided by
35 IC 4-10-11-2.1(b).

36 (2) Reimbursement for travel expenses and other expenses
37 actually incurred in connection with the member's duties. ~~as~~
38 ~~provided in the state travel policies and procedures established~~
39 ~~by the Indiana department of administration and approved by the~~
40 ~~budget agency.~~

41 (b) A member who is a state employee is entitled to



reimbursement for travel 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) A member 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.

SECTION 147. IC 12-11-14-10, AS ADDED BY P.L.12-2016, SECTION 8, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) The ABLE board of the authority is established. The board consists of the following:

(1) The following four (4) ex officio members:

(A) The treasurer of state.

(B) The secretary of family and social services.

(C) The budget director.

(D) The executive director of the Indiana housing and community development authority.

(2) Five (5) ~~appointed~~ members ~~who:~~

~~(A) are appointed by the governor; and~~

~~(B) consist of the following:~~ **appointed as follows:**

~~(i) (A)~~ **(A)** One (1) member **appointed by the governor** who has significant experience in actuarial analysis, accounting, investment management, or other areas of finance that are relevant to the authority.

~~(ii) (B)~~ **(B)** One (1) member **appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives** who has significant legal expertise and knowledge of estate planning.

~~(iii) (C)~~ **(C)** One (1) member **appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate** who is a representative of a statewide organization that advocates on behalf of individuals with disabilities.

~~(iv) (D)~~ **(D)** One (1) member who is an individual with a disability.

~~(v) (E)~~ **(E)** One (1) member who is a family member of an individual with a disability.

(b) A certificate of appointment or reappointment of each member shall be filed with the authority, and this certificate is conclusive evidence of the due and proper appointment of the member.

(c) Not more than three (3) of the appointed members of the board may belong to the same political party.



(d) An appointed member serves a four (4) year term. An appointed member shall hold over after the expiration of the member's term until the member's successor is appointed and qualified.

(e) The ~~governor~~ **appointing authority** may reappoint an appointed member of the board.

(f) A vacancy shall be filled for the balance of an unexpired term in the same manner as the original appointment.

(g) The treasurer of state shall serve as chairperson of the board. The board shall annually elect one (1) of its ex officio members as vice chairperson and may elect any other officer the board desires. The board shall meet at the call of the chairperson and as provided in the bylaws of the authority.

(h) The ~~governor~~ **appointing authority** may remove an appointed member for misfeasance, malfeasance, willful neglect of duty, or other cause.

(i) An appointed member of the board is not entitled to the minimum salary per diem provided by IC 4-10-11-2.1(b). However, each appointed member is entitled to reimbursement for traveling expenses and other expenses actually incurred in connection with the member's duties.

(j) An ex officio member of the board is entitled to reimbursement for traveling expenses and other expenses actually incurred in connection with the member's duties.

(k) An ex officio member of the board may designate a person to serve as an ex officio member of the board in the absence of the ex officio member.

(l) The majority of the members of the board constitute a quorum for the purposes of conducting the board's business and exercising the board's powers and for all other purposes. Vacant positions may not be counted when determining whether a majority of the members is present.

(m) The affirmative vote of a majority of all the members of the board who are present is necessary for the authority to take action. A vacancy in the membership of the board does not impair the right of a quorum to exercise all the rights and perform all the duties of the authority. An action taken by the board under this article may be authorized by:

(1) resolution at any regular or special meeting; or

(2) unanimous consent of all the members who have not abstained.

A resolution takes effect immediately upon adoption and need not be

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1 published or posted.

2 SECTION 148. IC 12-13-4-8 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
3 CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
4 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 8. This chapter expires December**
5 **31, 2026.**

6 SECTION 149. IC 12-13-14-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.210-2015,
7 SECTION 36, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
8 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 1. (a) As used in this chapter, "automated
9 teller machine" means an electronic hardware device owned or
10 operated by or on behalf of a financial institution or retailer that is
11 capable of dispensing currency and responding to balance inquiries
12 through the use of a magnetic stripe card issued by or on behalf of the
13 division for distribution of assistance through an EBT system as
14 described in this chapter.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

29 (1) sells food items to consumers; and

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

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

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

35 (1) used at a retailer's place of business where consumers pay for
36 goods or services; and

37 (2) capable of:

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

40 (B) disbursing currency from an account;

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

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

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

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

- 9 (1) sells or transfers tangible personal property; or
10 (2) provides or performs services for compensation;
11 to consumers.

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

14 SECTION 150. IC 12-13-14-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.210-2015,
15 SECTION 38, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
16 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) The electronic benefits transfer commission
17 is established.

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

- 20 (1) Two (2) employees of the office of the secretary of family
21 and social services.
22 (2) Two (2) members of the Indiana Grocers and Convenience
23 Store Association, nominated by the chief executive officer of
24 the Indiana Grocers and Convenience Store Association for
25 consideration by the secretary of family and social services.
26 (3) Two (2) members of the Indiana Bankers Association,
27 nominated by the chief executive officer of the Indiana Bankers
28 Association for consideration by the office of the secretary of
29 family and social services.
30 (4) Two (2) persons representing recipients of SNAP benefits or
31 TANF benefits. One (1) person shall be nominated by the
32 Indiana Food and Nutrition Network, and one (1) person shall be
33 nominated by the Indiana Coalition for Human Services for
34 consideration by the secretary of family and social services.

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

40 (d) The secretary of family and social services shall appoint the
41 initial chairperson from among the members of the commission. The

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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 151. 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 152. 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.

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

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

(d) The advisory committee shall do the following:

(1) Provide input and consultation regarding implementation and administration of 211 services by the office of the secretary to ensure compliance with any requirements or obligations under

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- 1 this chapter.
- 2 (2) Advise the office of the secretary and make
- 3 recommendations concerning the use of and goals for 211
- 4 services.
- 5 (e) The office of the secretary shall staff the advisory committee.
- 6 The expenses of the advisory committee shall be paid by the office of
- 7 the secretary.
- 8 (f) Each member of the advisory committee who is not a state
- 9 employee is entitled to the minimum salary per diem provided by
- 10 IC 4-10-11-2.1(b). The member is also entitled to reimbursement for
- 11 traveling expenses as provided under IC 4-13-1-4 and other expenses
- 12 actually incurred in connection with the member's duties as provided
- 13 in the state policies and procedures established by the Indiana
- 14 department of administration and approved by the budget agency.
- 15 (g) Each member of the advisory committee who is a state
- 16 employee is entitled to reimbursement for traveling expenses as
- 17 provided under IC 4-13-1-4 and other expenses actually incurred in
- 18 connection with the member's duties as provided in the state policies
- 19 and procedures established by the Indiana department of administration
- 20 and approved by the budget agency.
- 21 **(h) This section expires December 31, 2026.**
- 22 SECTION 153. IC 12-15-30.5-2, AS ADDED BY P.L.116-2019,
- 23 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 24 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) As used in this chapter, "commission" refers
- 25 to the nonemergency medical transportation commission established by
- 26 section 7 of this chapter.
- 27 **(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.**
- 28 SECTION 154. IC 12-15-30.5-6, AS ADDED BY P.L.116-2019,
- 29 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 30 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. (a) Before October 1, 2019, the office of the
- 31 secretary shall prepare a report containing the number of Medicaid
- 32 fee-for-service nonemergency medical transportation claims paid by:
- 33 (1) vehicle type;
- 34 (2) Medicaid recipient category; and
- 35 (3) whether the recipient for which the claim was paid resided
- 36 in:
- 37 (A) the community;
- 38 (B) a health facility;
- 39 (C) an intermediate care facility for individuals with
- 40 intellectual disabilities;
- 41 (D) a hospital; or

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- 1 (E) another location.
- 2 (b) Beginning June 1, 2016, through May 31, 2019, the claims data
- 3 reported in subsection (a) must be organized by month.
- 4 (c) The office of the secretary shall submit the report prepared
- 5 under subsection (a) to the commission.
- 6 **(d) This section expires December 31, 2026.**
- 7 SECTION 155. IC 12-15-30.5-7, AS AMENDED BY THE
- 8 TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS BILL OF THE 2026 GENERAL
- 9 ASSEMBLY, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 10 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) The nonemergency medical transportation
- 11 commission is established for the purpose of overseeing the provision
- 12 of nonemergency medical transportation services to ensure that
- 13 Medicaid fee-for-service recipients are receiving satisfactory service
- 14 and to ensure that brokers pay the claims of transportation providers in
- 15 a timely manner.
- 16 (b) The commission consists of the following members:
- 17 (1) Two (2) members of the senate, who may not be members of
- 18 the same political party, appointed by the president pro tempore
- 19 of the senate with the advice of the minority leader of the senate.
- 20 (2) Two (2) members of the house of representatives, who may
- 21 not be members of the same political party, appointed by the
- 22 speaker of the house of representatives with the advice of the
- 23 minority leader of the house of representatives.
- 24 (3) One (1) representative of the office of the secretary.
- 25 (4) One (1) individual representing a broker.
- 26 (5) One (1) individual representing a transportation provider that
- 27 has contracted with a broker.
- 28 (6) One (1) individual representing the Indiana Hospital
- 29 Association.
- 30 (7) One (1) individual representing the Indiana Health Care
- 31 Association.
- 32 (8) One (1) individual representing the Indiana Association of
- 33 Rehabilitation Facilities.
- 34 (9) One (1) individual representing the Arc of Indiana.
- 35 (10) One (1) physician licensed under IC 25-22.5.
- 36 (11) One (1) individual representing dialysis providers.
- 37 (12) One (1) Medicaid fee-for-service recipient.
- 38 (13) One (1) individual representing the Indiana Association of
- 39 Area Agencies on Aging.
- 40 (14) One (1) individual representing the Indiana Emergency
- 41 Medical Services Association.

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(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 156. 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.

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(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 157. 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 158. 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 159. 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

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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 licensed child capacity.

(B) For a child care center new inquiry application packet, a fee not to exceed five dollars (\$5).

(C) For a child care home license new inquiry application packet, a fee not to exceed five dollars (\$5).

(D) For a child care home annual inspection, a fee not to exceed twenty-five dollars (\$25).

(8) Exercise any other regulatory and administrative powers necessary to carry out the functions of the division.

SECTION 160. IC 12-17.2-2-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.56-2023, SECTION 118, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) The division shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 concerning the licensing and inspection of child care centers and child care homes after consultation with the following:

(1) Indiana department of health.

(2) ~~Fire prevention and building safety commission.~~
Department of homeland security.

(b) The rules adopted under subsection (a) shall be applied by the division and state fire marshal in the licensing and inspection of applicants for a license and licensees under this article.

SECTION 161. IC 12-17.2-2-9, AS AMENDED BY



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P.L.187-2021, SECTION 44, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. (a) A program operated to serve migrant children that is exempted under section 8(6) of this chapter and is certified by the United States Department of Health and Human Services shall be:

(1) granted a provisional license by the division, for a limited period not to exceed one (1) year and that is subject to review every three (3) months, if the division determines that the program reasonably complies with the rules adopted by the division; and

(2) inspected by the department of homeland security.

(b) The division and the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 that apply only to programs operated to serve migrant children that take into consideration the fact that the programs:

(1) operate in donated space;

(2) provide services for children from migrant worker families; and

(3) are operated during a single period of less than one hundred twenty (120) consecutive days during a calendar year.

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

SECTION 162. IC 12-17.2-2-10, AS AMENDED BY P.L.225-2013, SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) The division may grant a variance or waiver of a rule governing a provider. 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 division may grant a variance to a rule if a provider does the following:

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

(2) Documents that compliance with an alternative method of compliance approved by the division 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 division.

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

(d) The division may grant a waiver of a rule if a provider does the



1 following:

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

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

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

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

14 (e) Except for a variance or waiver of a rule governing child care
15 homes, a variance or waiver of a rule under this section that conflicts
16 with a building rule or fire safety rule adopted by the ~~fire prevention~~
17 ~~and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** is
18 not effective until the variance or waiver is approved by the ~~fire~~
19 ~~prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland**
20 **security or, with the approval of the department of homeland**
21 **security, the state building commissioner.**

22 SECTION 163. IC 12-17.2-2-12 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
23 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 12. (a) If the division
24 determines that a waiver or variance expiring under section 11 of this
25 chapter will continue to serve the public interest, the division may do
26 the following:

27 (1) Renew the waiver or variance without modifications.

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

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

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

35 (2) Provide the information required by the division.

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

41 (1) The ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~



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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 164. 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 165. 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:

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- 1 (A) garage; or
 2 (B) storage area;
 3 where hazardous materials are stored;
 4 (2) are not windows;
 5 (3) are on different sides of the facility;
 6 (4) are not blocked; and
 7 (5) are operable from the inside without the use of a key or any
 8 special knowledge.
 9 (b) A provider shall:
 10 (1) conduct monthly documented fire drills:
 11 (A) in accordance with the rules of the ~~fire prevention and~~
 12 ~~building safety commission; department of homeland~~
 13 ~~security; and~~
 14 (B) that include complete evacuation of all:
 15 (i) children; and
 16 (ii) adults who provide child care;
 17 in the facility;
 18 (2) maintain documentation of all fire drills conducted during the
 19 immediately preceding twelve (12) month period, including:
 20 (A) the date and time of the fire drill;
 21 (B) the name of the individual who conducted the fire drill;
 22 (C) the weather conditions at the time of the fire drill; and
 23 (D) the amount of time required to fully evacuate the
 24 facility; and
 25 (3) maintain a two and one-half (2 1/2) pound or greater ABC
 26 multiple purpose fire extinguisher:
 27 (A) on each floor of the facility; and
 28 (B) in the kitchen area of the facility;
 29 in each facility where the provider operates a child care program.

30 SECTION 166. IC 12-17.2-5-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 31 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. The ~~fire prevention~~
 32 ~~and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security**
 33 must provide consultation regarding the licensure of child care homes
 34 to the division upon request.

35 SECTION 167. IC 12-17.2-5-6.5, AS AMENDED BY
 36 P.L.134-2024, SECTION 8, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 37 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6.5. To qualify for a license to
 38 operate a class II child care home under this chapter, a person must do
 39 the following:

- 40 (1) Provide all child care services on the first story of the child
 41 care home unless the class II child care home meets the



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1 exceptions to the first story requirements contained in the
 2 Indiana building code adopted by the ~~fire prevention and~~
 3 ~~building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security**
 4 in effect at the time the class II child care home provider applies
 5 for licensure.

6 (2) Provide a smoke detection system that is:

7 (A) hard wired to the building's electrical system; and

8 (B) wired in a manner that activates all of the detector
 9 devices in the building when one (1) detector device is
 10 activated.

11 (3) Provide a fire extinguisher in each room that is used to
 12 provide child care services.

13 (4) Meet:

14 (A) the exit requirements for an E-3 building occupancy
 15 classification under the Indiana building code adopted by
 16 the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~,
 17 **department of homeland security**, except for any
 18 illumination requirements, in effect at the time the class II
 19 child care home provider initially applies for licensure; and

20 (B) the illumination requirements established in section
 21 6.3(b)(3) of this chapter.

22 (5) Provide a minimum of thirty-five (35) square feet for each
 23 child.

24 (6) Conduct fire drills required under article 37 of the Indiana
 25 fire prevention code adopted by the ~~fire prevention and building~~
 26 ~~safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** in effect
 27 at the time the class II child care home provider applies for
 28 licensure.

29 (7) Apply for a license before July 1, 1996, or after June 30,
 30 2001.

31 (8) Comply with rules adopted by the division of family
 32 resources for class II child care homes.

33 (9) Complete the training course taught or approved by the
 34 division concerning safe sleeping practices for a child within the
 35 person's care as described in IC 12-17.2-2-1(10).

36 SECTION 168. IC 12-17.2-5-36 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 37 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 36. The ~~fire prevention~~
 38 ~~and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security**
 39 may not adopt rules that classify a child care home as an E building
 40 occupancy classification.

41 SECTION 169. IC 12-17.2-6-5, AS AMENDED BY



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P.L.187-2021, SECTION 46, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) As used in this section, "primary use of the building" means the occupancy classification that is:

- (1) most closely related to the intended use of the building; and
- (2) determined by the rules of the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** in effect at the time that the child care ministry is first registered.

(b) The state fire marshal shall inspect a child care ministry registered under section 2 of this chapter to ensure that the child care ministry complies with the requirements of subsection (c).

(c) Except as provided in the following, a registered child care ministry shall comply with all rules of the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** applicable to the primary use of the building:

- (1) A registered child care ministry with an occupant load of at least fifty (50) shall do either of the following:

- (A) Install and maintain a fire alarm system in compliance 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

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1 number up to the next whole number.

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

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

7 SECTION 170. IC 12-17.6-2-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.53-2014,
8 SECTION 111, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
9 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) The office shall contract with
10 an independent organization to evaluate the program.

11 (b) The office shall report the results of each evaluation to the
12 ~~(1) children's health policy board established by IC 4-23-27-2;~~
13 ~~and~~
14 ~~(2) interim study committee on public health, behavioral health,~~
15 ~~and human services established by IC 2-5-1.3-4 in an electronic~~
16 ~~format under IC 5-14-6.~~

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

19 SECTION 171. IC 12-17.6-2-12, AS AMENDED BY
20 P.L.53-2014, SECTION 112, IS AMENDED TO READ AS
21 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 12. Not later than April
22 1, the office shall provide a report describing the program's activities
23 during the preceding calendar year to the:

24 (1) budget committee;
25 (2) legislative council; **and**
26 ~~(3) children's health policy board established by IC 4-23-27-2;~~
27 ~~and~~
28 ~~(4) (3) interim study committee on public health, behavioral~~
29 ~~health, and human services established by IC 2-5-1.3-4 in an~~
30 ~~electronic format under IC 5-14-6.~~

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

33 SECTION 172. IC 12-17.6-4-2, AS AMENDED BY
34 P.L.103-2009, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
35 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) The benefit package provided
36 under the program shall focus on age appropriate preventive, primary,
37 and acute care services.

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

40 (1) Inpatient and outpatient hospital services.
41 (2) Physicians' services provided by a physician (as defined in 42



1 U.S.C. 1395x(r)).

2 (3) Laboratory and x-ray services.

3 (4) Well-baby and well-child care, including:

4 (A) age appropriate immunizations; and

5 (B) periodic screening, diagnosis, and treatment services
6 according to a schedule developed by the office.

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

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

16 (1) Prescription drugs.

17 (2) Mental health services.

18 (3) Vision services.

19 (4) Hearing services.

20 (5) Dental services.

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

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

29 (A) treats mental disease; and

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

31 unless coverage is prohibited by federal law.

32 (2) Psychiatric residential treatment services.

33 (3) Community mental health rehabilitation services.

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

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

39 SECTION 173. IC 12-17.6-4-5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
40 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) It is a violation
41 of IC 27-4-1-4 if an insurer, or an insurance producer or insurance

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1 broker compensated by the insurer, knowingly or intentionally refers
 2 an insured or the dependent of an insured to the program for health
 3 insurance coverage when the insured already receives health insurance
 4 coverage through an employer's health care plan that is underwritten by
 5 the insurer.

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

10 SECTION 174. IC 12-30-7-9 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 11 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 9. (a) The county
 12 executive shall appoint a board of managers for the health center. The
 13 board of managers shall be composed of eleven (11) county residents
 14 appointed on the basis of the residents' recognized interest in and
 15 demonstrated knowledge of the problems of the health center and the
 16 proper care and treatment of the patients and residents. The board of
 17 managers must be composed of any combination of the following:

18 (1) Physicians holding unlimited licenses to practice medicine in
 19 Indiana.

20 (2) Licensed registered nurses, pharmacists licensed under
 21 IC 25-26-13, or licensed dentists.

22 (3) Individuals appointed from business, industry, and the health
 23 professions, or consumer representatives.

24 (4) Social workers.

25 (5) Dietitians.

26 (6) Professional engineers (as defined in ~~IC 25-31-1-2~~).
 27 **IC 25-4-0.5-10).**

28 (7) Any other resident of the county the board of commissioners
 29 considers qualified.

30 (b) Not more than six (6) members of the board of managers may
 31 be members of the same political party.

32 SECTION 175. IC 13-11-2-177.7, AS ADDED BY P.L.176-2023,
 33 SECTION 27, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 34 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 177.7. "Qualified environmental
 35 professional", for purposes of IC 13-23-13, means the following:

36 (1) A registered professional engineer (as defined in
 37 ~~IC 25-31-1-2~~). **IC 25-4-0.5-10).**

38 (2) A licensed professional geologist (as defined in
 39 IC 25-17.6-1-6.5).

40 (3) A certified hazardous materials manager (CHMM) as
 41 certified by the Institute of Hazardous Material Management.

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(4) A professional soil scientist registered under IC 25-31.5-4-1.
 SECTION 176. IC 13-18-3-12, AS AMENDED BY P.L.113-2014,
 SECTION 70, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 12. The board shall adopt rules providing
 that whenever a person submits plans to a unit concerning the design
 or construction of:

- (1) a sanitary sewer or public water main, if:
 - (A) a professional engineer who is registered under
~~IC 25-31~~ IC 25-4-3 prepared the plans;
 - (B) the unit provided for review of the plans by a qualified
 engineer and subsequently approved the plans; and
 - (C) all other requirements specified in rules adopted by the
 board are met; or
- (2) a sanitary sewer extension for and within a subdivision, if:
 - (A) a qualified professional surveyor who is registered
 under IC 25-21.5 prepared the plans;
 - (B) the subdivision is being laid out or having been laid out
 by the professional surveyor subject to IC 25-21.5-7;
 - (C) the unit provided for review of the plans by a qualified
 engineer and subsequently approved the plans; and
 - (D) all other requirements specified in rules adopted by the
 board are met;

the plans are not required to be submitted to any state agency for a
 permit, permission, or review, unless required by federal law.

SECTION 177. 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.



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(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 178. IC 13-20-26-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.153-2023, SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. (a) There is established a central Indiana waste diversion project for the following purposes:

(1) Determining the most practical and effective means of:

(A) addressing domestic supply chain disruptions that result in:

- (i) scarcity of raw materials necessary for manufacturing and other industries in Indiana;
- (ii) increased prices of those raw materials; and
- (iii) manufacturing delays, employment fluctuations, and stagnant growth;

(B) preventing the unnecessary disposal of potentially valuable recyclable materials in landfills and waste incinerators;

(C) stimulating economic development, including the:

- (i) creation of employment opportunities throughout Indiana; and
- (ii) market development through the reuse of recyclable materials by diverting the materials from waste streams throughout the project area for commercial reuse;

(D) advancing research and development to enhance existing waste diversion efforts and support the creation of new processes and technologies that expand upon the existing universe of waste diversion and reuse of recyclable material; and

(E) supporting recycling technology or programs that:

- (i) involve the return, collection, and sorting of recyclable glass, aluminum, or plastic beverage containers;
- (ii) are accessible to the general public; and
- (iii) are operated by a retail merchant (as described in IC 6-2.5-4-1), a professional sports or entertainment

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- 1 venue, an airport, a school for students between
 2 kindergarten and grade 12, or an institution of higher
 3 education.
- 4 (2) Determining the feasibility of expansion of the waste
 5 diversion program throughout Indiana by analyzing data
 6 provided by project participants to the department to measure the
 7 success of the project in:
- 8 (A) diverting waste from landfills and incinerators; and
 9 (B) providing valuable raw materials for manufacturing and
 10 other Indiana industries.
- 11 (3) Determining the potential for future market development.
- 12 (b) The project established under this section shall be limited to
 13 applicants located in Marion County during the first round of grants.
 14 Following the completion of the first round of grants, the project shall
 15 be expanded for a second round of grants. Applicants located in the
 16 following counties shall be eligible to receive grants during the second
 17 round:
- 18 (1) Marion.
 19 (2) Hamilton.
 20 (3) Hancock.
 21 (4) Shelby.
 22 (5) Johnson.
 23 (6) Morgan.
 24 (7) Hendricks.
 25 (8) Boone.
- 26 (c) An applicant who is eligible to participate in the project
 27 established under this section must demonstrate direct connectivity in
 28 diversion of valuable raw materials for procurement to identified
 29 Indiana based end markets as a commodity.
- 30 (d) The project established under this section shall commence
 31 upon the:
- 32 (1) approval of the proposals submitted under this chapter; and
 33 (2) award of funds necessary to implement the project.
- 34 The duration of the project may not exceed four (4) years after the date
 35 that the project commences.
- 36 (e) The project established under this section shall commence a
 37 second round of grants within one (1) year after the first round of
 38 grants are awarded to the selected projects. Applicants selected for a
 39 grant during the first round of grants may apply for a grant during the
 40 second round of grants.
- 41 (f) Grant applicants seeking funding from the project established

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1 under this section must provide a financial match, as determined by the
 2 ~~Indiana recycling market development board~~ **department** under
 3 IC 4-23-5.5-7, to receive funding.

4 SECTION 179. IC 13-20.5-2-2, AS ADDED BY P.L.178-2009,
 5 SECTION 27, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 6 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. Not later than sixty (60) days after the date of
 7 the statement provided to a manufacturer under section 1(c) of this
 8 chapter, the manufacturer may petition the ~~Indiana recycling market~~
 9 ~~development board created by IC 4-23-5.5-2~~ **department** for relief
 10 from the variable recycling fee imposed under section 1 of this chapter
 11 upon showing of good cause. In determining whether to grant a petition
 12 for relief under this section, the ~~Indiana recycling market development~~
 13 ~~board~~ **department** shall determine whether the manufacturer has made
 14 good faith progress to achieve substantial compliance with this article.
 15 A determination by the ~~Indiana recycling market development board~~
 16 **department** under this subsection is not subject to appeal by the
 17 manufacturer.

18 SECTION 180. IC 13-23-2-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 19 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. A unit of local
 20 government may not enact or enforce an ordinance that is in conflict
 21 with any of the following:

- 22 (1) This article.
- 23 (2) Rules adopted by the ~~fire prevention and building safety~~
 24 ~~commission~~ **department of homeland security** under this
 25 article.
- 26 (3) Rules adopted by the board under this article.

27 SECTION 181. IC 13-23-3-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 28 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) To obtain a
 29 certificate under section 1 of this chapter, a person must:

- 30 (1) take an examination that is approved;
- 31 (2) achieve a passing score on the examination that is
 32 established; and
- 33 (3) pay any reasonable fees necessary to offset the costs incurred
 34 by the ~~state fire marshal~~ **department** in administering the
 35 examination and certification procedures that are established;
 36 under rules adopted by the ~~fire prevention and building safety~~
 37 ~~commission~~ **board**.

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

- 40 (1) Relevant rules adopted by ~~the~~
 41 ~~(A) board~~; and

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- 1 ~~(B) fire prevention and building safety commission;~~
 2 **the board** concerning underground storage tanks.
 3 (2) Any other subjects approved under rules adopted by the ~~fire~~
 4 ~~prevention and building safety commission.~~ **board.**
 5 (c) ~~The fire prevention and building safety commission board~~
 6 shall adopt rules establishing the following:
 7 (1) The number of times a person who fails an examination
 8 described under this section may take the examination again.
 9 (2) The period of time a person who fails an examination
 10 described under this section must wait before taking the
 11 examination again.
 12 (d) ~~The state fire marshal department~~ may, ~~under rules adopted~~
 13 ~~by the fire prevention and building safety commission;~~ certify a person:
 14 (1) under section 1 of this chapter; and
 15 (2) by reciprocity;
 16 if the person is licensed or certified by another state that has
 17 certification requirements that are substantially similar to the
 18 requirements established under this section.
 19 SECTION 182. IC 14-8-2-48, AS AMENDED BY P.L.251-2023,
 20 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 21 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 48. (a) "Commission", except as provided in
 22 this section, refers to the natural resources commission.
 23 (b) "Commission", for purposes of IC 14-13-1, has the meaning set
 24 forth in IC 14-13-1-1.
 25 (c) "Commission", for purposes of IC 14-13-2, has the meaning set
 26 forth in IC 14-13-2-2.
 27 ~~(d) "Commission", for purposes of IC 14-13-4, has the meaning set~~
 28 ~~forth in IC 14-13-4-1.~~
 29 ~~(e) "Commission", for purposes of IC 14-13-5, has the meaning set~~
 30 ~~forth in IC 14-13-5-1.~~
 31 ~~(f) (d) "Commission", for purposes of IC 14-13-6, has the meaning~~
 32 set forth in IC 14-13-6-2.
 33 ~~(g) (e) "Commission", for purposes of IC 14-13-9, has the meaning~~
 34 set forth in IC 14-13-9-2.
 35 ~~(h) (f) "Commission", for purposes of IC 14-20-11, has the~~
 36 meaning set forth in IC 14-20-11-1.
 37 ~~(i) (g) "Commission", for purposes of IC 14-28-4, has the meaning~~
 38 set forth in IC 14-28-4-1.
 39 ~~(j) (h) "Commission", for purposes of IC 14-30-2, has the meaning~~
 40 set forth in IC 14-30-2-2.
 41 ~~(k) (i) "Commission", for purposes of IC 14-30-3, has the meaning~~

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1 set forth in IC 14-30-3-2.

2 ~~(j)~~ (j) "Commission", for purposes of IC 14-30-4, has the meaning
3 set forth in IC 14-30-4-2.

4 ~~(m)~~ (k) "Commission", for purposes of IC 14-30.5, has the
5 meaning set forth in IC 14-30.5-1-2.

6 ~~(n)~~ (l) "Commission", for purposes of IC 14-33-20, has the
7 meaning set forth in IC 14-33-20-2.

8 SECTION 183. IC 14-8-2-59, AS AMENDED BY P.L.197-2011,
9 SECTION 47, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
10 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 59. "Corridor" has the following meaning:

11 (1) For purposes of IC 14-13-4, the meaning set forth in
12 IC 14-13-4-2.

13 (2) For purposes of IC 14-13-5, the meaning set forth in
14 IC 14-13-5-2.

15 (3) For purposes of IC 14-13-6, the meaning set forth in
16 IC 14-13-6-3.

17 SECTION 184. IC 14-8-2-61 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY
18 1, 2026]. Sec. 61. "Council", for purposes of IC 14-21-1, has the
19 meaning set forth in IC 14-21-1-5.

20 SECTION 185. IC 14-9-6 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
21 2026]. (Advisory Council).

22 SECTION 186. IC 14-10-1-0.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
23 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
24 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 0.5. This article expires December**
25 **31, 2026.**

26 SECTION 187. IC 14-10-1-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.78-2019,
27 SECTION 13, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
28 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. The natural resources commission is
29 established. The commission consists of ~~twelve (12)~~ **eleven (11)**
30 members as follows:

31 (1) The commissioner of the Indiana department of
32 transportation or the commissioner's designee.

33 (2) The commissioner of the department of environmental
34 management or the commissioner's designated deputy.

35 (3) The director of the office of tourism development or the
36 director's designee (before July 1, 2020) or the director of the
37 Indiana destination development corporation or the director's
38 designee (after June 30, 2020).

39 (4) The director of the department.

40 ~~(5) The chairperson of the advisory council established by~~
41 ~~IC 14-9-6-1.~~

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1 ~~(6)~~ (5) The president of the Indiana academy of science or the
 2 president's designee.

3 ~~(7)~~ (6) Six (6) citizen members appointed by the governor, at
 4 least two (2) of whom must have knowledge, experience, or
 5 education in the environment or in natural resource conservation.
 6 Not more than three (3) citizen members may be of the same
 7 political party.

8 SECTION 188. IC 14-13-2-32, AS ADDED BY P.L.106-2012,
 9 SECTION 19, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 10 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 32. (a) The Little Calumet River basin project
 11 advisory board is established.

12 (b) The advisory board consists of the following members:

13 (1) One (1) member appointed by the executive of each
 14 municipality located in the watershed.

15 (2) One (1) member appointed by the board of county
 16 commissioners of Lake County.

17 (c) Each member of the advisory board must have experience in:

18 (1) designing;

19 (2) constructing;

20 (3) maintaining; or

21 (4) managing;

22 drainage or flood control facilities in the watershed.

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

24 SECTION 189. IC 14-13-4-17 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
 25 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 26 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 17. This chapter expires**
 27 **December 31, 2026.**

28 SECTION 190. IC 14-13-5-18 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
 29 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 30 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 18. This chapter expires**
 31 **December 31, 2026.**

32 SECTION 191. IC 14-21-1-5 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY
 33 1, 2026]. ~~Sec. 5: As used in this chapter, "council" refers to the~~
 34 ~~advisory council established by IC 14-9-6-1.~~

35 SECTION 192. IC 14-21-1-12 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 36 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 12. The division shall
 37 do the following:

38 (1) Develop a program of historical, architectural, and
 39 archeological research and development, including continuing
 40 surveys, excavations, scientific recording, interpretation, and
 41 publication of the state's historical, architectural, and

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1 archeological resources.

2 (2) Prepare a preservation plan for the state that establishes
3 planning guidelines to encourage the continuous maintenance
4 and integrity of historic sites and historic structures. However,
5 the plan is not effective until the plan has been

6 ~~(A) presented to the council for review and comment; and~~
7 ~~(B) approved by the review board after public hearing.~~

8 (3) Undertake the action necessary to qualify the state for
9 participation in sources of federal aid to further the purposes
10 stated in subdivisions (1) and (2).

11 (4) Provide information on historic sites and structures within
12 Indiana to federal, state, and local governmental agencies,
13 private individuals, and organizations.

14 (5) Advise and coordinate the activities of local historical
15 associations, historic district commissions, historic commissions,
16 and other interested groups or persons.

17 (6) Provide technical and financial assistance to local historical
18 associations, historic district commissions, historic commissions,
19 and other interested groups or persons.

20 (7) Review environmental impact statements as required by
21 federal and state law for actions significantly affecting historic
22 properties.

23 SECTION 193. IC 14-21-1-13, AS AMENDED BY P.L.2-2007,
24 SECTION 169, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
25 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 13. The division may do the
26 following:

27 (1) Recommend the purchase, lease, or gift of historic property
28 of archeological importance and make recommendations to the
29 director ~~council~~, and commission regarding policies affecting the
30 operation and administration of these sites and structures by the
31 section of historic sites of the division of state museums and
32 historic sites.

33 (2) Prepare and review planning and research studies relating to
34 archeology.

35 (3) Conduct a program of education in archeology, either within
36 the division or in conjunction with a postsecondary educational
37 institution.

38 (4) Inspect and supervise an archeological field investigation
39 authorized by this chapter.

40 SECTION 194. IC 14-21-1-25.5, AS AMENDED BY
41 P.L.133-2012, SECTION 173, IS AMENDED TO READ AS



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1 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 25.5. (a) If a Native
 2 American Indian burial ground is discovered, the department shall
 3 immediately provide notice to the ~~Native American Indian affairs~~
 4 ~~commission established by IC 4-23-32.~~ **Indiana cultural commission**
 5 **established under IC 4-23-36.**

6 (b) If Native American Indian human remains are removed from
 7 a burial ground, the department shall provide the following to the
 8 ~~Native American Indian affairs~~ **Indiana cultural** commission:

9 (1) Any written findings or reports that result from the analysis
 10 and study of the human remains.

11 (2) Written notice to the ~~Native American Indian affairs~~ **Indiana**
 12 **cultural** commission that the analysis and study of the human
 13 remains are complete.

14 (c) After receiving written notice under subsection (b)(2), the
 15 ~~Native American Indian affairs~~ **Indiana cultural** commission shall
 16 make recommendations to the department regarding the final
 17 disposition of the Native American Indian human remains.

18 SECTION 195. IC 14-25-2-2.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.3-2008,
 19 SECTION 102, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 20 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2.5. (a) As used in this chapter,
 21 "water utility" means:

- 22 (1) a public utility (as defined in IC 8-1-2-1(a));
- 23 (2) a municipally owned utility (as defined in IC 8-1-2-1(h));
- 24 (3) a not-for-profit utility (as defined in IC 8-1-2-125(a));
- 25 (4) a cooperatively owned corporation;
- 26 (5) a conservancy district established under IC 14-33; or
- 27 (6) a regional water district established under IC 13-26;

28 that provides water service to the public.

29 (b) A person that seeks to contract with the commission for the
 30 provision of certain minimum quantities of stream flow or the sale of
 31 water on a unit pricing basis under section 2 of this chapter must
 32 submit a request to the commission and the department. The
 33 commission shall not make a determination as to whether to enter into
 34 a contract with the person making the request until:

- 35 (1) the procedures set forth in this section have been followed;
 36 and
- 37 (2) the commission has reviewed and considered each report
 38 submitted to the commission under subsection (i).

39 (c) Not later than thirty (30) days after receiving a request under
 40 subsection (b), the department shall provide, by certified mail, written
 41 notice of the request to the following:



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- 1 (1) Each person with whom the commission holds a contract for:
 2 (A) the provision of certain minimum quantities of stream
 3 flow; or
 4 (B) the sale of water on a unit pricing basis;
 5 as of the date of the request.
 6 (2) The executive and legislative body of each:
 7 (A) county;
 8 (B) municipality, if any; and
 9 (C) conservancy district established under IC 14-33, if any;
 10 in which the water sought in the request would be used.
 11 (3) The executive and legislative body of each:
 12 (A) county;
 13 (B) municipality, if any; and
 14 (C) conservancy district established under IC 14-33, if any;
 15 in which the affected reservoir is located.
 16 (d) Not later than seven (7) days after receiving a notice from the
 17 department under subsection (c), each person described in subsection
 18 (c)(1) shall, by certified mail, provide written notice of the request to
 19 each:
 20 (1) water utility; or
 21 (2) other person;
 22 that contracts with the person described in subsection (c)(1) for the
 23 purchase of water for resale. Each person to whom notice is mailed
 24 under this subsection is in turn responsible for providing written notice
 25 by certified mail to each water utility or other person that purchases
 26 water from that person for resale. A water utility or another person
 27 required to provide notice under this subsection shall mail the required
 28 notice not later than seven (7) days after it receives notice of the
 29 request from the water utility or other person from whom it purchases
 30 water for resale.
 31 (e) At the same time that:
 32 (1) a person described in subsection (c)(1); or
 33 (2) a water utility or another person described in subsection (d);
 34 mails any notice required under subsection (d), it shall also mail to the
 35 department, by certified mail, a list of the names and addresses of each
 36 water utility or other person to whom it has mailed the notice under
 37 subsection (d).
 38 (f) In addition to the mailed notice required under subsection (c),
 39 the department shall publish notice of the request, in accordance with
 40 IC 5-3-1, in each county:
 41 (1) in which a person described in section (c)(1) is located;

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- 1 (2) in which the affected reservoir is located;
- 2 (3) in which the water sought in the request would be used; and
- 3 (4) in which a water utility or other person included in a list
- 4 received by the department under subsection (e) is located.
- 5 Notwithstanding IC 5-3-1-6, in each county in which publication is
- 6 required under this subsection, notice shall be published in at least one
- 7 (1) general circulation newspaper in the county. The department may,
- 8 in its discretion, publish public notices in a qualified publication (as
- 9 defined in IC 5-3-1-0.7) or additional newspapers to provide
- 10 supplementary notification to the public. The cost of publishing
- 11 supplementary notification is a proper expenditure of the department.
- 12 (g) A notice required to be mailed or published under this section
- 13 must:
- 14 (1) identify the person making the request;
- 15 (2) include a brief description of:
- 16 (A) the nature of the pending request; and
- 17 (B) the process by which the commission will determine
- 18 whether to enter into a contract with the person making the
- 19 request;
- 20 (3) set forth the date, time, and location of the public meeting
- 21 required under subsection (h); and
- 22 (4) in the case of a notice that is required to be mailed under
- 23 subsection (c)(1) or (d), a statement of the recipient's duty to in
- 24 turn provide notice to any:
- 25 (A) water utility; or
- 26 (B) other person;
- 27 that purchases water for resale from the recipient, in accordance
- 28 with subsection (d).
- 29 (h) ~~The advisory council established by IC 14-9-6-1~~ **department**
- 30 shall hold a public meeting in each county in which notice is published
- 31 under subsection (f). A public meeting required under this subsection
- 32 must include the following:
- 33 (1) A presentation by the department describing:
- 34 (A) the nature of the pending request; and
- 35 (B) the process by which the commission will determine
- 36 whether to enter into a contract with the person making the
- 37 request.
- 38 (2) An opportunity for public comment on the pending request.
- 39 The ~~advisory council~~ **department** may appoint a hearing officer to
- 40 assist with a public meeting held under this subsection.
- 41 (i) Not later than thirty (30) days after a public meeting is held

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under subsection (h), the ~~advisory council~~ **department** shall submit to the commission a report summarizing the public meeting.

SECTION 196. IC 14-25-7-10, AS AMENDED BY P.L. 161-2025, SECTION 23, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) The commission shall administer this chapter.

(b) The deputy director for the bureau of resource management shall serve as technical secretary to the commission. The deputy director shall perform the duties that are required by this chapter or that the commission directs.

(c) ~~The advisory council established by IC 14-9-6-1 shall serve in an advisory capacity to the commission with respect to the implementation of the commission's powers and duties, including the drafting of rules and development of inventories, assessments, and plans.~~

(d) For the time that the advisory council is involved in the drafting of rules, the membership of the council shall be augmented as follows:

(1) Two (2) members of the senate, not more than one (1) of whom may be of the same political party, shall be appointed for a term of two (2) years by the president pro tempore of the senate.

(2) Two (2) members of the house of representatives, not more than one (1) of whom may be of the same political party, shall be appointed for a term of two (2) years by the speaker of the house of representatives.

These members are entitled to travel expenses and a per diem allowance as determined by the budget agency for members of boards and commissions generally.

(e) (c) The department shall provide professional, technical, and clerical personnel, equipment, supplies, and support services reasonably required to assist the commission in the exercise of the commission's powers and duties under this chapter. The department shall include money for this purpose in the regular operating budget requests of the department.

(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



1 ~~(2) actionable items considered;~~
 2 ~~by the advisory council during the preceding two (2) years.~~

3 SECTION 197. IC 14-25-7-12.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.189-2015,
 4 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 5 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 12.5. (a) The department shall cooperate with the
 6 United States Geological Survey to establish a program under which
 7 volunteers may monitor the water resource and provide monitoring data
 8 to the commission, the department, and the United States Geological
 9 Survey. Data derived from the voluntary monitoring conducted under
 10 the program may be:

11 (1) collected and disseminated by the commission under section
 12 12(1) of this chapter; and

13 (2) used by the commission in conducting the continuing
 14 assessment of the availability of the water resource under section
 15 11(1) of this chapter.

16 (b) The department may cooperate with other local, state, and
 17 federal governmental agencies in implementing this section.

18 (c) The commission, under IC 4-22-2 and section 10(a) of this
 19 chapter, may adopt rules concerning the administration of this section.
 20 ~~Section 10(c) and 10(d) of this chapter does not apply to the adoption~~
 21 ~~of rules under this subsection.~~

22 SECTION 198. IC 14-26-2-24, AS AMENDED BY P.L.92-2025,
 23 SECTION 44, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 24 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 24. (a) Relying on recommendations of the
 25 department, ~~and the advisory council established by IC 14-9-6-1,~~ the
 26 commission shall adopt, under IC 4-22-7-7(a)(5)(A), and maintain a
 27 nonrule policy statement that lists the public freshwater lakes in
 28 Indiana. For each public freshwater lake the statement must include the
 29 following information:

30 (1) The name of the lake.

31 (2) The county and specific location within the county where the
 32 lake is located.

33 (b) A person may obtain an administrative adjudication from the
 34 office of administrative law proceedings for the listing or nonlisting of
 35 a lake as a public freshwater lake through a licensure action, status
 36 determination, or enforcement action under IC 4-21.5.

37 SECTION 199. IC 14-27-7.5-9 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 38 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 9. (a) The owner
 39 of a high hazard structure shall:

40 (1) have a professional engineer licensed under ~~IC 25-31~~
 41 **IC 25-4-3** make an engineering inspection of the high hazard

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structure at least one (1) time every two (2) years;
 (2) submit a report of the inspection in a form approved by the
 department to the department. The report must include at least
 the following information:

(A) An evaluation of the structure's condition, spillway
 capacity, operational adequacy, and structural integrity.

(B) A determination of whether deficiencies exist that could
 lead to the failure of the structure, and recommendations for
 maintenance, repairs, and alterations to the structure to
 eliminate deficiencies, including a recommended schedule
 for necessary upgrades to the structure.

(b) If after an inspection under subsection (a) the licensed
 professional engineer who conducted the inspection determines that
 maintenance, repairs, or alterations to a high hazard structure are
 necessary to remedy deficiencies in the structure, the owner shall
 perform the recommended maintenance, repairs, or alterations.

(c) The department shall issue a notice of violation under section
 11 of this chapter to the owner of a high hazard structure who fails to:

(1) have the structure inspected under subsection (a);

(2) perform recommended maintenance, repairs, or alterations to
 the structure under subsection (b); or

(3) biennially submit the inspection report prepared under
 subsection (a).

(d) The department may make an engineering inspection of a high
 hazard structure to ensure compliance with this chapter.

SECTION 200. IC 14-33-14-8 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 8. (a) As used in
 this section, "cost index source" refers to the Engineering News Record
 Construction Cost Index, as published by McGraw Hill Construction
 or its successor.

(b) Before January 1, 2006, the board of a district may elect to
 adjust the annual cost of maintenance of the works of improvement as
 stated in the plan, as calculated in subsection (d), if the following
 conditions are met:

(1) The board has at a meeting adopted a resolution that sets
 forth:

(A) the annual cost of maintenance of the works of
 improvement as stated in the plan, and the year when the
 annual cost was stated in the plan; and

(B) the new, adjusted annual cost of maintenance of the
 works of improvement.



(2) The calculation under subsection (d) has been verified by either the state conservation engineer for the Natural Resources Conservation Service of the United States Department of Agriculture or a professional engineer licensed under ~~IC 25-31-1~~. **IC 25-4-3.**

(3) The board has provided a copy of the resolution to the department of local government finance (established by IC 6-1.1-30-1.1) within sixty (60) days of adoption.

(c) If the board of a district adopts a resolution under section (b)(1), a copy of the resolution must be included in the district's annual report, and a copy of the annual report must be provided to the local circuit court and the department of natural resources.

(d) The annual cost of maintenance of the works of improvement as stated in the plan of a district may be adjusted to an amount not to exceed the amount determined as follows:

STEP ONE: Determine the cost index from the cost index source for the most recent year.

STEP TWO: Determine the cost index from the cost index source for the year that the annual cost of maintenance of the works of improvement was stated in the plan.

STEP THREE: Divide the number determined in STEP ONE by the number determined in STEP TWO.

STEP FOUR: Multiply the result of STEP THREE by the annual cost of maintenance of the works of improvement that is stated in the plan.

SECTION 201. IC 14-34-3-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 3. An application for a surface coal mining and reclamation permit must include the following:

(1) The names and addresses of the following:

(A) The permit applicant.

(B) Every legal owner of record of the property (surface and mineral) to be mined.

(C) The holders of record of any leasehold interest in the property.

(D) Any purchaser of record of the property under a real estate contract.

(E) The operator if the operator is a person different from the applicant.

(F) If a person in clauses (A) through (E) is a business entity other than a single proprietor, the names and



- 1 addresses of the principals, officers, and resident agent.
- 2 (2) The names and addresses of the owners of record of all
- 3 surface and subsurface areas adjacent to any part of the permit
- 4 area.
- 5 (3) A statement of each current or previous surface coal mining
- 6 permit in the United States held by the applicant, including each
- 7 pending application, the permit identification, and the state that
- 8 issued that permit or holds the pending application.
- 9 (4) If the applicant is a partnership, a corporation, an association,
- 10 or other business entity, the following where applicable:
- 11 (A) The names and addresses of every officer, partner, or
- 12 director or person performing a function similar to a
- 13 director of the applicant.
- 14 (B) The name and address of each person owning, of record,
- 15 at least ten percent (10%) of any class of voting stock of the
- 16 applicant.
- 17 (C) A list of all names under which the applicant, partner,
- 18 or principal shareholder previously operated a surface coal
- 19 mining operation within the United States within:
- 20 (i) the five (5) years preceding the date of submission
- 21 of the application; or
- 22 (ii) any additional period that the director establishes.
- 23 (5) A statement of whether the applicant or a subsidiary, an
- 24 affiliate, or a person controlled by or under common control with
- 25 the applicant has:
- 26 (A) ever held a federal or state coal mining permit that in:
- 27 (i) the five (5) years preceding the date of submission
- 28 of the application; or
- 29 (ii) any additional period that the director establishes;
- 30 was suspended or revoked or is in the process of revocation;
- 31 or
- 32 (B) had a mining bond or similar security deposited in lieu
- 33 of bond forfeited;
- 34 and if so, a brief explanation of the facts involved and
- 35 identification of the state in which this action occurred.
- 36 (6) A copy of the applicant's advertisement to be published under
- 37 IC 14-34-4-1. The advertisement must include the following:
- 38 (A) The names of the property owners involved.
- 39 (B) A description of the exact location and boundaries of
- 40 the proposed site sufficient so that the proposed surface coal
- 41 mining operation is readily locatable by local residents.

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- 1 (C) The location where the application is available for
- 2 public inspection.
- 3 (7) A description of the following:
- 4 (A) The type and method of surface coal mining operation
- 5 that exists or is proposed.
- 6 (B) The engineering techniques proposed or used.
- 7 (C) The equipment used or proposed to be used.
- 8 (8) The anticipated or actual starting and termination dates of
- 9 each phase of the surface coal mining operation and the number
- 10 of acres of land to be affected.
- 11 (9) An accurate map or plan, to an appropriate scale, clearly
- 12 showing the following:
- 13 (A) The land to be affected as of the date of the application.
- 14 (B) The area of land within the permit area upon which the
- 15 applicant has the legal right to enter and commence surface
- 16 coal mining operations, including the following:
- 17 (i) A statement of those documents upon which the
- 18 applicant bases the applicant's legal right to enter and
- 19 commence surface coal mining operations on the area
- 20 affected.
- 21 (ii) Whether that right is the subject of pending court
- 22 litigation.
- 23 (10) The name of the watershed and location of the surface
- 24 stream or tributary into which surface and pit drainage will be
- 25 discharged.
- 26 (11) A determination of the probable hydrologic consequences
- 27 of surface coal mining and reclamation operations, both on and
- 28 off the mine site, with respect to the following:
- 29 (A) The hydrologic regime.
- 30 (B) The quantity and quality of water in surface and ground
- 31 water systems, including the dissolved and suspended solids
- 32 under seasonal flow conditions.
- 33 (C) The collection of sufficient data for the mine site and
- 34 surrounding areas so that an assessment can be made of the
- 35 probable cumulative impacts of all anticipated mining in the
- 36 area upon the hydrology of the area and particularly upon
- 37 water availability.
- 38 However, this determination is not required until the time that
- 39 hydrologic information on the general area before mining is
- 40 made available from an appropriate federal or state agency. The
- 41 permit may not be approved until the information is available

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and is incorporated into the application.

(12) When requested by the director, the climatological factors that are peculiar to the locality of the land to be affected, including the following:

(A) The average seasonal precipitation.

(B) The average direction and velocity of prevailing winds.

(C) The seasonal temperature ranges.

(13) Accurate maps to an appropriate scale clearly showing the land affected on the date of application and the same information that is set forth on topographical maps of the United States Geological Survey of a scale of 1:24,000 or 1:25,000 or larger, including all manmade features and archeological and historical sites known by the division of historic preservation and archeology. The map or plan must show the following:

(A) All boundaries of the land to be affected.

(B) The boundary lines and names of present owners of record of all surface areas abutting the permit area.

(C) The location of all buildings within one thousand (1,000) feet of the permit area.

(14) Cross section maps or plans of the land to be affected, including the actual area to be mined, prepared by or under the direction of and certified by an engineer licensed under ~~IC 25-31~~ **IC 25-4-3** or a geologist licensed under IC 25-17.6 with assistance from experts in related fields such as land surveying and landscape architecture. The maps or plans must show pertinent elevation and location of test borings or core samplings and depict the following:

(A) The nature and depth of the various strata of overburden as required by the commission in the commission's rules.

(B) The location and quality of subsurface water if encountered.

(C) The nature and thickness of each coal or rider seam above the coal seam to be mined.

(D) The nature of the stratum immediately beneath the coal seam to be mined.

(E) All mineral crop lines and the strike and dip of the coal to be mined within the area of land to be affected.

(F) Existing or previous surface coal mining limits.

(G) The location and extent of known workings of each underground coal mine, including mine openings to the surface.

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- 1 (H) The location of aquifers as required by the commission
- 2 in the commission's rules.
- 3 (I) The estimated elevation of the water table.
- 4 (J) The location of spoil, waste, or refuse areas and topsoil
- 5 preservation areas.
- 6 (K) The location of all impoundments for waste or erosion
- 7 control.
- 8 (L) Each settling or water treatment facility.
- 9 (M) Constructed or natural drainageways and the location
- 10 of each discharge to a surface body of water on the area of
- 11 land to be affected or adjacent to the land to be affected.
- 12 (N) Profiles at appropriate cross sections of the anticipated
- 13 final surface configuration that will be achieved under the
- 14 operator's proposed reclamation plan.
- 15 (15) A statement of the result of test borings or core samplings
- 16 from the permit area, including the following:
- 17 (A) Logs of the drill holes.
- 18 (B) The thickness of the coal seam found and an analysis of
- 19 the chemical properties of that coal.
- 20 (C) The sulfur content of each coal seam.
- 21 (D) Chemical analysis of potentially acid or toxic forming
- 22 sections of the overburden.
- 23 (E) A chemical analysis down to and including the deeper
- 24 of the following:
- 25 (i) The stratum lying immediately underneath the
- 26 lowest coal seam to be mined.
- 27 (ii) An aquifer below the lowest coal seam to be mined
- 28 that may be adversely impacted by mining.
- 29 The director may waive the requirement as to the specific
- 30 application of this clause if the director determines in
- 31 writing the requirements are unnecessary.
- 32 (16) For the land in the permit application that a reconnaissance
- 33 inspection suggests may be prime farmland and to confirm the
- 34 exact location of the prime farmland, a soil survey in accordance
- 35 with the standards established by the United States Secretary of
- 36 Agriculture.
- 37 (17) A reclamation plan that meets the requirements of section
- 38 12 of this chapter.
- 39 (18) Proof that the applicant is self-insured or has a public
- 40 liability insurance policy issued by an insurance company
- 41 authorized to do business in Indiana in force for the surface coal

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1 mining and reclamation operations for which the permit is
 2 sought. The policy must provide for personal injury and property
 3 damage protection in an amount adequate to compensate each
 4 person injured as a result of the surface coal mining and
 5 reclamation operation. If a permit is granted, the permittee shall
 6 maintain the policy in full force and effect for the duration of the
 7 permit or a renewal.

8 (19) A blasting plan that outlines the procedures the operator
 9 will use to comply with IC 14-34-12.

10 (20) A listing of all notices of violations, and their final
 11 resolution, of:

12 (A) IC 13-4.1 (before its repeal);

13 (B) this article; and

14 (C) a:

15 (i) federal statute or regulation; or

16 (ii) state statute or rule enacted or adopted in response
 17 to a federal statute or regulation;

18 pertaining to air or water environmental protection;

19 incurred by the applicant or a subsidiary, an affiliate, or a person
 20 controlled by or under common control with the applicant in
 21 connection with any surface coal mining operation during the
 22 three (3) year period before the date of application.

23 SECTION 202. IC 14-34-10-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 24 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 2. (a) As used in
 25 this section, "higher or better uses" means postmining land uses that
 26 have a higher:

27 (1) economic value; or

28 (2) nonmonetary benefit;

29 to the landowner or the community than the premining land uses.

30 (b) In addition to other standards a permittee must meet under
 31 rules of the commission, a permittee shall do the following:

32 (1) Place markers on the site to readily identify the permit area.

33 (2) Conduct the surface coal mining operation in a manner that
 34 maximizes the use and conservation of the solid fuel resource
 35 that is recovered so that reaffected the land in the future through
 36 surface coal mining is minimized.

37 (3) Restore the land affected to a condition capable of supporting
 38 the uses that the land was capable of supporting before mining
 39 or higher or better uses of which there is a reasonable likelihood
 40 if:

41 (A) those uses do not:

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- 1 (i) present an actual or a probable hazard to public
 2 health or safety; or
 3 (ii) pose an actual or a probable threat of water
 4 diminution or pollution; and
 5 (B) the permit applicant's declared proposed land use
 6 following reclamation:
 7 (i) is not impractical or unreasonable;
 8 (ii) is not inconsistent with applicable land use policies
 9 and plans;
 10 (iii) does not involve unreasonable delay in
 11 implementation; or
 12 (iv) does not violate federal, state, or local law.
 13 (4) Except as provided in subdivisions (5) and (6) and section 4
 14 of this chapter with respect to all surface coal mining operations
 15 backfill, compact where advisable to ensure stability or prevent
 16 the leaching of toxic materials, and grade to restore the
 17 approximate original contour of the land with all highwalls, spoil
 18 piles, and depressions eliminated. Small depressions are allowed
 19 if needed to retain moisture to assist revegetation or as otherwise
 20 authorized under this article.
 21 (5) In a surface coal mining operation that:
 22 (A) is carried out at the same location over a substantial
 23 time;
 24 (B) transects the coal deposit and the thickness of the coal
 25 deposit relative to the volume of the overburden that is
 26 large; and
 27 (C) has overburden and other spoil and waste materials at
 28 a particular point in the permit area or otherwise available
 29 from the entire permit area that is insufficient, giving due
 30 consideration to volumetric expansion, to restore the
 31 approximate original contour;
 32 the operator, at a minimum, shall backfill, grade, and compact,
 33 where advisable, using all available overburden and other spoil
 34 and waste materials to attain the lowest practicable grade but not
 35 more than the angle of repose to provide adequate drainage and
 36 to cover all acid-forming and other toxic materials to achieve an
 37 ecologically sound land use compatible with the surrounding
 38 region.
 39 (6) If in surface coal mining:
 40 (A) the volume of overburden is large relative to the
 41 thickness of the coal deposit; and

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(B) the operator demonstrates that due to volumetric expansion the amount of overburden and other spoil and waste materials removed in the course of the mining operation is more than sufficient to restore the approximate original contour;

the operator shall, after restoring the approximate contour, backfill, grade, and compact, where advisable, the excess overburden and other spoil and waste materials to attain the lowest grade but not more than the angle of repose and to cover all acid-forming and other toxic materials to achieve an ecologically sound land use compatible with the surrounding region. The overburden or spoil shall be shaped and graded in a way that prevents slides, erosion, and water pollution and revegetated in accordance with the requirements of this article.

(7) Stabilize and protect all surface areas, including spoil piles, affected by the surface coal mining and reclamation operation to effectively control erosion and attendant air and water pollution.

(8) Remove the topsoil from the land in a separate layer and:

(A) replace the topsoil on the backfill area; or

(B) if the topsoil is not used immediately;

(i) segregate the topsoil in a separate pile from other spoil; and

(ii) if the topsoil is not replaced on a backfill area within a time short enough to avoid deterioration of the topsoil, maintain a successful cover by quick growing plants or other means so that the topsoil is preserved from wind and water erosion, remains free of any contamination by other acid or toxic material, and is in a usable condition for sustaining vegetation when restored during reclamation.

However, if the topsoil is of insufficient quantity or of poor quality to sustain vegetation or if other strata are more suitable for vegetation requirements, the operator shall remove, segregate, and preserve, in a like manner, the strata that are best able to support vegetation.

(9) Restore the topsoil or the best available subsoil that is best able to support vegetation.

(10) For all prime farmland as identified in IC 14-34-3-3(16), comply with the specifications for soil removal, storage, replacement, and reconstruction established by rules of the commission and do the following:

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(A) Segregate the A horizon of the natural soil unless it is shown that other available soil materials will create a final soil that has a greater productive capacity, stockpile this material, if not used immediately, separately from other spoil, and provide needed protection from wind and water erosion or contamination by other acid or toxic material.

(B) Segregate the B horizon of the natural soil, or underlying C horizons or other strata, or a combination of those horizons or other strata that are texturally and chemically suitable for plant growth and equal to or more favorable for plant growth than the B horizon, in sufficient quantities to create in the regraded final soil a root zone of comparable depth and quality to that existing in the natural soil, stockpile this material, if not used immediately, separately from other spoil, and provide needed protection from wind and water erosion or contamination by other acid or toxic material.

(C) Replace and regrade the root zone material described in clause (B) with proper compaction and uniform depth over the regraded spoil material.

(D) Redistribute and grade in a uniform manner the surface soil horizon described in clause (A).

(11) Create, if authorized in the approved surface coal mining and reclamation plan, permanent impoundments of water on mining sites. The permittee may create the permanent impoundment only after the permittee demonstrates the following:

(A) The size of the impoundment is adequate for the intended purposes.

(B) The impoundment dam construction will be designed to achieve necessary stability with an adequate margin of safety compatible with that of structures constructed under 16 U.S.C. 1006.

(C) The quality of impounded water will be suitable, on a permanent basis, for the intended use and discharges from the impoundment will not degrade the water quality below water quality standards established under applicable federal and state law in the receiving stream.

(D) The level of water will be reasonably stable.

(E) Final grading will provide adequate safety and access for proposed water users.

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(F) The water impoundments will not result in the diminution of the quality or quantity of water used by adjacent or surrounding landowners for agricultural, industrial, recreational, or domestic uses.

(12) Conduct an augering operation associated with surface coal mining in a manner that maximizes the recoverability of mineral reserves remaining after the surface coal mining and reclamation operation is complete and seal all auger holes with an impervious and noncombustible material to prevent drainage except where the director determines that the resulting impoundment of water in those auger holes may create a hazard to the environment or the public health or safety. The director may prohibit augering if necessary to:

(A) maximize the use, recoverability, or conservation of the solid fuel resources; or

(B) protect against adverse water quality impacts.

(13) Minimize disturbances to the prevailing hydrologic balance at the mine site and associated offsite areas and to the quality and quantity of water in surface and ground water systems during and after surface coal mining and reclamation operations by doing the following:

(A) Avoiding acid or other toxic mine drainage by measures such as the following:

(i) Preventing or removing water from contact with toxic-producing deposits.

(ii) Treating drainage to reduce toxic content that adversely affects downstream water upon being released to watercourses.

(iii) Casing, sealing, or otherwise managing boreholes, shafts, and wells and keep acid or other toxic drainage from entering ground and surface water.

(B) Conducting surface coal mining and reclamation operations so as to prevent, to the extent possible using the best technology currently available, violations of the effluent limitations for coal mining operations established under applicable state or federal law.

(C) Constructing siltation structures under clause (B) before commencement of surface coal mining operations that will be certified by an engineer licensed under ~~IC 25-31~~ **IC 25-4-3** and constructed as designed and approved in the reclamation plan.



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(D) Cleaning out and removing temporary or large settling ponds or other siltation structures from drainageways after disturbed areas are revegetated and stabilized and depositing the silt and debris at a site and in a manner approved by the director.

(E) Restoring recharge capacity of the mined area to approximate premining conditions.

(F) Avoiding channel deepening or enlargement in operations requiring the discharge of water from mines.

(G) Other actions required under the permit.

(14) With respect to surface disposal of mine wastes, tailings, coal processing wastes, and other wastes in areas other than the mine workings or excavations, the following:

(A) Stabilize all waste piles in designated areas through construction in compacted layers, including the use of incombustible and impervious materials if necessary.

(B) Assure the following:

(i) The final contour of the waste pile will be compatible with natural surroundings.

(ii) The site will be stabilized and revegetated according to this article.

(15) Refrain from surface coal mining within five hundred (500) feet of active and abandoned underground mines to prevent breakthroughs and to protect the health or safety of miners. However, the director shall permit an operator to mine near, through, or partially through an abandoned underground mine or closer to an active underground mine if the following conditions exist:

(A) The nature, timing, and sequencing of the approximate coincidence of specific coal surface mining activities with specific underground coal mining activities are jointly approved by the regulatory authorities concerned with surface coal mining regulation and the health and safety of underground miners.

(B) The operations will result in:

(i) improved resource recovery;

(ii) abatement of water pollution; or

(iii) elimination of hazards to the health and safety of the public.

(16) Design, locate, construct, operate, maintain, enlarge, modify, and remove or abandon, in accordance with the

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standards and criteria used by the United States Secretary of the Interior to ensure that flood control structures are safe and effectively perform their functions, all existing and new coal mine waste piles:

(A) consisting of:

- (i) mine wastes;
- (ii) tailings;
- (iii) coal processing wastes; or
- (iv) other liquid and solid wastes; and

(B) used temporarily or permanently as dams or embankments.

(17) Ensure the following:

(A) All debris, acid-forming materials, toxic materials, or materials constituting a fire hazard are treated, buried, and compacted or otherwise disposed of in a manner designed to prevent contamination of ground or surface water.

(B) Contingency plans are developed to prevent sustained combustion.

(18) Ensure that explosives are used only in accordance with the following:

(A) IC 14-34-12.

(B) Applicable state and federal law.

(C) The rules adopted by the commission.

(19) Ensure that all reclamation efforts proceed in an environmentally sound manner and as contemporaneously as practicable with the surface coal mining operations. However, if the applicant proposes to combine surface coal mining operations with underground coal mining operations to assure maximum practical recovery of the mineral resources, the director may grant a variance for specific areas within the reclamation plan from the requirement that reclamation efforts proceed as contemporaneously as practicable and permit underground coal mining operations before reclamation if the following conditions are met:

(A) The director finds in writing the following:

(i) The applicant has presented, as part of the permit application, specific, feasible plans for the proposed underground mining operations.

(ii) The proposed underground mining operations are necessary or desirable to assure maximum practical recovery of the mineral resource and will avoid

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- 1 multiple disturbance of the surface.
- 2 (iii) The applicant has satisfactorily demonstrated that
- 3 the plan for the underground coal mining operations
- 4 conforms to the requirements for underground coal
- 5 mining in that jurisdiction and that permits necessary
- 6 for the underground coal mining operations have been
- 7 issued by the appropriate authority.
- 8 (iv) The applicant has shown the areas proposed for the
- 9 variance are necessary for the implementation of the
- 10 proposed underground coal mining operations.
- 11 (v) Substantial adverse environmental damage, either
- 12 onsite or offsite, will not result from the delay in
- 13 completion of reclamation as required by this article.
- 14 (vi) The provisions for the offsite storage of spoil will
- 15 comply with subdivision (25).
- 16 (B) The commission has adopted specific rules to govern
- 17 the granting of variances in accordance with this
- 18 subdivision.
- 19 (C) Variances granted under this subdivision are to be
- 20 reviewed by the director not more than three (3) years from
- 21 the date of issuance of the permit.
- 22 (D) Liability under the bond filed by the applicant with the
- 23 director under IC 14-34-6 is for the duration of underground
- 24 coal mining operations and until the requirements of this
- 25 section and IC 14-34-6 are fully complied with.
- 26 (20) Ensure that the construction, maintenance, and postmining
- 27 conditions of access roads into and across the site of operations
- 28 will control or prevent the following:
- 29 (A) Erosion and siltation.
- 30 (B) Pollution of water.
- 31 (C) Damage to the following:
- 32 (i) Fish or wildlife or their habitat.
- 33 (ii) Public or private property.
- 34 (21) Refrain from the construction of roads or other access ways:
- 35 (A) up a stream bed or drainage channel; or
- 36 (B) in the proximity of a channel;
- 37 that seriously alters the normal flow of water.
- 38 (22) Establish on the regraded areas and all other land affected
- 39 a diverse, an effective, and a permanent vegetative cover:
- 40 (A) of the same seasonal variety native to the area of land
- 41 to be affected; and

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1 (B) that is capable of self-regeneration and plant succession
 2 at least equal in extent of cover to the natural vegetation of
 3 the area.

4 However, an introduced species may be used in the revegetation
 5 process where desirable and necessary to achieve the approved
 6 postmining land use plan.

7 (23) Assume the responsibility for successful revegetation, as
 8 required by subdivision (22), as follows:

9 (A) On lands not eligible for remining, for five (5) full years
 10 after the last year of augmented seeding, fertilizing,
 11 irrigation, or other work to assure compliance with
 12 subdivision (22). However, if the director approves a long
 13 term intensive agricultural postmining land use, the
 14 applicable five (5) or ten (10) year period of responsibility
 15 for revegetation commences at the date of initial planting
 16 for the long term intensive agricultural postmining land use.
 17 If the director issues a written finding approving a long term
 18 intensive agricultural postmining land use as part of the
 19 mining and reclamation plan, the director may grant
 20 exception to subdivision (22).

21 (B) On lands eligible for remining, for two (2) full years
 22 after the last year of augmented seeding, fertilizing,
 23 irrigation, or other work in order to ensure compliance with
 24 subdivision (22).

25 (24) Protect offsite areas from slides or damage occurring during
 26 the surface coal mining and reclamation operations and not
 27 deposit spoil material or locate any part of the operations or
 28 waste accumulations outside the permit area.

29 (25) Place all excess spoil material resulting from coal surface
 30 mining and reclamation activities to ensure the following:

31 (A) Spoil is transported and placed in a controlled manner
 32 in a position for concurrent compaction and in a manner
 33 that assures mass stability and prevents mass movement.

34 (B) The areas of disposal are within the bonded permit areas
 35 and all organic matter is removed immediately before spoil
 36 placement.

37 (C) Appropriate surface and internal drainage systems and
 38 diversion ditches are used in a manner that prevents spoil
 39 erosion and movement.

40 (D) The disposal area does not contain springs, natural
 41 watercourses, or wet weather seeps unless lateral drains are



constructed from the wet areas to the main underdrains in a manner that prevents filtration of the water into the spoil pile.

(E) If placed on a slope, the spoil is placed as follows:

(i) On the most moderate slope among the slopes on which, in the judgment of the director, the spoil could be placed in compliance with all the requirements of this article.

(ii) If possible, upon or above a natural terrace, bench, or berm if the placement provides additional stability and prevents mass movement.

(F) Where the toe of the spoil rests on a downslope, a rock toe buttress of sufficient size to prevent mass movement is constructed.

(G) The final configuration is compatible with the natural drainage pattern and surroundings and suitable for intended uses.

(H) Design of the spoil disposal area is certified by an engineer licensed under ~~IC 25-34~~ **IC 25-4-3** and in conformance with professional standards.

(I) All other provisions of this article are met.

(26) To the extent possible using the best technology currently available the following:

(A) Minimize disturbances and adverse impacts of the operation on fish, wildlife, and related environmental values.

(B) Enhance those resources where practicable.

(27) Provide for an undisturbed natural barrier:

(A) beginning at the elevation of the lowest coal seam to be mined; and

(B) extending from the outslope for a distance determined by the director;

to serve as a barrier to slides and erosion.

(28) Replace the water supply of an owner of interest in real property who obtains all or part of the owner's supply of water for domestic, agricultural, industrial, or other legitimate use from an underground or a surface source if the supply is affected by contamination, diminution, or interruption proximately resulting from the surface coal mine operation. This article does not affect the right of a person to enforce or protect under applicable law the person's interest in water resources affected by a surface coal

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1 mining operation.

2 (29) Meet other criteria that are necessary to achieve reclamation
3 in accordance with the purposes of this article, taking into
4 consideration the physical, climatological, and other
5 characteristics of the site.

6 SECTION 203. IC 14-34-10-4 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
7 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 4. (a) The director
8 may, under procedures established by rule, permit surface coal mining
9 operations if:

10 (1) an industrial, a commercial, an agricultural, a residential, a
11 recreational, or a public facility is proposed for the postmining
12 use of the affected land; and

13 (2) the mining operation will remove an entire coal seam running
14 through the upper fraction of a ridge or hill, except as provided
15 in subsection (c)(1), by:

16 (A) removing all of the overburden; and

17 (B) creating a level plateau or a gently rolling contour;

18 (i) with no highwalls remaining; and

19 (ii) capable of supporting the postmining uses listed in
20 subdivision (1);

21 without regard to the requirement to restore the affected land to the
22 approximate original contour as set forth in section 2(b)(4), 3(b)(2), or
23 3(b)(3) of this chapter.

24 (b) The director may permit the proposed uses under subsection
25 (a) only if the following conditions are met:

26 (1) After consultation with the appropriate land use planning
27 agencies, if any, the proposed postmining land use is considered
28 an equal or a better economic or public use of the affected land
29 compared with the premining use.

30 (2) The applicant presents specific plans for the proposed
31 postmining land use and appropriate assurances that the use
32 meets the following conditions:

33 (A) The use is compatible with adjacent land uses.

34 (B) The use is obtainable according to data regarding
35 expected need and market.

36 (C) The use is assured of investment in necessary public
37 facilities.

38 (D) The use is supported by commitments from public
39 agencies where appropriate.

40 (E) The use is practicable with respect to private financial
41 capability for completion of the proposed use.



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(F) The use is planned according to a schedule attached to the reclamation plan so as to integrate the mining operation and reclamation with the postmining land use.

(G) The use is designed by an engineer licensed under ~~IC 25-31~~ **IC 25-4-3** and in conformance with professional standards established to assure the stability, drainage, and configuration necessary for the intended use of the site.

(3) The proposed use is consistent with adjacent land uses and existing state and local land use plans and programs.

(4) The governing body of the unit of general purpose government in which the land is located and a state or federal agency that the director determines to have an interest in the proposed use is provided an opportunity of not more than sixty (60) days to review and comment on the proposed use.

(5) All other requirements of this article are met.

(c) With respect to a permit granted under subsection (a) and in addition to other requirements the commission establishes by rule, the director shall require the following:

(1) The toe of the lowest coal seam and the overburden associated with the seam are retained in place as a barrier to slides and erosion.

(2) The reclaimed area is stable.

(3) The resulting plateau or rolling contour drains inward from the out slopes except at specified points.

(4) No damage is done to natural watercourses.

(5) Spoil is placed on the hilltop bench as is necessary to achieve the planned postmining land use and the operator places all excess spoil material not retained on the hilltop in accordance with section 2(b)(25) of this chapter.

(6) The operator ensures stability of the spoil retained on the hilltop and meets all other requirements of this article.

(d) The director shall review all permits issued under this section not more than three (3) years from the date of issuance unless the applicant affirmatively demonstrates that the proposed development is proceeding in accordance with the terms of the approved schedule and reclamation plan.

SECTION 204. IC 14-34-10-5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 5. (a) The director may grant a variance from the requirement to restore to approximate original contour set forth in section 3(b)(2) of this chapter if the following conditions exist:

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(1) After approval of the appropriate state environmental agencies, the watershed control of the area is improved.

(2) Complete backfilling with spoil materials that maintains stability following mining and reclamation is required to completely cover the highwall.

(3) The owner of the surface knowingly requests in writing, as a part of the permit application, that a variance be granted so as to make the land, after reclamation, suitable for an industrial, a commercial, a residential, a public, or a recreational use.

(4) After consultation with the appropriate land use planning agencies, if any:

(A) the potential use of the affected land constitutes an equal or a better economic or public use; and

(B) the variance is designed and certified by a professional engineer licensed under ~~IC 25-34~~ **IC 25-4-3** and is in conformance with professional standards established to assure the stability, drainage, and configuration necessary for the intended use of the site.

(b) With respect to a variance granted under subsection (a) or under IC 13-4.1-8-4(a) (before its repeal) and in addition to other requirements the commission establishes by rule, the director shall require the following:

(1) Only the amount of spoil will be placed off the mine bench as is necessary to achieve the planned postmining land use.

(2) Stability of the spoil retained on the bench is ensured.

(3) All spoil placement off the mine bench must comply with section 2(b)(25) of this chapter.

(c) The director shall review all exceptions granted under this section not more than three (3) years after the date of issuance of the permit unless the permittee affirmatively demonstrates that the proposed development is proceeding in accordance with the terms of the reclamation plan.

SECTION 205. IC 14-37-7-8, AS ADDED BY P.L.140-2011, SECTION 10, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 8. (a) The owner or lessee of coal or another person with an interest to develop a coal resource may file with the division an affidavit that:

(1) identifies by a map prepared by an engineer licensed under ~~IC 25-34~~ **IC 25-4-3** or a geologist licensed under IC 25-17.6:

(A) the location of coal that the owner or lessee controls by deed, lease, or other instrument for later commercial

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- 1 production;
 2 (B) the location of coal that is in an area targeted for later
 3 commercial production;
 4 (C) the location of the coal seam or seams of interest; and
 5 (D) the approximate depth of the coal seam or seams of
 6 interest; and
 7 (2) states that the coal:
 8 (A) can be mined using generally accepted underground
 9 mining practices; and
 10 (B) is of sufficient quantity and quality to be commercially
 11 saleable.
 12 (b) All coal in an area designated under subsection (a) is
 13 considered a commercially minable coal resource.
 14 (c) An affidavit referred to in subsection (a) may be made before
 15 applying for permits for the actual mining of the commercially minable
 16 coal resource. The division shall:
 17 (1) subject to subsection (e), keep the affidavit and map
 18 confidential; and
 19 (2) use the affidavit and map solely for determining if a
 20 commercially minable coal resource is present in an area for
 21 which a permit application has been filed under IC 14-37.
 22 (d) The division shall determine if the proposed well location is in
 23 an area underlain by coal identified in subsection (a) upon receipt of:
 24 (1) a permit application referred to in subsection (c)(2); or
 25 (2) an inquiry from a person interested in oil and gas
 26 explorations or drilling a well for oil and gas purposes.
 27 (e) The name of the person who filed the map referred to in
 28 subsection (c) is not confidential.
 29 SECTION 206. IC 15-11-2-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.9-2018,
 30 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 31 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) As used in this section, "biomass" means
 32 agriculturally based sources of renewable energy, including the
 33 following:
 34 (1) Agricultural crops.
 35 (2) Agricultural wastes and residues.
 36 (3) Wood and wood byproducts, including the following:
 37 (A) Wood residue.
 38 (B) Forest thinning.
 39 (C) Mill residue wood.
 40 (4) Animal wastes.
 41 (5) Animal byproducts.



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- 1 (6) Aquatic plants.
 2 (7) Algae.
 3 The term does not include waste from construction and demolition.
 4 (b) The department shall do the following:
 5 (1) Provide administrative and staff support for the following:
 6 (A) The state fair board for purposes of carrying out the
 7 director's duties under IC 15-13-5.
 8 (B) The Indiana corn marketing council for purposes of
 9 administering the duties of the director under IC 15-15-12.
 10 (C) The Indiana dairy industry development board for
 11 purposes of administering the duties of the director under
 12 IC 15-18-5.
 13 ~~(D) The Indiana land resources council under IC 15-12-5.~~
 14 ~~(E)~~ (D) The Indiana grain buyers and warehouse licensing
 15 agency under IC 26-3-7.
 16 ~~(F)~~ (E) The Indiana grain indemnity corporation under
 17 IC 26-4-3.
 18 ~~(G)~~ (F) The division.
 19 (2) Administer the election of state fair board members under
 20 IC 15-13-5.
 21 (3) Administer state programs and laws promoting agricultural
 22 trade.
 23 (4) Administer state livestock or agriculture marketing grant
 24 programs.
 25 (5) Administer economic development efforts for agriculture by
 26 doing the following:
 27 (A) Promoting value added agricultural resources.
 28 (B) Marketing Indiana agriculture to businesses
 29 internationally.
 30 (C) Assisting Indiana agricultural businesses with
 31 developing partnerships with the Indiana economic
 32 development corporation.
 33 (D) Soliciting private funding for selective economic
 34 development and trade initiatives.
 35 (E) Providing for the orderly economic development and
 36 growth of Indiana's agricultural economy.
 37 (F) Facilitating the use of biomass and algae production
 38 systems to generate renewable energy.
 39 (6) Carry out the department's duties under IC 23-15-12.
 40 **(7) Provide administrative and staff support for the**
 41 **following:**

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(A) The state chemist for purposes of carrying out the state seed commissioner duties under IC 15-15-1.

(B) The state chemist for purposes of carrying out the duties under IC 15-15-2.

(C) The state chemist for purposes of carrying out the state seed commissioner duties under IC 15-15-5.

(D) The state chemist for purposes of carrying out the state seed commissioner duties under IC 15-15-7.

(E) The state chemist for purposes of carrying out the state seed commissioner duties under IC 15-15-13.

(F) The state chemist for purposes of carrying out the duties under IC 15-16-1.

(G) The state chemist for purposes of carrying out the duties under IC 15-16-2.

(H) The state chemist for purposes of carrying out the duties under IC 15-16-3.

(I) The state chemist for purposes of carrying out the duties under IC 15-16-4.

(J) The state chemist for purposes of carrying out the duties under IC 15-16-5.

(K) The state chemist for purposes of carrying out the duties under IC 15-19-7.

SECTION 207. IC 15-11-2-9, AS ADDED BY P.L.5-2025, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. (a) As used in this section, "user" includes:

(1) a rural community;

(2) a farmer;

(3) an agribusiness; or

(4) any other individual or entity using the online portal established under this section for the purposes described in subsection (d).

(b) The department shall establish an online portal on the department's website.

(c) The department shall administer the online portal.

(d) The purposes of the online portal shall be to:

(1) assist users in the successful navigation of agricultural or related topics among various federal and state agencies;

(2) provide a single source for users to access agricultural or related federal and state funding opportunities;

(3) provide a searchable data base of available federal and state grants with information on eligibility and deadline criteria; and

(4) provide regular updates to reflect changes in federal and state

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- 1 funding opportunities.
- 2 (e) The online portal shall include links that will facilitate the
- 3 navigation of the websites of various federal and state agencies,
- 4 including the following:
- 5 (1) The United States Department of Agriculture.
- 6 (2) The United States Department of Agriculture's Natural
- 7 Resources Conservation Service.
- 8 (3) The United States Environmental Protection Agency.
- 9 (4) The department of environmental management established
- 10 by IC 13-13-1-1.
- 11 (5) The Indiana state board of animal health established by
- 12 IC 15-17-3-1.
- 13 (6) The office of **the** state chemist (and by virtue of office, the
- 14 state seed commissioner under IC 15-15-1-26) established by
- 15 ~~IC 15-16-2-24~~ **IC 15-11-4.5-1**.
- 16 (7) The office of community and rural affairs established by
- 17 IC 4-4-9.7-4.
- 18 (8) Any other federal or state agency, the interaction with which
- 19 would be helpful to users.
- 20 (f) To accomplish the purposes described in subsection (d), the
- 21 online portal shall do the following:
- 22 (1) Provide a series of regulatory checklists for users that are
- 23 considering diversifying into new markets to assist users in:
- 24 (A) the navigation of agricultural and related regulations;
- 25 and
- 26 (B) the avoidance of punitive enforcement actions before
- 27 they arise.
- 28 (2) Assist users in collaborating with:
- 29 (A) the Purdue University cooperative extension service;
- 30 (B) the state climate office hosted by Purdue University;
- 31 and
- 32 (C) the United States Department of Agriculture;
- 33 to create a one stop venue that will help connect users with
- 34 responsive data visualization tools and technical assistance
- 35 programming.
- 36 (3) Provide a one stop venue where users may gather information
- 37 regarding, and apply for, available federal and state agricultural
- 38 and related funding opportunities.
- 39 (4) Include a link to provide users with ongoing updates on the
- 40 status of land that was identified as lost farmland included in the
- 41 department's inventory of lost farmland, and as reported by the

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department, under IC 15-11-9-1.1 (before its expiration) or IC 15-11-9-1.3.

(5) Include a formal venue to collect comments from the public regarding federal regulations that impact Indiana's rural economy with the goal of assisting the state in providing vigorous advocacy on behalf of the public.

(6) Include a formal venue where users may provide to the department reviews and feedback regarding the usefulness of the online portal.

SECTION 208. IC 15-11-4.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]:

Chapter 4.5. Office of the State Chemist

Sec. 1. The office of the state chemist is established as a division of the department.

Sec. 2. The director shall appoint the state chemist, who serves at the pleasure of the director, and the state chemist is the administrative head of the office of the state chemist.

Sec. 3. The state chemist may designate staff or an employee to discharge duties imposed on the state chemist by law.

Sec. 4. The state chemist shall administer the following chapters:

(1) IC 15-15-1.

(2) IC 15-15-2.

(3) IC 15-15-5.

(4) IC 15-15-7.

(5) IC 15-15-13.

(6) IC 15-16-1.

(7) IC 15-16-2.

(8) IC 15-16-3.

(9) IC 15-16-4.

(10) IC 15-16-5.

(11) IC 15-19-7.

Sec. 5. (a) After December 31, 2027, all individuals employed by the state chemist shall become employees of the state.

(b) The department shall determine qualifications, duties, compensation, and terms of service for individuals employed by the state chemist as employees or as independent contractors.

(c) Employees of the state chemist who are employed on December 31, 2027, under Purdue University and who continue employment after December 31, 2027, under the department as provided in subsection (a) are entitled to have their service under



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Purdue University included for purposes of computing:

- (1) retention in the event of a layoff; and
- (2) all other applicable employment and retirement benefits.

Sec. 6. (a) As used in this section, "Purdue University" refers to:

- (1) the treasurer of Purdue University;
- (2) the board of trustees of Purdue University; or
- (3) the dean of agriculture of Purdue University;

as applicable in the administration of the office of the state chemist under IC 15-16-2-24 (before its repeal).

(b) After December 31, 2027, all powers, duties, agreements, and liabilities of the office of the state chemist administered by Purdue University are transferred to the department, as the successor agency.

(c) After December 31, 2027, all records and property of the office of the state chemist administered by Purdue University, including appropriations and other funds under the control or supervision of the office of the state chemist, are transferred to the department, as the successor agency.

(d) After December 31, 2027, any amounts owed to the office of the state chemist administered by Purdue University before December 31, 2027, are considered to be owed to the office of the state chemist administered by the department, as the successor agency.

Sec. 7. (a) After December 31, 2027, all records and fees collected under IC 15-15-1 by the state seed commissioner and transferred to the treasurer of Purdue University, including appropriations under the control or supervision of the treasurer of Purdue University, are transferred to the seed fund established by IC 15-15-1-34.5 and to the department, as the successor agency.

(b) After December 31, 2027, all records and fees collected under IC 15-15-2 by the state chemist and transferred to the treasurer of Purdue University, including appropriations under the control or supervision of the treasurer of Purdue University, are transferred to the plant cultures fund established by IC 15-15-2-5.5 and to the department, as the successor agency.

(c) After December 31, 2027, all records and fees collected under IC 15-15-13 by the state seed commissioner and paid to the treasurer of Purdue University, including appropriations under the control or supervision of the treasurer of Purdue University, are transferred to the industrial hemp fund established by IC 15-15-13-15.5 and to the department, as the successor agency.

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(d) After December 31, 2027, all records and fees collected under IC 15-16-2-35 by the state chemist and transferred to the treasurer of Purdue University, including appropriations under the control or supervision of the treasurer of Purdue University, are transferred to the commercial fertilizer fund established by IC 15-16-2-34.5 and to the department, as the successor agency.

(e) After December 31, 2027, all records and fees collected by the state chemist and paid to the treasurer of Purdue University under IC 15-16-2-36, including appropriations under the control or supervision of the treasurer of Purdue University, are transferred to the horticulture products and control excess fund established by IC 15-16-2-35.5 and to the department, as the successor agency.

(f) After December 31, 2027, all records and fees collected by the state chemist and paid to the treasurer of Purdue University under IC 15-16-4, including appropriations under the control or supervision of the treasurer of Purdue University, are transferred to the pesticide fund established by IC 15-16-4-61.5 and to the department, as the successor agency.

(g) After December 31, 2027, all records and fees collected by the state chemist and paid to the treasurer of Purdue University under IC 15-16-5, including appropriations under the control or supervision of the treasurer of Purdue University, are transferred to the pesticide use and application fund established by IC 15-16-5-59.5 and to the department, as the successor agency.

(h) After December 31, 2027, all records and fees collected by the state chemist and paid to the treasurer of Purdue University under IC 15-19-7, including appropriations under the control or supervision of the treasurer of Purdue University, are transferred to the commercial feed inspection fund established by IC 15-19-7-32.5 and to the department, as the successor agency.

(i) After December 31, 2027, all records and fees collected by the state chemist and paid to the treasurer of Purdue University for the soil scientist registration fund under IC 25-31.5-3-9, including appropriations under the control or supervision of the treasurer of Purdue University, are transferred to the department, as the successor agency.

SECTION 209. IC 15-11-16.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE]:

Chapter 16.5. Commission on Invasive Species and Pests

Sec. 1. (a) After June 30, 2026, all powers, duties, agreements,

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1 and liabilities of the Indiana pesticide review board established by
 2 IC 15-16-4-42, before its repeal, and the invasive species council
 3 established by IC 15-16-10-3, before its repeal, are transferred to
 4 the department, as the successor entity.

5 (b) After June 30, 2026, all records and property of the
 6 Indiana pesticide review board and the invasive species council,
 7 including appropriations and other funds under the control or
 8 supervision of the Indiana pesticide review board and the invasive
 9 species council, are transferred to the department, as the successor
 10 entity.

11 (c) After June 30, 2026, any amounts owed to the Indiana
 12 pesticide review board and the invasive species council before
 13 December 31, 2027, are considered to be owed to the department,
 14 as the successor agency.

15 (d) After June 30, 2026, a reference to the Indiana pesticide
 16 review board or the invasive species council in a statute, rule, or
 17 other document is considered a reference to the commission, as the
 18 successor entity.

19 (e) After June 30, 2026, any rule adopted by the Indiana
 20 pesticide review board is considered a rule of the commission.

21 (f) On July 1, 2026, the Purdue University treasurer shall
 22 transfer the balance that remains on June 30, 2026, in the invasive
 23 species council fund established by IC 15-16-10-12 to the state
 24 comptroller. The state comptroller shall deposit the money
 25 received under this subsection into the commission on invasive
 26 species and pests' invasive species council fund established by
 27 section 7 of this chapter.

28 Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "commission" refers to the
 29 commission on invasive species and pests established by section 4
 30 of this chapter.

31 Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "fund" refers to the
 32 commission on invasive species and pests' invasive species council
 33 fund established by section 7 of this chapter.

34 Sec. 4. (a) The commission on invasive species and pests is
 35 established. The commission consists of the following voting
 36 members:

- 37 (1) One (1) representative of the Indiana department of
- 38 health.
- 39 (2) One (1) representative of the department of natural
- 40 resources.
- 41 (3) One (1) representative of the department of
- 42 environmental management.

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(4) One (1) representative of the department of transportation.

(5) One (1) representative of the department.

(6) One (1) representative of the Purdue University office of agricultural research programs, appointed by the director of the department.

(7) Two (2) ecologists:

(A) one (1) of whom is a terrestrial ecologist; and

(B) one (1) of whom is an aquatic ecologist;

appointed by the director of the department. Not more than one (1) ecologist may be a plant ecologist.

(8) One (1) public representative, appointed by the director of the department.

(9) One (1) representative of the pesticide producing or manufacturing industry, appointed by the director of the department.

(10) Two (2) representatives of producers of agricultural crops or products on which pesticides are applied or that may be affected by the application of pesticides:

(A) one (1) of whom represents producers of agronomic crops; and

(B) one (1) of whom represents producers of specialty crops;

appointed by the director of the department.

(11) One (1) public representative from a conservation organization, appointed by the director of the department.

(12) Three (3) qualified scientists, one (1) each in the fields of entomology, plant pathology, and weed science, appointed by the director of the department. One (1) scientist must be the representative of either the Purdue University office of agricultural research programs or the Purdue University cooperative extension service.

(13) Three (3) certified and licensed commercial applicators of pesticides who must represent three (3) different certificate or license categories established under IC 15-16-5-45, appointed by the director of the department.

(14) Two (2) individuals, appointed by the director of the department, who represent organizations that are primarily concerned with any of the following:

(A) The hardwood tree industry.

(B) The horticulture industry.

(C) The agriculture industry.



- 1 (D) The aquaculture industry.
- 2 (15) Two (2) individuals, appointed by the director of the
- 3 department, who represent organizations or local
- 4 governmental agencies primarily concerned with any of the
- 5 following:
- 6 (A) Land trusts.
- 7 (B) Biodiversity conservation.
- 8 (C) Aquatic conservation.
- 9 (D) Local parks and recreation.
- 10 (b) The state chemist shall serve as:
- 11 (1) chairperson of the commission; and
- 12 (2) a nonvoting member of the commission.
- 13 (c) The members appointed under subsection (a) serve at the
- 14 will of the appointing authority.
- 15 (d) The commission must meet at least one (1) time annually
- 16 and may meet at other times and at a location specified by the
- 17 chairperson or a majority of the commission.
- 18 (e) The commission shall publish the:
- 19 (1) minutes; and
- 20 (2) video;
- 21 of each meeting.
- 22 (f) Twelve (12) voting members of the commission constitute
- 23 a quorum.
- 24 (g) Official actions are subject to approval by a simple
- 25 majority of the voting members present at a called meeting.
- 26 (h) The commission shall be staffed by the department.
- 27 Sec. 5. (a) Each member of the commission who is not a state
- 28 employee is entitled to the minimum salary per diem provided by
- 29 IC 4-10-11-2.1(b). The member is also entitled to reimbursement
- 30 for mileage, traveling expenses as provided under IC 4-13-1-4, and
- 31 other expenses actually incurred in connection with the member's
- 32 duties as provided in the state policies and procedures established
- 33 by the Indiana department of administration and approved by the
- 34 budget agency.
- 35 (b) Each member of the commission who is a state employee is
- 36 entitled to reimbursement for traveling expenses as provided under
- 37 IC 4-13-1-4 and other expenses actually incurred in connection
- 38 with the member's duties as provided in the state policies and
- 39 procedures established by the Indiana department of
- 40 administration and approved by the budget agency.
- 41 Sec. 6. (a) The commission has the following duties:
- 42 (1) Carry out the commission's duties under IC 15-16-4.



- 1 **(2) Recommend:**
2 **(A) priorities for projects;**
3 **(B) funding; and**
4 **(C) rules and laws;**
5 **concerning invasive species to the appropriate governmental**
6 **agencies and legislative committees.**
7 **(3) Recommend a lead state agency to:**
8 **(A) develop an invasive species inventory for each**
9 **invasive species taxon; and**
10 **(B) develop and maintain a data management system for**
11 **invasive species in Indiana.**
12 **(4) Communicate with other states, federal agencies, and**
13 **state and regional organizations to enhance consistency and**
14 **effectiveness in:**
15 **(A) preventing the spread of;**
16 **(B) early detection of;**
17 **(C) response to; and**
18 **(D) management of;**
19 **invasive species.**
20 **(5) Coordinate invasive species education and outreach**
21 **programs.**
22 **(6) Convene or support an invasive species meeting at least**
23 **once per biennium to provide information on best practices**
24 **and pertinent research findings.**
25 **(7) Assist governmental agencies in:**
26 **(A) reviewing current invasive species policies and**
27 **procedures; and**
28 **(B) addressing any deficiencies or inconsistencies**
29 **concerning invasive species policies and procedures.**
30 **(8) Assist state agencies in reviewing the agencies'**
31 **performance measures for accountability concerning the**
32 **agencies' invasive species actions.**
33 **(9) Receive reports from any governmental agency regarding**
34 **actions taken on recommendations of the commission.**
35 **(10) Apply for grants.**
36 **(11) Provide grants for education concerning or management**
37 **of invasive species.**
38 **(b) The commission does not have any regulatory authority**
39 **over invasive species or the authority to hear appeals of grievances.**
40 **(c) The commission may create advisory committees to provide**
41 **information and recommendations to the commission.**
42 **(d) The commission shall issue a report to the interim study**

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committee on agriculture and natural resources established by IC 2-5-1.3-4 in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6 in every odd-numbered year. The report must include a summary of:

- (1) the commission's activities;
- (2) the performance of the commission's duties; and
- (3) efforts in Indiana to identify and manage invasive species.

The report may include recommendations of the commission.

Sec. 7. (a) The commission on invasive species and pests' invasive species council fund is established to carry out the commission's responsibilities under section 6(a)(2) through 6(a)(11) of this chapter. The fund shall be administered by the department.

(b) The fund consists of any of the following:

- (1) Grants.
- (2) Appropriations.
- (3) Gifts and donations.

(c) The expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from money in the fund.

(d) The state treasurer 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. Interest that accrues from these investments must be deposited in the fund.

(e) Money in the fund may be used for purposes set forth in this chapter and to meet the expenses of administering this chapter.

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

SECTION 210. IC 15-12-5-1 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 1: As used in this chapter, "council" refers to the Indiana land resources council established by section 3 of this chapter.

SECTION 211. IC 15-12-5-2 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 2: As used in this chapter, "director" refers to the director of the Indiana state department of agriculture.

SECTION 212. IC 15-12-5-3 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 3: The Indiana land resources council is established.

SECTION 213. IC 15-12-5-4 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 4: The director shall provide the necessary staff and administrative support for the council.

SECTION 214. IC 15-12-5-5, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2008, SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 5. (a) The purpose of the council is to: department shall:



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- (1) collect information; and
 - (2) provide:
 - (A) educational assistance;
 - (B) technical assistance; and
 - (C) advice;
- to local governments regarding land use strategies and issues across the state.

(b) The department shall retain all records and information produced under this chapter and kept under section 11 of this chapter (before its repeal).

SECTION 215. IC 15-12-5-6, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2008, SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 6. The ~~council~~ **department** may do the following:

- (1) Provide technical assistance and information about land use strategies.
- (2) Facilitate collaboration among commonly affected state, county, and local government units.
- (3) Compile and maintain a land planning information library, both hard copy and electronic, that includes current data on land resources in Indiana.
- (4) Establish or coordinate educational programs for governmental units, nongovernmental entities, and the public with special consideration for local planning commission members and county commissioners.
- (5) Provide counties and local communities conducting land use planning with access to technical and legal assistance through a referral service.
- (6) Provide information to local authorities on model ordinances for programs and techniques on land use.
- (7) Obtain grants and assist counties and local communities in locating additional funding sources for planning projects.
- (8) Make recommendations to the general assembly and other governmental bodies concerning land resources.
- (9) When requested, advise the general assembly on proposals relating to land resources.

SECTION 216. IC 15-12-5-7 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 7: (a) ~~The council consists of the following members:~~

- ~~(1) The director or the director's designee.~~
- ~~(2) Nine (9) members appointed by the governor as follows:~~
 - ~~(A) One (1) member representing county government.~~

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- 1 (B) One (1) member representing municipal government.
 2 (C) One (1) member representing farm owners.
 3 (D) One (1) member representing home building and land
 4 development.
 5 (E) One (1) member representing business.
 6 (F) One (1) member representing the environment.
 7 (G) One (1) member with expertise in land use issues
 8 representing academia.
 9 (H) One (1) member representing soil and water
 10 conservation districts.
 11 (I) One (1) member representing forestry.
 12 (b) Not more than five (5) of the members appointed by the
 13 governor under subsection (a)(2) may be of the same political party.
 14 (c) The term of a member is four (4) years.
 15 (d) Each member appointed by the governor under subsection
 16 (a)(2) is entitled to hold office for the term of the member's
 17 appointment and is entitled to continue to serve after expiration of the
 18 member's appointment until a successor is appointed and qualified.
 19 (e) A member is eligible for reappointment.
 20 (f) A member appointed by the governor under subsection (a)(2)
 21 may be removed from office by the governor and serves at the pleasure
 22 of the governor.
 23 (g) If a vacancy occurs among the members of the council
 24 appointed by the governor under subsection (a)(2), the governor shall
 25 appoint an individual to serve for the unexpired term of the vacating
 26 member.
 27 SECTION 217. IC 15-12-5-8 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
 28 JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 8: The director or the director's designee
 29 serves as chairperson of the council.
 30 SECTION 218. IC 15-12-5-9 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
 31 JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 9: (a) A quorum of the council for
 32 transacting business consists of six (6) members.
 33 (b) The affirmative vote of at least six (6) members is necessary
 34 for any action to be taken by the council.
 35 (c) A vacancy in the membership of the council does not impair
 36 the right of a quorum to exercise all rights and perform all duties of the
 37 council.
 38 SECTION 219. IC 15-12-5-10 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
 39 JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 10: The council shall meet at the call of the
 40 chairperson.
 41 SECTION 220. IC 15-12-5-11 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE

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JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 11: The council's records and information shall be kept at the office of the director.

SECTION 221. IC 15-12-5-12 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 12: (a) Each member of the council 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 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 council 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.

SECTION 222. IC 15-15-1-34.6 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 34.6. (a) The seed fund is established to carry out the functions of this chapter. 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) 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 223. IC 15-15-1-35, AS AMENDED BY P.L.29-2024, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 35. (a) The state seed commissioner shall ~~pay~~ **deposit** all fees collected under this chapter ~~to in the treasurer of Purdue University.~~ **seed fund established by section 34.6 of this chapter.**

(b) The board of trustees of Purdue University state seed commissioner shall expend the fees on proper vouchers filed with the



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1 ~~treasurer of Purdue University. The treasurer shall pay vouchers use~~
 2 ~~funds from the seed fund to pay~~ for the following expenses:

- 3 (1) The employment of inspectors and seed analysts.
- 4 (2) Procuring samples.
- 5 (3) Printing bulletins giving the results of inspection.
- 6 (4) Any other expenses ~~of the Purdue University agricultural~~
 7 ~~programs~~ authorized by law and for implementing this chapter.

8 (c) ~~The dean of agriculture of Purdue University state seed~~
 9 ~~commissioner~~ shall make and submit an annual financial report to the:

- 10 (1) governor;
- 11 (2) legislative council; and
- 12 (3) budget committee;

13 in such form as the state board of accounts requires, showing the total
 14 receipts and expenditures of all fees received under this chapter. The
 15 budget committee shall review this report annually.

16 (d) Excess funds from the collection of fees under this chapter are
 17 subject to IC 15-16-2-36.

18 SECTION 224. IC 15-15-2-5.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
 19 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 20 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 5.5. (a) The plant cultures fund**
 21 **is established to carry out the functions of this chapter. The fund**
 22 **shall be administered by the state chemist.**

23 (b) The fund consists of:

- 24 (1) money appropriated to the fund by the general assembly;
- 25 (2) fees collected under this chapter; and
- 26 (3) money received from any other source, including
 27 transfers from other:
 28 (A) funds; or
 29 (B) accounts.

30 (c) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not
 31 currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same
 32 manner as other public funds may be invested.

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

35 SECTION 225. IC 15-15-2-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.29-2024,
 36 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 37 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. (a) The state chemist shall charge, collect, and
 38 receive a minimum fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25):

- 39 (1) at the time of registering a pure or mixed culture of
 40 microorganisms or materials described in section 3 of this
 41 chapter for each material or culture registered; and
 42 (2) not later than the fifteenth day of January of each succeeding

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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 226. 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 227. 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

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1 (B) accounts.

2 (c) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not
3 currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same
4 manner as other public funds may be invested.

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

7 SECTION 228. IC 15-15-13-16, AS AMENDED BY P.L.29-2024,
8 SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
9 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 16. (a) The state seed commissioner shall **deposit**
10 **pay** all fees collected under this chapter **to in the treasurer of Purdue**
11 **University: industrial hemp fund established by section 15.5 of this**
12 **chapter.**

13 (b) The board of trustees of Purdue University shall expend the
14 ~~fees on proper vouchers filed with the treasurer of Purdue University.~~
15 The ~~treasurer~~ **state seed commissioner** shall pay vouchers for the
16 following expenses:

- 17 (1) The employment of inspectors and seed analysts.
- 18 (2) Procuring samples.
- 19 (3) Printing bulletins giving the results of inspection.
- 20 (4) Any other expenses ~~of the Purdue University agricultural~~
21 ~~programs~~ authorized by law and for implementing this chapter.

22 (c) The ~~dean of agriculture of Purdue University~~ **state seed**
23 **commissioner** shall make and submit an annual financial report to the:

- 24 (1) governor;
- 25 (2) legislative council; and
- 26 (3) budget committee;

27 in such form as the state board of accounts requires, showing the total
28 receipts and expenditures of all fees received under this chapter. The
29 budget committee shall review this report annually.

30 (d) Excess funds from the collection of fees under this chapter are
31 subject to IC 15-16-2-36.

32 SECTION 229. IC 15-16-1-3.5 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
33 JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 3-5: As used in this chapter, "board" refers~~
34 ~~to the Indiana fertilizer advisory board established by IC 15-16-2-25.~~

35 SECTION 230. IC 15-16-2-1 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY
36 1, 2026]. ~~Sec. 1: Because the department of biochemistry at Purdue~~
37 ~~University is particularly conversant with the purpose and procedures~~
38 ~~provided by this chapter, the general assembly desires that the governor~~
39 ~~appoint a professor of biochemistry at Purdue University as the state~~
40 ~~chemist.~~

41 SECTION 231. IC 15-16-2-5 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE



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JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 5: As used in this chapter, "board" refers to the Indiana fertilizer advisory board established by section 25 of this chapter.

SECTION 232. 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 233. IC 15-16-2-25, AS AMENDED BY P.L.81-2009, SECTION 16, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 25. (a) The Indiana fertilizer advisory board is established to:

(1) study the regulation of fertilizer material; and

(2) advise the state chemist on the administration of this chapter.

(b) The board consists of the following members:

(1) Two (2) representatives of the retail fertilizer industry.

(2) One (1) representative of fertilizer manufacturing, distributing, or manufacturing and distributing.

(3) Two (2) representatives of producers of agricultural crops.

(4) One (1) representative of the lawn care industry.

(5) One (1) representative of the Purdue School of Agriculture.

(6) One (1) representative of a public conservation organization.

(7) One (1) representative of the livestock industry.

(8) The president of the Indiana Plant Food and Agricultural Chemicals Association, who serves as a nonvoting member.

(9) One (1) representative of the department of environmental management, who serves as a nonvoting member.

(10) The fertilizer administrator for the office of the state chemist, who serves as a nonvoting member.

(11) The engineer specialist for the office of the state chemist, who serves as a nonvoting member.

(12) One (1) representative of the Indiana state department of agriculture, who shall serve as a nonvoting member.

(c) The state chemist shall appoint the voting members of the board, who serve for terms of four (4) years.

(d) Voting members of the board may be appointed for successive terms at the discretion of the state chemist.

(e) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 234. IC 15-16-2-26 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE

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JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 26: (a) The state chemist may remove a voting member of the board for cause before the expiration of the member's term:

(b) Vacancies created by the death, resignation, or removal for cause of a member of the board must be filled in the manner prescribed for appointment to that board position. Vacancies must be filled not later than thirty (30) days after the death, resignation, or removal for cause:

SECTION 235. IC 15-16-2-27 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 27: The board shall elect one (1) of its voting members chairperson to serve for a term of two (2) years; unless the chairperson's appointment expires before the expiration of the term; in which case the term is for the duration of the chairperson's appointment:

SECTION 236. IC 15-16-2-28 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 28: The board shall invite nonvoting members to serve at the pleasure of the board:

SECTION 237. IC 15-16-2-29 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 29: (a) The board may meet at times specified by the chairperson or by a majority of the board; but shall meet at least once a year:

(b) Five (5) voting members of the board constitutes a quorum. Official actions require a majority of the voting members. The chairperson may actively participate in all decisions of the board:

SECTION 238. 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



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1 duties, as provided in the state travel policies and procedures
 2 established by the Indiana department of administration and approved
 3 by the budget agency.

4 **(c) This section expires December 31, 2026.**

5 SECTION 239. IC 15-16-2-34.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
 6 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 7 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 34.5. (a) The commercial
 8 fertilizer fund is established to carry out the functions of this
 9 chapter. The fund shall be administered by the state chemist.

10 **(b) The fund consists of:**

- 11 (1) money appropriated to the fund by the general assembly;
- 12 (2) inspection fees collected under this chapter; and
- 13 (3) money received from any other source, including
- 14 transfers from other:

15 (A) funds; or

16 (B) accounts.

17 **(c) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not**
 18 **currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same**
 19 **manner as other public funds may be invested.**

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

22 SECTION 240. IC 15-16-2-35, AS AMENDED BY P.L.29-2024,
 23 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 24 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 35. (a) The state chemist shall ~~pay to the treasurer~~
 25 ~~of Purdue University~~ **deposit** all inspection fees collected under this
 26 chapter **in the commercial fertilizer fund established by section 34.5**
 27 **of this chapter.**

28 (b) Inspection fees collected under this chapter must be used to
 29 pay all necessary expenses incurred in carrying out this chapter,
 30 including the following:

- 31 (1) Employing inspectors and chemists.
- 32 (2) Procuring samples.
- 33 (3) Printing bulletins.
- 34 (4) Giving the results of inspections as provided for by this
- 35 chapter.
- 36 (5) Any other expenses incurred by ~~Purdue University~~
 37 ~~agricultural programs~~ **the office of the state chemist:**

38 (A) authorized by law; and

39 (B) in support of the purposes of this chapter.

40 **(c) The ~~dean of agriculture of Purdue University~~ state chemist**
 41 **shall make an annual classified report to the:**

- 42 (1) governor;

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(2) legislative council; and
 (3) budget committee;
 showing the total receipts and expenditures of all fees received under this chapter. The budget committee shall review this report annually.

SECTION 241. IC 15-16-2-35.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 35.5. (a) The horticulture products and control excess fund is established to carry out the functions of those chapters referred to in subsection (b)(2). 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) excess funds accumulated from the fees collected by:

(A) the state chemist, under this chapter, IC 15-15-2, 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 242. 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

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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 243. 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 244. IC 15-16-2-49.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.81-2009, SECTION 31, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 49.5. (a) If a person violates this chapter or a rule adopted under this chapter, the state chemist may:

- (1) warn, issue a citation to, or impose a civil penalty on the person; or
- (2) deny, suspend, revoke, or amend the person's registration under this chapter.

(b) The state chemist shall adopt by rule, under IC 4-22-2, a schedule of civil penalties that may be imposed under subsection (a). ~~The state chemist may impose a civil penalty only according to a schedule of civil penalties recommended by the board.~~

(c) A person who knowingly or intentionally violates this chapter commits a Class A misdemeanor.

SECTION 245. IC 15-16-4-6 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. ~~Sec. 6: As used in this chapter, "board" means the Indiana pesticide review board established by section 42 of this chapter.~~

SECTION 246. IC 15-16-4-6.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA

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CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
[EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 6.5. As used in this chapter, "commission" refers to the commission on invasive species and pests established by IC 15-11-16-4.**

SECTION 247. IC 15-16-4-10, AS AMENDED BY P.L.91-2020, SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. As used in this chapter, "device" means any instrument or contrivance intended for trapping, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest. The term does not include:

- (1) equipment used for the application of pesticides when sold separately from the pesticides;
- (2) firearms; or
- (3) simple mechanical devices, including barriers, traps, or adhesives, or other simple contrivances that are not subject to this chapter as determined by the ~~pesticide review board~~ **commission**.

SECTION 248. IC 15-16-4-17, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2008, SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 17. As used in this chapter, "highly volatile herbicide" means a herbicide that the ~~board~~ **commission** has determined to be capable of emitting vapors that may cause serious injury to desired plants by reason of movement of the vapors from the area of application of the herbicide to areas inhabited by the desired plants.

SECTION 249. IC 15-16-4-37, AS AMENDED BY P.L.249-2023, SECTION 73, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 37. As used in this chapter, "restricted use pesticide" means the following:

- (1) Any pesticide classified as a restricted use pesticide by the administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency.
- (2) A pesticide designated as a restricted use pesticide in a law enacted by the general assembly.
- (3) Subject to section 50 of this chapter, a pesticide that the ~~board~~ **commission** has determined to be unduly hazardous to persons, animals, plants, wildlife, waters, or lands other than the pests it is intended to prevent, destroy, control, or mitigate.
- (4) All formulations containing methomyl (Chemical Abstracts Service Reg. No. 16752-77-5).
- (5) Any dicamba containing pesticide product that:
 - (A) contains a dicamba active ingredient concentration

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greater than or equal to six and one-half percent (6.5%); and
 (B) is intended for agricultural production uses but is not
 labeled solely for use on turf or other nonagricultural use
 sites.

SECTION 250. IC 15-16-4-38, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2008,
 SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 38. As used in this chapter, "rodenticide" means
 any substance or mixture of substances intended for:

- (1) preventing;
- (2) destroying;
- (3) repelling; or
- (4) mitigating;

rodents or any other vertebrate animal that the **board commission**
 declares to be a pest.

SECTION 251. IC 15-16-4-42 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
 JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 42: (a) The Indiana pesticide review board is
 established. The board consists of the following members:

- (1) One (1) representative of the Indiana department of health.
- (2) One (1) representative of the department of natural resources.
- (3) One (1) representative of the department of environmental
 management.
- (4) One (1) representative of the Purdue University office of
 agricultural research programs.
- (5) One (1) representative of the Purdue University cooperative
 extension service.
- (6) Two (2) ecologists:
 - (A) one (1) a terrestrial ecologist; and
 - (B) one (1) an aquatic ecologist.
 Not more than one (1) ecologist may be a plant ecologist.
- (7) One (1) public representative.
- (8) One (1) representative of the pesticide producing or
 manufacturing industry.
- (9) Two (2) representatives of producers of agricultural crops or
 products on which pesticides are applied or that may be affected
 by the application of pesticides:
 - (A) one (1) of whom represents producers of agronomic
 crops; and
 - (B) one (1) of whom represents producers of specialty
 crops.
- (10) One (1) public representative from a conservation
 organization.



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(11) Three (3) qualified scientists; one (1) each in the fields of entomology; plant pathology; and weed science. One (1) scientist must be the representative of either the Purdue University office of agricultural research programs or the Purdue University cooperative extension service.

(12) Three (3) certified and licensed commercial applicators of pesticides who must represent three (3) different certificate or license categories established under IC 15-16-5-45.

(13) The state chemist, who is an ex officio member and shall serve as a nonvoting member.

(14) The pesticide administrator for the office of the state chemist, who shall serve as a nonvoting member.

(15) The pesticide training coordinator, who shall serve as a nonvoting member.

(b) The voting members shall be appointed by the governor for terms of four (4) years and, subject to subsection (d), continue until the member's successor is approved and qualified. Appointments shall be made so that not more than five (5) terms expire annually.

(c) Voting members may be appointed for successive terms at the discretion of the governor.

(d) The governor may remove a voting member of the board prior to the expiration of the member's term for cause.

SECTION 252. IC 15-16-4-43 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 43: A vacancy on the board of a voting member created by death, resignation, or removal for cause of a member shall be filled by the governor not later than thirty (30) days after the occurrence. The new member serves for the remainder of the vacated term and must meet the qualifications to be appointed to the board.

SECTION 253. IC 15-16-4-44 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 44: The board shall elect a member to serve as chairperson for a term of two (2) years. However, if the chairperson's appointment ends before the expiration of the term, the term is for the duration of the chairperson's appointment.

SECTION 254. IC 15-16-4-45 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 45: (a) The board shall meet at least annually.

(b) The board may meet at other times and at a location specified by the chairperson or a majority of the board.

(c) The board shall publish the:

(1) minutes; and

(2) video;

of each meeting.



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1 SECTION 255. IC 15-16-4-46 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
2 JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 46: (a) ~~Ten (10) voting members of the board~~
3 ~~constitute a quorum.~~

4 (b) ~~Official actions are subject to approval by a simple majority of~~
5 ~~board members present at a called meeting.~~

6 (c) ~~The chairperson shall actively participate in all decisions of the~~
7 ~~board.~~

8 SECTION 256. IC 15-16-4-47 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
9 JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 47: ~~The following individuals appointed to the~~
10 ~~board shall serve without compensation but are entitled to receive per~~
11 ~~diem payments at rates and under conditions incident to these~~
12 ~~positions:~~

13 (1) ~~State officials.~~

14 (2) ~~Staff members of state offices.~~

15 (3) ~~Staff members of the Purdue University office of agricultural~~
16 ~~research programs.~~

17 (4) ~~Cooperative extension service staff members.~~

18 ~~Other members are entitled to reimbursement for traveling and other~~
19 ~~expenses as provided in the Purdue University travel policies and~~
20 ~~procedures, established by the Purdue University department of~~
21 ~~transportation and approved by the Purdue University vice president of~~
22 ~~business services.~~

23 SECTION 257. IC 15-16-4-48, AS AMENDED BY P.L.99-2012,
24 SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
25 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 48. The ~~board~~ **commission** may:

26 (1) collect;

27 (2) analyze; and

28 (3) interpret;

29 information on matters relating to the registration and use of pesticides.

30 SECTION 258. IC 15-16-4-49, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2008,
31 SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
32 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 49. (a) The ~~board~~ **commission** may, after notice
33 and public hearing as provided in IC 4-22-2, declare as a pest any form
34 of:

35 (1) plant;

36 (2) animal life; or

37 (3) virus;

38 that is injurious to plants, humans, domestic animals, articles, or
39 substances.

40 (b) When a hearing is held by the ~~board~~, **commission**, the ~~board~~
41 **commission** may designate one (1) or more persons as the ~~board's~~

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1 **commission's** agent or representative to conduct the hearing.

2 SECTION 259. IC 15-16-4-50, AS AMENDED BY P.L.29-2024,
3 SECTION 14, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
4 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 50. (a) The ~~board~~ **commission** may recommend
5 to the general assembly the addition, deletion, or reclassification of
6 pesticides by submitting in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6 a
7 report of the recommendations to the legislative council. In making a
8 determination to add or reclassify a pesticide as a restricted use
9 pesticide for all of Indiana or designated areas within Indiana, the
10 ~~board~~ **commission** must find that the characteristics of a pesticide
11 require that rules restricting the:

- 12 (1) sale;
- 13 (2) distribution; or
- 14 (3) use;

15 of the pesticide by any person are necessary to prevent undue hazards
16 to persons, animals, wildlife, lands, or waters, other than the pests that
17 they are intended to prevent, destroy, control, or mitigate. The ~~board~~
18 **commission** shall publish the ~~board's~~ **commission's** findings in the
19 Indiana Register.

20 (b) The ~~board~~ **commission** may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to do
21 the following:

- 22 (1) Provide for the safe:
 - 23 (A) handling;
 - 24 (B) transportation;
 - 25 (C) storage;
 - 26 (D) display;
 - 27 (E) distribution;
 - 28 (F) disposal; and
 - 29 (G) production;

30 of pesticide products and pesticide containers.

- 31 (2) Restrict or prohibit the use of certain types of containers or
32 packages for specific pesticides. The restrictions may apply to
33 the:

- 34 (A) type of construction;
- 35 (B) strength; or
- 36 (C) size;

37 to alleviate danger of spillage, breakage, or misuse.

- 38 (3) Determine the time and conditions of the:

- 39 (A) sale;
- 40 (B) distribution; or
- 41 (C) use;

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of restricted use pesticide products.

(4) Require that any or all restricted use pesticide products be purchased, possessed, or used only under:

(A) permit;

(B) certificate;

(C) license; or

(D) registration;

of the state chemist or under certain conditions or in certain quantities or concentrations.

(5) Require all persons issued:

(A) permits;

(B) certificates;

(C) licenses; or

(D) registrations;

under this subsection to maintain records as to the use of the restricted use pesticide products.

(c) The state chemist shall maintain a list of each class of pesticides adopted by Indiana law or ~~board~~ **commission** rule on the website for the state chemist. Failure to include a pesticide on the list does not exempt a person from compliance with a law or rule for a pesticide designated by law or rule.

SECTION 260. IC 15-16-4-52.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.249-2023, SECTION 76, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 52.5. (a) Neither the ~~board~~ **commission** nor the state chemist may by rule or otherwise impose a requirement or limitation on the storage, distribution, use, application, or record keeping of a general use pesticide by:

(1) a certified applicator;

(2) a commercial applicator;

(3) a licensed applicator for hire;

(4) a licensed applicator not for hire;

(5) a licensed pesticide business;

(6) a licensed public applicator; or

(7) a private applicator;

that is more stringent than the requirements and limitations applicable under federal law, federal regulations, or Indiana statutory law to the general use pesticide or a pesticide product containing a general use pesticide and no restricted use pesticide.

(b) A rule or other requirement or limitation of the ~~board~~ **commission** in effect on June 30, 2023, that does not comply with this section is voided on July 1, 2023, to the extent it conflicts with this

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1 section.

2 SECTION 261. IC 15-16-4-59, AS AMENDED BY P.L.99-2012,
3 SECTION 11, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
4 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 59. A person may not:

5 (1) detach, alter, deface, or destroy, in whole or in part, any label
6 or labeling provided for in this chapter or rules adopted under
7 this chapter;

8 (2) add any substance to, or take any substance from, a pesticide
9 in a manner that may defeat the purpose of this chapter;

10 (3) use for the person's own advantage or reveal, other than to:

11 (A) the state chemist;

12 (B) proper officials;

13 (C) employees of the state;

14 (D) the courts of this state in response to a subpoena;

15 (E) physicians; or

16 (F) pharmacists and other qualified persons for use in
17 emergencies in the preparation of antidotes;

18 any information relative to formulas of products acquired by
19 authority of section 61 or 64 of this chapter;

20 (4) use or cause to be used any pesticide contrary to section 50
21 of this chapter;

22 (5) use a highly volatile herbicide except on written permission
23 by the state chemist; or

24 (6) neglect, or after notice, refuse to comply with this chapter,
25 the rules adopted under this chapter, or a lawful order of the state
26 chemist or ~~board~~: **commission**.

27 SECTION 262. IC 15-16-4-60, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2008,
28 SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
29 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 60. Section 59(4) of this chapter does not apply to
30 pesticides used in research by:

31 (1) the United States Department of Agriculture;

32 (2) the United States Department of Interior;

33 (3) the Purdue University agricultural research programs; or

34 (4) other persons who are qualified researchers as approved by
35 the ~~board~~: **commission**.

36 SECTION 263. IC 15-16-4-61.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
37 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
38 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 61.5. (a) **The pesticide fund is
39 established to carry out the functions of this chapter. The fund
40 shall be administered by the state chemist.**

41 (b) **The fund consists of:**



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- (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 264. 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 not currently needed to meet the obligations of the account in the same manner as other public money may be invested.

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

SECTION 265. IC 15-16-4-62, AS AMENDED BY P.L.29-2024, SECTION 17, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 62. (a) Each registrant shall pay an annual, nonrefundable application fee of one hundred seventy dollars (\$170) for each application for each pesticide product submitted for registration or reregistration.

(b) Each registration expires January 1 of each year.

(c) All fees collected by the state chemist under this chapter shall be paid to the treasurer of Purdue University, who shall deposit the fees in a special restricted account designated by the treasurer of the board of trustees of Purdue University: deposited in the pesticide fund established by section 61.5 of this chapter.

(d) From the account fund described in subsection (c), the treasurer state chemist shall pay all expenses incurred in administering

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1 this chapter, including expenses for 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) Expenses in procuring samples and printing results of
10 inspections.

11 (3) Purchasing:

12 (A) supplies;

13 (B) equipment; and

14 (C) services.

15 (4) Necessary remodeling.

16 (5) Other expenses of the office of the state chemist.

17 (6) The transfer of ten dollars (\$10) from each fee paid under
18 subsection (a) on an annual basis to the ~~office of Purdue~~
19 ~~pesticide programs~~ **pesticide education account established by**
20 **section 61.6 of this chapter** to provide education about the safe
21 and effective use of pesticides.

22 The ~~treasurer~~ **state chemist** is not required to use any other funds,
23 except those collected as registration fees, to pay any expenses incurred
24 in the administration of this chapter. The ~~dean of agriculture~~ **state**
25 **chemist** shall make an annual financial report to the governor,
26 legislative council, and budget committee showing total receipts and
27 expenditures of all fees received under this chapter. The budget
28 committee shall review this report annually.

29 (e) A registrant who registers or pays an annual fee after
30 December 31 of any year shall pay a late fee of one hundred seventy
31 dollars (\$170) as well as the annual fee.

32 (f) Excess funds from the collection of fees under this chapter are
33 subject to IC 15-16-2-36.

34 SECTION 266. IC 15-16-4-64.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.120-2008,
35 SECTION 70, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
36 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 64.5. (a) A person who is:

37 (1) regulated under this chapter; and

38 (2) aggrieved by any decision of the state chemist;

39 may obtain a review by the ~~board~~ **commission** if the person files a
40 written petition with the ~~board~~ **commission** not later than thirty (30)
41 days after the state chemist's decision.



(b) The ~~board~~ **commission** shall provide a copy of a petition filed under subsection (a) to the state chemist not later than seven (7) days after receiving the petition.

(c) Not more than fifteen (15) days after receiving a petition under subsection (b), the state chemist shall certify and file with the ~~board~~ **commission** a transcript of any record related to the petition, including a transcript of any evidence received.

(d) Whenever a hearing is held under this section, the ~~board~~ **commission** may designate one (1) or more persons as the ~~board's~~ **commission's** agent or representative to conduct the hearing. The agent or representative shall conduct the hearing in the manner provided by IC 4-21.5-3.

(e) After hearing the appeal, the ~~board~~ **commission** shall affirm, set aside, or modify the action of the state chemist. However, the state chemist's finding of facts that are supported by the substantial evidence is considered conclusive.

(f) A person aggrieved by any action of the ~~board~~ **commission** may obtain judicial review under IC 4-21.5-5.

SECTION 267. IC 15-16-4-69, AS AMENDED BY P.L.29-2024, SECTION 19, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 69. (a) Subject to this section, if a person violates this chapter or a rule adopted under this chapter, the state chemist under IC 4-21.5-3-6 may warn, cite, or impose a civil penalty on the person or:

- (1) deny;
- (2) suspend;
- (3) revoke; or
- (4) amend;

the person's registration under this chapter.

(b) The state chemist may impose civil penalties under this section only in accordance with subsections (c) through (e). However, this section does not require the state chemist to impose a civil penalty on a person for any violation of this chapter or a rule adopted under this chapter.

(c) Except for a violation described in subsection (d) or (e), the state chemist may impose a civil penalty not exceeding two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) for a violation of this chapter or any rule adopted under this chapter. A civil penalty imposed under this subsection may be adjusted for mitigating actions described in subsection (f). A civil penalty under this subsection may not be imposed unless a warning for a violation has previously been issued to the person for the same

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1 violation within the previous five (5) years.

2 (d) Subject to adjustment under subsection (f) for mitigating
3 actions, the state chemist may impose a civil penalty not exceeding five
4 hundred dollars (\$500) if the state chemist finds that a person has done
5 any of the following:

6 (1) Unknowingly committed an act described in section 57(1) of
7 this chapter.

8 (2) Committed an act described in section 57(2) through 57(5)
9 of this chapter.

10 (3) Unknowingly committed an act described in section 66(1) of
11 this chapter.

12 (4) Committed an act described in section 66(2) or 66(3) of this
13 chapter.

14 (5) Stored or dispensed a general use pesticide in a manner
15 inconsistent with 40 CFR 165.

16 (e) The state chemist may impose a civil penalty of one thousand
17 dollars (\$1,000) if the state chemist finds that a person has done any of
18 the following:

19 (1) Knowingly committed an act described in section 57(1) of
20 this chapter.

21 (2) Committed an act described in section 57(8) of this chapter.

22 (3) Knowingly committed an act described in section 66(1) of
23 this chapter.

24 (4) Committed an act described in section 67, 68, 73(c), or 77 of
25 this chapter.

26 (5) Stored or dispensed a restricted use pesticide in a manner
27 inconsistent with 40 CFR 165.

28 (6) After notice, refused to comply with this chapter, the rules
29 adopted under this chapter, or a lawful order of the state chemist
30 or ~~board~~ **commission**.

31 (f) The state chemist may not adjust the amount of the civil penalty
32 for a violation listed in subsection (e). The state chemist may reduce
33 the amount of the civil penalty for a violation listed in subsection (c) or
34 (d) if the state chemist finds that the person responsible for the
35 violation has taken any of the following mitigating actions:

36 (1) Cooperated with the state chemist during the investigation or
37 inspection process.

38 (2) Took corrective action to prevent future similar violations.

39 (3) Compensated a victim for any adverse effects that resulted
40 from the violation.

41 The state chemist may reduce the amount of the civil penalty by twenty

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percent (20%) for each mitigating action taken by the person responsible for the violation.

(g) A proceeding under IC 4-21.5-3 that involves the imposition of a civil penalty may be consolidated with any other proceeding commenced under IC 4-21.5 to enforce this chapter or the rules adopted under this chapter.

(h) The state chemist shall limit the imposition of a civil penalty in a proceeding involving multiple counts of repeated incidents of the same violation to five (5) counts.

(i) Any findings related to a violation of this chapter must be disclosed to the alleged violator before a:

(1) final determination is made; and

(2) penalty is assessed.

(j) Unless the state chemist has evidence of wrongdoing by the licensed pesticide business, any warnings, citations, or civil penalties regarding a pesticide use in violation of this chapter must be directed at:

(1) the employee who committed the violation; or

(2) the person who was responsible for the supervision of the employee who committed the violation.

(k) Money collected for civil penalties imposed under this section shall be credited to the office of Purdue pesticide programs. The money may be used only to provide education about pesticides. deposited in the pesticide fund established by section 61.5 of this chapter.

SECTION 268. IC 15-16-5-4 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 4: As used in this chapter, "board" means the Indiana pesticide review board established by IC 15-16-4-42.

SECTION 269. IC 15-16-5-7.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7.5. As used in this chapter, "commission" refers to the commission on invasive species and pests established by IC 15-11-16-4.

SECTION 270. IC 15-16-5-24, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2008, SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 24. As used in this chapter, "pest" means:

(1) any insect, rodent, nematode, fungus, or weed; or

(2) any other form of terrestrial or aquatic plant or animal life or virus, bacteria, or other microorganism (except viruses, bacteria, or other microorganisms on or in living humans or other living animals) that is declared to be a pest by the administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency or by the board.



- 1 **commission.**
2 SECTION 271. IC 15-16-5-44, AS AMENDED BY P.L.29-2024,
3 SECTION 38, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
4 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 44. (a) The ~~board~~ **commission** may adopt rules
5 under IC 4-22-2 prescribing policies and procedures relating to
6 restricted use pesticides:
7 (1) use;
8 (2) application;
9 (3) storage;
10 (4) distribution; and
11 (5) record keeping.
12 (b) The state chemist may adopt additional rules under IC 4-22-2
13 as required to accomplish the purpose of this chapter.
14 (c) Rules adopted under this chapter may not permit any pesticide
15 use that is prohibited by federal law and regulations or orders issued
16 under federal law.
17 (d) The following requirements and standards established in
18 federal rules shall be adopted as state requirements and standards:
19 (1) 40 CFR 165, federal pesticide containers, repackaging, and
20 containment structures.
21 (2) 40 CFR 170, federal pesticide agricultural worker protection
22 standard.
23 (3) 40 CFR 171.201, federal direct supervision of noncertified
24 applicators by certified applicators.
25 SECTION 272. IC 15-16-5-59.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
26 CODE AS A **NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS**
27 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 59.5. (a) The pesticide use and**
28 **application fund is established to carry out the functions of this**
29 **chapter. The fund shall be administered by the state chemist.**
30 **(b) The fund consists of:**
31 **(1) money appropriated to the fund by the general assembly;**
32 **(2) fees collected under this chapter;**
33 **(3) money collected for civil penalties imposed under section**
34 **66 of this chapter; and**
35 **(4) money received from any other source, including**
36 **transfers from other:**
37 **(A) funds; or**
38 **(B) accounts.**
39 **(c) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not**
40 **currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same**
41 **manner as other public funds may be invested.**
42 **(d) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not**

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1 **revert to the state general fund.**

2 SECTION 273. IC 15-16-5-61, AS AMENDED BY P.L.29-2024,
3 SECTION 51, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
4 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 61. (a) All fees collected by the state chemist
5 under this chapter shall be paid to Purdue University and deposited in
6 a special restricted account designated by the treasurer of the board of
7 trustees of Purdue University. **deposited in the pesticide use and**
8 **application fund established by section 59.5 of this chapter.**

9 (b) From the ~~account~~ **fund** described in subsection (a), the
10 ~~treasurer~~ **state chemist** shall pay from the ~~special restricted account~~
11 **fund** the expenses incurred in administering this chapter, including
12 expenses for the following:

13 (1) The employment of:

14 (A) inspectors;

15 (B) investigators;

16 (C) researchers;

17 (D) analysts;

18 (E) administrators; and

19 (F) clerical and service staff.

20 (2) Conducting and reporting inspections and investigations.

21 (3) Purchasing supplies and services.

22 (4) Providing necessary facilities and remodeling.

23 (5) Any other expense of the office of the state chemist.

24 The ~~treasurer~~ **state chemist** is not required to use any other funds,
25 except those collected under this chapter, to defray any expenses
26 incurred in the administration of this chapter.

27 (c) The ~~dean of agriculture of Purdue University~~ **state chemist**
28 shall make an annual financial report to the:

29 (1) governor;

30 (2) legislative council; and

31 (3) budget committee;

32 showing total receipts and expenditures of all fees received under this
33 chapter. The budget committee shall review this report annually.

34 (d) Fee revenue remaining in the ~~account~~ **fund** described in
35 subsection (a) after payment of the expenses described in subsection
36 (b) is subject to IC 15-16-2-36.

37 SECTION 274. IC 15-16-5-64, AS AMENDED BY P.L.29-2024,
38 SECTION 53, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
39 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 64. (a) A person may not produce, transport, store,
40 handle, or dispose of any pesticide product or pesticide product
41 containers in a manner that may:

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- 1 (1) cause injury to:
 2 (A) humans;
 3 (B) beneficial vegetation;
 4 (C) crops;
 5 (D) livestock;
 6 (E) wildlife; or
 7 (F) beneficial insects; or
 8 (2) pollute any waterway in a way harmful to any wildlife in a
 9 waterway.
 10 (b) The **board commission** may adopt rules governing the
 11 production, transportation, storage, handling, and disposal of pesticide
 12 products or pesticide containers. In determining these standards, the
 13 **board commission** shall take into consideration any regulations issued
 14 by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.
 15 (c) Except for pesticides labeled for use in the treatment of
 16 drinking water, pesticide storage, mixing, and loading is prohibited
 17 within the isolation area of a wellhead protection area zone.
 18 Application of pesticides within the isolation area is permitted unless
 19 prohibited by the pesticide label.
 20 (d) A pesticide storage container located within the wellhead
 21 protection area zone and outside of the isolation area must be stored:
 22 (1) on an impervious surface designed to contain a discharge of
 23 the entire contents of the largest storage container plus the
 24 volume displaced by all the other items within the contained
 25 area; and
 26 (2) in an area protected from precipitation.
 27 (e) A pesticide spill or discharge within the wellhead protection
 28 area zone must be cleaned up immediately upon discovery and in a
 29 manner that prevents the pesticide from threatening waters of the state,
 30 dry wells, storm sewers, sanitary sewers, or septic systems.
 31 (f) A person may not open burn a pesticide container in a manner
 32 that allows air contaminants resulting from combustion to be emitted
 33 directly into the air without passing through a stack or chimney from
 34 an enclosed chamber, as allowed under 326 IAC 4-1.
 35 SECTION 275. IC 15-16-5-65, AS AMENDED BY P.L.29-2024,
 36 SECTION 56, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 37 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 65. Subject to section 66 of this chapter, the state
 38 chemist under IC 4-21.5-3-6 may warn, cite, or impose a civil penalty
 39 on a person for a violation under this chapter. The state chemist may
 40 also deny, suspend, revoke, or modify any provision of any license,
 41 permit, registration, or certification issued under this chapter if the state

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1 chemist finds that the applicant or the holder of a license, permit,
 2 registration, or certification has been issued a final civil order imposed
 3 under 7 U.S.C. 136l(a), has a criminal conviction under 7 U.S.C.
 4 136l(b), or has committed any of the following acts, each of which is
 5 a violation of this chapter:

6 (1) Made false or fraudulent claims either verbally or through
 7 any media misrepresenting the effect of pesticide products or
 8 methods to be used.

9 (2) Recommended, used, or supervised the use of any registered
 10 pesticide product in a manner inconsistent with its labeling
 11 approved by the United States Environmental Protection Agency
 12 or Indiana state registration for that pesticide, or in violation of
 13 the United States Environmental Protection Agency or Indiana
 14 state restrictions on the use of that pesticide product.

15 (3) Used known ineffective or improper pesticide products or
 16 known ineffective amounts of pesticides.

17 (4) Operated faulty or unsafe equipment.

18 (5) Operated in a careless or negligent manner.

19 (6) Neglected or, after notice, refused to comply with this
 20 chapter, the rules adopted under this chapter, or of any lawful
 21 order of the state chemist or the ~~board~~: **commission**.

22 (7) Refused or neglected to:

23 (A) keep and maintain the records required by this chapter;
 24 or

25 (B) make reports and supply information when required or
 26 requested by the state chemist in the course of an
 27 investigation or inspection.

28 (8) Made false or fraudulent records, invoices, or reports.

29 (9) Engaged in or professed to be engaged in the business of:

30 (A) using a pesticide or any other product regulated under
 31 this chapter or by rules adopted under this chapter; or

32 (B) making a diagnostic inspection to determine infestations
 33 of a wood destroying pest;

34 for hire on the property of another without having a business
 35 license issued by the state chemist.

36 (10) Used or supervised the use of a pesticide product that is
 37 required to be used under this chapter by a person who is
 38 certified, licensed, or permitted without having a person who is
 39 certified, licensed, or permitted under this chapter conducting
 40 the use.

41 (11) Used fraud or misrepresentation in the qualification or

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1 application for, or renewal of, a license, permit, registration, or
2 certification.

3 (12) Refused or neglected to comply with any limitations or
4 restrictions on or in a duly issued license, permit, registration, or
5 certification.

6 (13) Aided or abetted a person to evade this chapter, conspired
7 with a person to evade this chapter, or allowed a license, permit,
8 registration, or certification to be used by another person.

9 (14) Made false or misleading statements during or after an
10 inspection concerning any infestation or infection of pests.

11 (15) Impersonated any federal, state, county, or city inspector,
12 investigator, or official.

13 (16) Knowingly purchased or used a pesticide product that was
14 not registered under IC 15-16-4.

15 (17) Failed to continuously maintain financial responsibility
16 required under section 58 of this chapter or to provide proof of
17 financial responsibility to the state chemist when requested.

18 (18) Intentionally altered a duly issued license, permit,
19 registration, or certification.

20 (19) Recklessly, knowingly, or intentionally impeded or
21 prevented the state chemist or the state chemist's agent from
22 performing a duty of the state chemist.

23 (20) Applied a pesticide in a manner that allowed it to drift from
24 the target site in a sufficient quantity to cause an adverse effect
25 to a nontarget site.

26 (21) Distributed a restricted use pesticide without having a
27 pesticide dealer registration issued by the state chemist.

28 (22) Distributed a restricted use pesticide to a noncertified end
29 user of the pesticide.

30 (23) Stored or disposed of a pesticide in a manner inconsistent
31 with the requirements established by the United States
32 Environmental Protection Agency or this chapter.

33 (24) Failed to perform the notification requirements for a
34 pesticide application in a school.

35 SECTION 276. IC 15-16-5-66, AS AMENDED BY P.L.29-2024,
36 SECTION 57, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
37 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 66. (a) The state chemist may impose civil
38 penalties under this section only in accordance with subsections (b)
39 through (d). However, this section does not require the state chemist to
40 impose a civil penalty on a person for any violation of this chapter or
41 a rule adopted under this chapter.

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(b) Except for a violation described in subsection (c) or (d), the state chemist may impose a civil penalty not exceeding two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) for a violation of this chapter or any rule adopted under this chapter. A civil penalty imposed under this subsection shall be adjusted for mitigating actions described in subsection (e). A civil penalty under this subsection may not be imposed unless a warning for a violation has previously been issued to the person for the same violation within the previous five (5) years.

(c) Subject to adjustment under subsection (e) for mitigating actions, the state chemist may impose a civil penalty not exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500) if the state chemist finds that a person has done any of the following:

(1) After written notice, neglected to:

(A) keep and maintain records; or

(B) make reports and supply information when required or requested by the state chemist in the course of an investigation or inspection;

as described in section 65(7) of this chapter.

(2) Committed an act described in section 65(8) of this chapter.

(3) Unknowingly committed an act described in section 65(9) or 65(10) of this chapter.

(4) After written notice, neglected to comply with any limitations or restrictions on or in a duly issued license, permit, registration, or certification as described in section 65(12) of this chapter.

(5) Committed an act described in section 65(14) or 65(16) of this chapter.

(6) Recommended, used, or supervised the use of a general use pesticide product in a manner inconsistent with its labeling and resulting in an adverse effect.

(7) Recommended, used, or supervised the use of a restricted use pesticide product in a manner inconsistent with its labeling and resulting in no adverse effect.

(8) Applied a general use pesticide in a manner that allows it to drift from the target site in a sufficient quantity to cause an adverse effect to a nontarget site.

(9) Stored or dispensed a general use pesticide in a manner inconsistent with the requirements in 40 CFR 165, Subpart E.

(d) The state chemist may impose a civil penalty of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) if the state chemist finds that a person has done any of the following:

(1) Stored or dispensed a pesticide in a manner inconsistent with

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the requirements in 40 CFR 165, Subpart E, or as described in section 64(a) of this chapter.

(2) Committed an act described in section 65(5) of this chapter.

(3) After notice, refused to comply with this chapter, the rules adopted under this chapter, or any lawful order of the state chemist or the ~~board~~ **commission** as described in section 65(6) of this chapter.

(4) Refused to:

(A) keep and maintain records; or

(B) make reports and supply information when required or requested by the state chemist in the course of an investigation or inspection;

as described in section 65(7) of this chapter.

(5) Intentionally committed an act described in section 65(8) of this chapter.

(6) Knowingly committed an act described in section 65(9) or 65(10) of this chapter.

(7) Committed an act described in section 65(11) of this chapter.

(8) Refused to comply with any limitations or restrictions on or in a duly issued license, permit, registration, or certification as described in section 65(12) of this chapter;

(9) Committed an act described in section 65(13), 65(15), 65(18), or 65(19) of this chapter.

(10) Recommended, used, or supervised the use of a restricted use pesticide product in a manner inconsistent with its labeling and resulting in an adverse effect.

(11) Applied a restricted use pesticide in a manner that allows it to drift from the target site in a sufficient quantity to cause an adverse effect to a nontarget site.

(12) Distributed a restricted use pesticide without having a pesticide dealer registration issued by the state chemist, as described in section 65(21) of this chapter.

(13) Distributed a restricted use pesticide to a noncertified end user of the pesticide, as described in section 65(22) of this chapter.

(e) The state chemist may not adjust the amount of the civil penalty for a violation listed in subsection (d). The state chemist may reduce the amount of the civil penalty for a violation listed in subsection (b) or (c) if the state chemist finds that the person responsible for the violation has taken any of the following mitigating actions:

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(1) Cooperated with the state chemist during the investigation or inspection process.

(2) Took corrective action to prevent future similar violations.

(3) Compensated a victim for any adverse effects that resulted from the violation.

The state chemist may reduce the amount of the civil penalty by twenty percent (20%) for each mitigating action taken by the person responsible for the violation.

(f) A proceeding under IC 4-21.5-3 that involves a civil penalty may be consolidated with any other proceeding commenced under IC 4-21.5 to enforce this chapter or the rules adopted under this chapter.

(g) The state chemist shall limit the imposition of a civil penalty in a proceeding involving multiple counts of repeated incidents of the same violation to five (5) counts.

(h) Any findings related to a violation of this chapter or rules adopted under this chapter must be disclosed to the alleged violator before a:

(1) final determination is made; and

(2) penalty is assessed.

(i) Unless the state chemist has evidence of wrongdoing by the licensed pesticide business, any warnings, citations, or civil penalties regarding a pesticide use in violation of this chapter must be directed at:

(1) the employee who committed the violation; or

(2) the person who was responsible for the supervision of the employee who committed the violation.

(j) Money collected for civil penalties imposed under section 65 of this chapter shall be ~~credited to the office of Purdue pesticide programs. The money may be used only to provide education about pesticides. deposited in the pesticide use and application fund established by section 59.5 of this chapter.~~

SECTION 277. IC 15-16-5-67, AS AMENDED BY P.L.109-2015, SECTION 38, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 67. (a) A person who is:

(1) subject to an action under section 65, 66, or 70 of this chapter; and

(2) aggrieved by any decision by the state chemist; may obtain a review by the ~~board~~, **commission**, if the person files a written petition with the ~~board~~ **commission** not later than thirty (30) days after the state chemist's decision.

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(b) The ~~board~~ **commission** shall provide a copy of a petition filed under subsection (a) to the state chemist not later than seven (7) days after receiving the petition.

(c) Not more than fifteen (15) days after receiving a petition under subsection (b), the state chemist shall certify and file with the ~~board~~ **commission** a transcript of any record related to the petition, including a transcript of any evidence received.

(d) Whenever a hearing is held under this section, the ~~board~~ **commission** may designate one (1) or more persons as the board's agent or representative to conduct the hearing. The agent or representative shall conduct the hearing in the manner provided by IC 4-21.5-3.

(e) After hearing the appeal, the ~~board~~ **commission** shall affirm, set aside, or modify the action of the state chemist. However, the state chemist's finding of facts that are supported by the substantial evidence is considered conclusive.

(f) A person aggrieved by any action of the ~~board~~ **commission** may obtain judicial review under IC 4-21.5-5.

SECTION 278. IC 15-16-5-71, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2008, SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 71. (a) A political subdivision (as defined in IC 36-1-2-13) does not have authority to regulate by ordinance the use or application of pesticides.

(b) A political subdivision may, by resolution, petition the ~~board~~ **commission** for a hearing to allow a variance from a rule of the ~~board~~ **commission** because of special circumstances relating to the use or application of a pesticide. If a petition is received, the ~~board~~ **commission** shall hold a public hearing to consider allowing the variance requested. The public hearing shall be conducted in an informal manner. IC 4-21.5 does not apply to the public hearing under this section.

(c) The ~~board~~ **commission** may grant a variance requested under this section with or without changes.

SECTION 279. IC 15-16-10 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. (Invasive Species Council).

SECTION 280. IC 15-18-2-2, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2008, SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "board" refers to the ~~creamery examining board~~ established by section 9 of this chapter: **Indiana state board of animal health established by IC 15-17-3-1.**

SECTION 281. IC 15-18-2-8, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2008,

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SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 8. The ~~creamery license division of Purdue University, in cooperation with the~~ board shall enforce this chapter.

SECTION 282. IC 15-18-2-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.186-2014, SECTION 12, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. (a) The creamery examining board is established. The board consists of eight (8) members composed of the following:

- (1) Three (3) producers of milk and cream.
- (2) Three (3) processors of milk and cream.
- (3) One (1) member of the animal sciences department who shall be appointed by the dean of agriculture of Purdue University.
- (4) One (1) milk hauler.

The board shall elect a chairperson annually.

(b) Two (2) of the producer members shall be elected to the board by the board of directors of the Indiana Dairy Producers, Inc. The third producer member shall be elected to the board by the Indiana State Dairy Association. If an organization is unable to elect a producer to the board, then the other organization shall elect the producer to the board. However, if both organizations are unable to elect a producer to the board, the dean of agriculture of Purdue University shall appoint a producer to fill the open position after consulting with dairy producers in Indiana.

(c) The three (3) processor members shall be elected to the board by the Midwest Dairy Products Association. If the Midwest Dairy Products Association is not able to elect a processor to the board, the dean of agriculture of Purdue University shall appoint a processor to fill the open position after consulting with dairy processors in Indiana.

(d) The Midwest Dairy Products Association shall elect one (1) member each year. The board of directors of the Indiana Dairy Producers, Inc., shall elect a producer member to the board two (2) out of every three (3) years and the Indiana State Dairy Association shall select a producer member during the third year.

(e) The milk hauler member shall be appointed to the board by the dean of agriculture of Purdue University.

(f) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 283. IC 15-18-2-10 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 10: (a) The term of a board member is three (3) years.~~

~~(b) A vacancy in any membership of the board shall be filled by the same process for the unexpired term.~~

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1 SECTION 284. IC 15-18-2-11 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
2 JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 11: Board members shall be reimbursed by~~
3 ~~the creamery license division for actual traveling expenses and~~
4 ~~subsistence while attending a regular or called meeting.~~

5 SECTION 285. IC 15-18-2-13, AS AMENDED BY P.L.186-2014,
6 SECTION 13, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
7 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 13. ~~On recommendation of the board and~~
8 ~~with the approval of the dean of agriculture of Purdue University,~~
9 ~~inspectors of the creamery license division~~ **With the approval of the**
10 **dean of agriculture of Purdue University, the board** may inspect
11 records or collect data on the quality and quantity of milk and cream in
12 plants that:

- 13 (1) cooperate with Purdue University in the quality improvement
14 program; or
- 15 (2) assist in any other project that will be of mutual benefit to the
16 Indiana dairy industry and the Purdue University animal sciences
17 department.

18 SECTION 286. IC 15-18-2-14, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2008,
19 SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
20 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 14. (a) Milk and cream must be purchased
21 on the basis of weight or volume and:

- 22 (1) the butterfat content;
- 23 (2) the protein content; or
- 24 (3) a combination of butterfat and protein content;

25 as determined by any test or tests approved by the board, which may
26 also have been designated official by AOAC International.

27 (b) A payment for milk must be made either on the basis of:

- 28 (1) a fresh sample taken and tested according to procedures
29 established under rules adopted by the board; or
- 30 (2) a composite test.

31 A composite sample must cover a period of not more than sixteen (16)
32 days. In each plant, all composite samples must cover the same period
33 for each test and succeeding periods must be as nearly equal as
34 possible. All composite samples must cover the same period. A
35 uniform sample consisting of at least ten (10) cubic centimeters of milk
36 must be taken each day, except when milk is frozen or partly churned,
37 from the milk furnished by each person. An approved preservative
38 must be added to the sample and each composite sample must be held
39 in an approved, rubber stoppered, airtight bottle that is plainly labeled
40 to show the name or number of the person whose milk the composite
41 sample represents. The milk to be sampled must be poured into a weigh



1 tank approved by the ~~creamery license division~~ **board** meeting the
 2 standards prescribed in rules, be run through a fine mesh or perforated
 3 metal strainer, and be homogeneous in richness before any sample is
 4 taken. The composite samples must be kept in a refrigerated cabinet or
 5 cooler in or near the receiving room at a temperature of not more than
 6 forty-two (42) degrees Fahrenheit, away from strong light, and must be
 7 kept free of mold. The test must be made within seventy-two (72)
 8 hours, excluding Sundays and holidays, after the last sample has been
 9 added to the composite sample.

10 (c) If at the close of any composite period the composite samples
 11 are inaccurate as determined by the ~~creamery license division~~, **board**,
 12 three (3) daily samples must be taken within the first five (5) days of
 13 the following composite period. The average of the three (3) fresh
 14 samples determines the basis of payment for the composite period in
 15 question.

16 (d) In each plant where composite samples of milk are taken, the
 17 owner or manager shall delegate an individual who is responsible for
 18 the care, condition, and accuracy of all composite samples.

19 (e) After the composite samples are emptied, the sample bottles
 20 must be thoroughly washed, and all bottles and rubber stoppers shall
 21 be sterilized before being used again.

22 (f) Composite samples may be removed from the plant for testing
 23 elsewhere only on written permission from the ~~creamery license~~
 24 ~~division~~ **board**.

25 SECTION 287. IC 15-18-2-18, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2008,
 26 SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 27 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 18. (a) A dairy processing plant, a receiving
 28 station, a milk shipping station, a milk factory, a milk distributor, a
 29 cheese factory, a condensery, an ice cream factory, other processing
 30 plant, person, or person's agent that handles, receives, buys, or pays for
 31 milk or cream from a producer, a bargaining agent, or another plant
 32 shall obtain a license from the ~~creamery license division~~ **board**.

33 (b) A license must be issued to the dairy, dairy processing plant,
 34 receiving station, milk factory, milk distributor, cheese factory,
 35 condensery, ice cream factory, other processing plant, person, or
 36 person's agent by the ~~creamery license division~~ **board** upon:

- 37 (1) compliance with sections 14 through 17 of this chapter; and
- 38 (2) payment of a license fee as provided in sections 22 and 23 of
- 39 this chapter.

40 A license shall be revoked by ~~Purdue University upon recommendation~~
 41 ~~of the board~~ if the licensee fails to comply with the rules under which



1 the license was granted.

2 SECTION 288. IC 15-18-2-19, AS AMENDED BY P.L.186-2014,
3 SECTION 15, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
4 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 19. (a) A person who does testing in
5 connection with the receiving, buying, or paying for milk or cream on
6 the basis of the total composition or the protein and fat components
7 contained in the milk or cream, either for the person or as an officer, a
8 servant, an agent, or an employee of any person, must hold a tester's
9 license.

10 (b) A dairy processing plant, receiving station, or other factory, or
11 person, or person's agent, that receives, buys, or pays for milk or cream
12 on the basis of the total composition or the protein and fat components
13 contained in the milk or cream shall employ a licensed tester to
14 supervise and is responsible for the operation of the testing of milk or
15 cream.

16 (c) A milk tester's license or cream tester's license shall be issued
17 to a person by the ~~creamery license division~~ **board** if the person:

18 (1) passes a satisfactory examination as provided for in the rules
19 adopted by the board and demonstrates that the person is
20 competent and qualified to test milk or cream; and

21 (2) pays a license fee as provided in section 24 of this chapter.

22 A license shall be revoked by the ~~creamery license division~~ **upon**
23 ~~recommendation of the~~ board if the licensee fails to comply with the
24 rules under which the license was granted.

25 (d) The board may refuse to issue or reissue a license under this
26 section to a person who:

27 (1) has:

28 (A) previously held a license under this section; and

29 (B) had the license revoked or suspended by the board; or

30 (2) has held a milk testing related license or permit that has been
31 suspended or revoked in another state.

32 SECTION 289. IC 15-18-2-20, AS AMENDED BY P.L.186-2014,
33 SECTION 16, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
34 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 20. (a) A person who does sampling in
35 connection with receiving, buying, or paying for milk or cream on the
36 basis of the total composition of milk or the protein and fat components
37 contained in the milk or cream, either for the person, or as officer,
38 servant, agent, or employee of any person, must hold a sampler's
39 license.

40 (b) A dairy processing plant, receiving station, other factory,
41 person, or person's agent, that receives, buys, or pays for milk or cream

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on the basis of the amount of butterfat contained in the milk or cream shall employ a licensed sampler to supervise and is responsible for the sampling and weighing of milk or cream to obtain a representative sample and make and record correct weights of the whole amount of milk or cream delivered.

(c) A milk sampler's license or cream sampler's license shall be issued to a person by the ~~creamery license division~~ **board** if the person:

(1) passes a satisfactory examination as provided for in the rules adopted by the board and demonstrates that the person is competent and qualified to sample milk or cream; and

(2) pays a license fee as provided in section 25 of this chapter.

A license shall be revoked by the ~~creamery license division~~ **upon recommendation of the board** if the licensee fails to comply with the rules under which the license was granted.

(d) A license to test milk or cream includes the authority to sample and weigh milk or cream.

(e) The board may refuse to issue or reissue a license under this section to a person who:

(1) has:

(A) previously held a license under this section; and

(B) had the license revoked or suspended by the board; or

(2) has held a milk sampling related license or permit that has been suspended or revoked in another state.

SECTION 290. IC 15-18-2-22, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2008, SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 22. The ~~creamery license division~~ **board** shall issue a plant license to every dairy processing plant, receiving station, milk factory, cheese factory, condensery, ice cream factory, or other person that complies with section 18 of this chapter and pays to the ~~creamery license division~~ **board** seventy-five dollars (\$75) plus a fee of:

(1) twelve dollars (\$12) per million on milk receipts of at least ten million (10,000,000) but not more than fifty million (50,000,000) pounds;

(2) nine dollars (\$9) per million on milk receipts of at least fifty million (50,000,000) but not more than one hundred million (100,000,000) pounds; and

(3) five dollars (\$5) per million on milk receipts of at least one hundred million (100,000,000) pounds;

during the preceding year ending December 31. The maximum fee may not exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000) regardless of volume

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received. Out-of-state milk receipts are exempt from the payment of fees.

SECTION 291. IC 15-18-2-23, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2008, SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 23. A license shall be issued to a receiving station or other milk or cream processing plant upon payment to the ~~creamery license division board~~ a fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25).

SECTION 292. IC 15-18-2-24, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2008, SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 24. A license shall be issued to an applicant for a milk tester's license or cream tester's license if the applicant:

(1) complies with section 19 of this chapter; and

(2) pays to the ~~creamery license division board~~ a fee of fifteen dollars (\$15).

SECTION 293. IC 15-18-2-25, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2008, SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 25. A license shall be issued to an applicant for a sampler's license if the applicant:

(1) complies with section 20 of this chapter; and

(2) pays to the ~~creamery license division board~~ a fee of ten dollars (\$10).

SECTION 294. IC 15-18-2-28, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2008, SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 28. (a) To secure sufficient funds to implement this chapter and to ensure accuracy to milk and cream producers in the weighing, sampling, and testing of milk and cream:

(1) a dairy processing plant;

(2) a receiving station;

(3) a milk factory;

(4) a milk distributor;

(5) a cheese factory;

(6) a condensery;

(7) an ice cream factory;

(8) any other processing plant; or

(9) a person purchasing fluid milk or cream in Indiana directly from producers or a producers' association or otherwise receiving milk directly from producers;

shall, during the month of May of each year, pay to the ~~treasurer of Purdue University board~~ for the fluid milk or cream delivered during the month of May a sum equal in amount to two and one-half cents (\$.025) per one hundred (100) pounds for all fluid milk purchased

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1 during that time. For the financing of the producers' share of this
 2 program, the processor shall charge the two and one-half cents (\$.025)
 3 per one hundred (100) pounds back to the producer association or
 4 cooperative. For those patrons who do not belong to producer
 5 associations or cooperatives, the processor shall make this charge
 6 directly to the individual producer. Butterfat purchased from producers
 7 other than in the form of fluid milk shall be converted for the purpose
 8 of the deduction into four percent (4%) milk equivalent. Out-of-state
 9 receipts are exempt from the payment of these fees.

10 (b) All persons required to make payments under this section shall
 11 make reports of all purchases of milk and cream at the times and in the
 12 form as required by the ~~creamery license division~~ **board**.

13 (c) It is a violation of this chapter for a person to fail to make:

14 (1) the payments required under this section; or

15 (2) an accurate accounting of the amount of fluid milk and cream
 16 purchased.

17 SECTION 295. IC 15-18-2-29, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2008,
 18 SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 19 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 29. Payments under section 28 of this
 20 chapter shall be made to the ~~treasurer of Purdue University~~ **board** not
 21 later than June 20 of each year. The money received is for the exclusive
 22 use of the ~~creamery license division~~ **board**. The money shall be
 23 expended for the following:

24 (1) Salaries and traveling expenses of inspectors.

25 (2) Necessary equipment and supplies for the inspection of all
 26 plants and stations.

27 (3) The examination of applicants for licenses.

28 (4) Disseminating information and instruction by means of
 29 publication.

30 (5) All other expenses necessary in administering this chapter.

31 SECTION 296. IC 15-18-2-31, AS AMENDED BY P.L.9-2024,
 32 SECTION 367, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 33 [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 31. ~~(a) The money for license~~
 34 ~~fees and for inspection fees as provided in this chapter shall be paid to~~
 35 ~~the treasurer of Purdue University. The Purdue University board of~~
 36 ~~trustees shall expend the collected fees, on proper vouchers to be filed~~
 37 ~~with the state comptroller, in meeting all necessary expenses in~~
 38 ~~carrying out this chapter, including the employment of inspectors,~~
 39 ~~traveling expenses of inspectors, expenses of issuing publications, and~~
 40 ~~glassware equipment, testing device, and factory inspection as provided~~
 41 ~~in this chapter.~~

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(b) The treasurer's annual report to the governor must include a classified report showing the total receipts and expenditures of all fees received under this chapter: **board for deposit in the creamery inspection fund established by section 31.5 of this chapter.**

SECTION 297. IC 15-18-2-31.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: **Sec. 31.5. (a) The creamery inspection fund is established.**

(b) The creamery inspection fund consists of license fees and inspection fees paid under this chapter.

(c) Money in the creamery inspection fund may be used to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

SECTION 298. IC 15-18-2-32, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2008, SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: **Sec. 32.** Plants and stations covered by this chapter as listed in section 18 of this chapter (dairy processing plant and receiving station licenses) shall report before April 1 of each year the amount of milk or cream, or both, purchased during the last calendar year with the amount of butterfat in the milk or cream. Any other data or statistics desired by the ~~creamery license division~~ **board** pertaining to the purchase of milk or cream must be reported to the ~~creamery license division~~ **board** by the person according to and on forms furnished by the ~~creamery license division~~ **board**. A person providing information under this section shall keep complete and accurate records of the person's business.

SECTION 299. IC 15-18-2-33, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2008, SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: **Sec. 33. (a)** For purposes of this chapter, inspectors of the ~~creamery license division~~ **board** may do the following:

(1) Enter at all reasonable hours all places where milk or cream is being stored, bottled, or processed, or where milk or cream is being bought, sold, or handled, to inspect records pertaining to the purchase and payment of milk or cream.

(2) Inspect and copy the records pertaining to the purchase and payment of milk or cream.

(3) Take testimony to ascertain facts pertaining to the purchase and payment of milk or cream that in the judgment of the ~~creamery license division~~ **board** are necessary to administer this chapter.

(b) The board may determine the truth and accuracy of the books,



records, papers, documents, accounts, and reports required to be furnished in accordance with this chapter.

SECTION 300. IC 15-18-2-34, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2008, SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 34. (a) A person or an officer, a servant, an agent, or an employee of a person may not interfere with an authorized inspector of the ~~creamery license division~~ **board** who is:

(1) making an inspection; or

(2) taking a sample;

required under this chapter.

(b) A person that owns or operates or is in charge of a dairy processing plant, a receiving station, a milk factory, a cheese factory, a condensery, an ice cream factory, or other processing plant that is subject to inspection or entry by an inspector of the ~~creamery license division~~ **board** may not refuse to allow or may not obstruct an inspector's entry or inspection.

SECTION 301. IC 15-19-7-32.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 32.5. (a) **The commercial feed inspection fund is established to carry out the purposes 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 by the state chemist 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 302. IC 15-19-7-33, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2008, SECTION 10, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 33. (a) Fees collected by the state chemist under this chapter shall be ~~paid to the treasurer of Purdue University. The board of trustees of Purdue University shall expend the money received under this section on proper vouchers in meeting all necessary expenses in carrying out this chapter, including:~~ **deposited in the commercial feed inspection fund established by section 32.5 of this chapter, and used to meet all necessary expenses in carrying out**

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1 **this chapter, including:**

- 2 (1) the employment of inspectors and chemists;
 3 (2) other expenses of the work of feed inspection as provided for
 4 by this chapter; and
 5 (3) any other expenses of ~~Purdue University~~ agricultural
 6 ~~programs~~ authorized by law and in support of the purposes of
 7 this chapter.

8 (b) Excess funds from the collection of fees under this chapter are
 9 subject to IC 15-16-2-36.

10 SECTION 303. IC 16-18-2-37.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.3-2008,
 11 SECTION 103, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 12 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 37.5. (a) "Board", for purposes of
 13 IC 16-22-8, has the meaning set forth in IC 16-22-8-2.1.

14 (b) "Board", for purposes of ~~IC 16-41-42.2~~, has the meaning set
 15 ~~forth in IC 16-41-42.2-1.~~ **for purposes of IC 16-42-11, has the**
 16 **meaning set forth in IC 16-42-11-1.1.**

17 SECTION 304. IC 16-18-2-62, AS AMENDED BY P.L.143-2025,
 18 SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 19 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 62. (a) "Commission", for purposes of IC 16-27.5,
 20 refers to the certified health care professions commission established
 21 by IC 16-27.5-2-1.

22 (b) **Before January 1, 2027**, "commission", for purposes of
 23 IC 16-31, refers to the Indiana emergency medical services
 24 commission.

25 (c) **After December 31, 2026**, "commission", for purposes of
 26 **IC 16-31, refers to the Indiana fire and EMS standards and**
 27 **education commission.**

28 ~~(c)~~ (d) "Commission", for purposes of IC 16-46-11.1, has the
 29 meaning set forth in IC 16-46-11.1-1. **This subsection expires**
 30 **December 31, 2026.**

31 SECTION 305. IC 16-18-2-84, AS AMENDED BY P.L.129-2023,
 32 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 33 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 84. (a) "Council", for purposes of IC 16-46-6,
 34 refers to the interagency state council on black and minority health.
 35 **This subsection expires December 31, 2026.**

36 (b) "Council", for purposes of IC 16-46-17, refers to the rare
 37 disease advisory council.

38 SECTION 306. IC 16-18-2-161.5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 39 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 161.5. (a) "Health care
 40 interpreter", for purposes of IC 16-46-11.1, has the meaning set forth
 41 in IC 16-46-11.1-2.



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

2 SECTION 307. IC 16-18-2-163.5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
3 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 163.5. **(a)** "Health care
4 translator", for purposes of IC 16-46-11.1, has the meaning set forth in
5 IC 16-46-11.1-3.

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

7 SECTION 308. IC 16-19-3-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.1-2025,
8 SECTION 182, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
9 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) The executive board may, by
10 an affirmative vote of a majority of its members, adopt reasonable rules
11 under IC 4-22-2 on behalf of the state department to protect or to
12 improve the public health in Indiana.

13 (b) The rules may concern but are not limited to the following:

14 (1) Nuisances dangerous to public health.

15 (2) The pollution of any water supply other than where
16 jurisdiction is in the environmental rules board and department
17 of environmental management.

18 (3) The disposition of excremental and sewage matter.

19 (4) The control of fly and mosquito breeding places.

20 (5) The detection, reporting, prevention, and control of diseases
21 that affect public health.

22 (6) The care of maternity and infant cases and the conduct of
23 maternity homes.

24 (7) The production, distribution, and sale of human food.

25 (8) Except as provided in section 4.4 of this chapter, the conduct
26 of camps.

27 (9) Standards of cleanliness of eating facilities for the public.

28 (10) Standards of cleanliness of sanitary facilities offered for
29 public use.

30 (11) The handling, disposal, disinterment, and reburial of dead
31 human bodies.

32 (12) Vital statistics.

33 (13) Sanitary conditions and facilities in public buildings and
34 grounds, including plumbing, drainage, sewage disposal, water
35 supply, lighting, heating, and ventilation, other than where
36 jurisdiction is vested by law in the ~~fire prevention and building~~
37 ~~safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** or other
38 state agency.

39 (14) The design, construction, and operation of swimming and
40 wading pools. However, the rules governing swimming and
41 wading pools do not apply to a pool maintained by an individual

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1 for the sole use of the individual's household and house guests.

2 (c) The executive board shall adopt reasonable rules to regulate
3 the following:

4 (1) The sanitary operation of tattoo parlors.

5 (2) The sanitary operation of body piercing facilities.

6 (d) The executive board may adopt rules on behalf of the state
7 department for the efficient enforcement of this title, except as
8 otherwise provided. However, fees for inspections relating to weights
9 and measures may not be established by the rules.

10 (e) The executive board may declare that a rule described in
11 subsection (d) is necessary to meet an emergency and adopt the rule
12 under IC 4-22-2.

13 (f) The rules of the state department may not be inconsistent with
14 this title and or any other state law.

15 SECTION 309. IC 16-19-3-27.5, AS AMENDED BY
16 P.L.151-2025, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
17 [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 27.5. (a) As used in this
18 section and section 27.8 of this chapter, "technology new to Indiana"
19 (referred to in this section as "TNI") means sewage treatment or
20 disposal methods, processes, or equipment that are not described in the
21 administrative rules of the state department or the executive board
22 concerning residential onsite sewage systems (410 IAC 6-8.3) or
23 commercial onsite sewage systems (410 IAC 6-10.1).

24 (b) The state department shall establish and maintain a technical
25 review panel consisting of individuals with technical or scientific
26 knowledge relating to onsite sewage systems. The technical review
27 panel:

28 (1) shall decide under subsection (f) whether to approve:

29 (A) proprietary residential wastewater treatment devices;
30 and

31 (B) proprietary commercial wastewater treatment devices;
32 for general use in Indiana;

33 (2) shall biannually review the performance of residential onsite
34 sewage systems and commercial onsite sewage systems;

35 (3) shall assist the state department in developing standards and
36 guidelines for proprietary residential wastewater treatment
37 devices and proprietary commercial wastewater treatment
38 devices;

39 (4) shall assist the executive board and the state department in
40 updating rules adopted under section 4 of this chapter
41 concerning residential onsite sewage systems and commercial

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- 1 onsite sewage systems; and
 2 (5) may exercise the powers granted by section 27.7 of this
 3 chapter.
 4 (c) The technical review panel shall include the following:
 5 (1) A member of the staff of the state department, who shall
 6 serve as the chair.
 7 (2) A local health department environmental health specialist
 8 appointed by the governor.
 9 (3) An Indiana professional engineer registered under ~~IC 25-31-1-~~
 10 **IC 25-4-3** representing the American Council of Engineering
 11 Companies.
 12 (4) A representative of the Indiana Builders Association.
 13 (5) An Indiana registered professional soil scientist (as defined
 14 in IC 25-31.5-1-6) representing the Indiana Registry of Soil
 15 Scientists.
 16 (6) A representative of an Indiana college or university with a
 17 specialty in engineering, soil science, environmental health, or
 18 biology appointed by the governor.
 19 (7) A representative of the Indiana Onsite Wastewater
 20 Professionals Association.
 21 (8) An Indiana onsite sewage system contractor appointed by the
 22 governor.
 23 (9) A representative of the Indiana State Building and
 24 Construction Trades Council.
 25 All members of the technical review panel are voting members, except
 26 the member described in subdivision (1).
 27 (d) In the case of a tie vote of the technical review panel, the
 28 following shall occur:
 29 (1) If the tie vote is in regard to a county, city, or town ordinance
 30 concerning residential onsite sewage systems:
 31 (A) the technical review panel shall send the ordinance
 32 back to the county, city, or town not more than seven (7)
 33 days after the day of the tie vote;
 34 (B) the county, city, or town may revise and resubmit the
 35 ordinance; and
 36 (C) if the ordinance is revised and resubmitted, the
 37 technical review panel shall consider the revised ordinance
 38 at its next meeting.
 39 (2) If the tie vote is in regard to a matter not described in
 40 subdivision (1), the technical review panel shall, not more than
 41 seven (7) days after the day of the tie vote:

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- 1 (A) contact the applicant by phone call and by mail; and
 2 (B) request more information or provide an explanation of
 3 how the applicant can modify the application to make it
 4 more complete.
 5 The technical review panel shall review any new information
 6 provided by the applicant and vote again on the application not
 7 more than thirty (30) days after receiving the information.
 8 (e) The technical review panel shall do the following:
 9 (1) Receive applications for the approval of TNI for general use
 10 in:
 11 (A) residential onsite sewage systems under sections 4 and
 12 27 of this chapter and IC 16-41-25; and
 13 (B) commercial onsite sewage systems under sections 4 and
 14 27 of this chapter and IC 16-19-3.5.
 15 (2) Meet monthly as needed to assist the executive board and the
 16 state department as described in subsection (b)(4) and to review
 17 applications described in subdivision (1).
 18 (3) Notify each person who submits an application described in
 19 subdivision (1):
 20 (A) that the person's application has been received by the
 21 technical review panel; and
 22 (B) of whether the application is complete;
 23 not later than thirty (30) days after the technical review panel
 24 receives the application.
 25 (4) Inform each person who submits an application described in
 26 subdivision (1) of:
 27 (A) a tentative decision of the technical review panel; or
 28 (B) the technical review panel's final decision under
 29 subsection (f);
 30 concerning the application not more than ninety (90) days after
 31 the technical review panel notifies the person under subdivision
 32 (3) that the panel has received the person's application.
 33 (f) In response to each application described in subsection (e)(1),
 34 the technical review panel shall make, and inform the applicant of, one
 35 (1) of the following final decisions:
 36 (1) That the TNI to which the application relates is approved for
 37 general use in Indiana.
 38 (2) That the TNI to which the application relates is approved for
 39 use in Indiana with certain conditions, which may include:
 40 (A) a requirement that the TNI be used initially only in a
 41 pilot project;

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- 1 (B) restrictions on the number or type of installations of the
- 2 TNI;
- 3 (C) sampling and analysis requirements for TNI involving
- 4 or comprising a secondary treatment system;
- 5 (D) requirements relating to training concerning the TNI;
- 6 (E) requirements concerning the operation and maintenance
- 7 of the TNI; or
- 8 (F) other requirements.
- 9 (3) That the TNI to which the application relates is approved on
- 10 a project-by-project basis.
- 11 (4) That the TNI is not approved for use in Indiana, which must
- 12 be accompanied by a statement of the reason for the decision.
- 13 (g) If the technical review panel makes a decision under
- 14 subsection (f)(4) that the TNI is not approved for use in Indiana, the
- 15 applicant may:
- 16 (1) submit a new application to the technical review panel under
- 17 this section; or
- 18 (2) file a petition for review of the technical review panel's
- 19 decision under IC 4-21.5-3.
- 20 (h) If the technical review panel fails to notify a person who
- 21 submits an application of the technical review panel's tentative decision
- 22 or final recommendation within ninety (90) days after receiving the
- 23 application as required by subsection (e)(4), the person who submitted
- 24 the application may use the TNI to which the application relates in a
- 25 single residential onsite sewage system or commercial onsite sewage
- 26 system, as if the TNI had been approved only for use in a pilot project.
- 27 (i) The technical review panel shall decide that the TNI to which
- 28 an application relates is approved for general use in Indiana if:
- 29 (1) the TNI has been certified as meeting the NSF/ANSI 40
- 30 Standard;
- 31 (2) a proposed Indiana design and installation manual for the
- 32 TNI is submitted with the permit application; and
- 33 (3) the technical review panel certifies that the proposed Indiana
- 34 design and installation manual meets the vertical and horizontal
- 35 separation, sizing, and soil loading criteria of the state
- 36 department.
- 37 (j) Subsection (k) applies if:
- 38 (1) a particular TNI meets the requirements of NSF/ANSI 40,
- 39 NSF/ANSI 245, or NSF/ANSI 350;
- 40 (2) the proposed Indiana design and installation manual for the
- 41 TNI meets the vertical and horizontal separation, sizing, and soil

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loading criteria of the state department; and

(3) an Indiana professional engineer registered under ~~IC 25-31-1~~
IC 25-4-3 prepares site specific plans for the use of the TNI for
a residential or commercial application.

(k) In a case described in subsection (j):

(1) if the TNI is to be used in a residential application, the site
specific plans prepared under subsection (j)(3), after being
submitted to the local health department of the county, city, or
multiple county unit in which the TNI would be installed, may
be approved by the local health department within the period set
forth in IC 16-41-25-1(a); and

(2) if the TNI is to be used in a commercial application, the site
specific plans prepared under subsection (j)(3) shall be approved
by the state department upon submission of the site specific
plans.

(l) A local health department may not refuse an application for a
permit for the construction or installation of a residential onsite sewage
system (as defined in IC 16-41-25-0.4) solely because the residential
onsite sewage system has not been used previously in the jurisdiction
of the local health department or is unfamiliar to the local health
department, if either of the following apply:

(1) The residential onsite sewage system has been approved by
the technical review panel under this section for general use in
Indiana.

(2) The residential onsite sewage system:

(A) is based on one (1) or more sewage treatment or
disposal methods or processes; or

(B) incorporates equipment;

approved by the technical review panel under this section for
general use in Indiana.

SECTION 310. IC 16-19-3-27.6, AS ADDED BY P.L.167-2022,
SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 27.6. (a) As used in this section, "type of
residential onsite sewage system" means an onsite sewage system that:

(1) has a particular design;

(2) consists of particular components; and

(3) is installed or constructed in a particular way.

(b) For purposes of this section, the following are different types
of residential onsite sewage systems:

(1) A conventional septic system consisting of a septic tank and
a gravel or stone soil absorption field.

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(2) A chamber system in which wastewater is piped from the septic tank to a series of connected chambers backfilled with soil.

(3) A subsurface drip distribution system in which wastewater is pumped from the septic tank to a dose tank and then gradually delivered to drip laterals in the soil.

(4) An aerobic treatment unit in which oxygen is injected into the wastewater to accelerate the biological processes used to treat the wastewater before being discharged to a soil absorption field.

(5) A recirculating sand filter system in which wastewater flows from a septic tank to a pump chamber and then is recirculated through a sand filter before being discharged to a soil absorption field.

(6) An evapotranspiration system that includes a drain field having a watertight liner and in which wastewater, after entering the drain field, evaporates into the air.

(7) A constructed wetland system in which wastewater from a septic tank enters a wetland cell containing an impermeable liner, gravel, sand fill, and wetland plants that remove pathogens and nutrients from the wastewater before being discharged to a soil absorption field.

(8) A sand-lined system in which wastewater flows from a septic tank to a combined treatment and dispersal soil absorption field containing piping laterals surrounded by sand.

(c) If:

(1) the local health department of a county, city, or multiple county unit has issued a permit for construction or installation of a type of residential onsite sewage system;

(2) the use of the same type of residential onsite sewage system at a location in a different county, city, or multiple county unit has been approved by:

(A) a professional engineer registered under ~~IC 25-31-1;~~
IC 25-4-3;

(B) a registered soil scientist (as defined in IC 25-31.5-1-7);

(C) an individual or entity engaged in the business of constructing and installing residential onsite sewage systems; and

(D) the designer of the system, if the system was designed by someone other than a person referred to in clause (A) or (C); and

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(3) all of the persons referred to in subdivision (2) attest that the same type of residential onsite sewage system, if constructed or installed at the location referred to in subdivision (2), would satisfy the requirements of the rule of the state department concerning residential onsite sewage systems;

the local health department of the county, city, or multiple county unit referred to in subdivision (2) may not refuse to issue a permit for the construction or installation of a residential onsite sewage system of the type referred to in subdivisions (1), (2), and (3) at the location referred to in subdivision (2).

SECTION 311. IC 16-19-3.5-11, AS ADDED BY P.L.49-2016, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 11. The state department may not deny a construction permit based upon noncompliance or suspected noncompliance with a rule adopted under the authority of the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission established by IC 22-12-2-1~~ **department of homeland security**.

SECTION 312. IC 16-19-13-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.51-2021, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. The office is established for the following purposes:

(1) To educate and advocate for women's health by requesting that the state department, either on its own or in partnership with other entities, establish appropriate forums, programs, or initiatives designed to educate the public regarding women's health, with an emphasis on preventive health and healthy lifestyles.

(2) To assist the state health commissioner in identifying, coordinating, and establishing priorities for programs, services, and resources the state should provide for women's health issues and concerns relating to the reproductive, menopausal, and postmenopausal phases of a woman's life, with an emphasis on postmenopausal health.

(3) To serve as a clearinghouse and resource for information regarding women's health data, strategies, services, and programs that address women's health issues, including the following:

(A) Diseases that significantly impact women, including heart disease, cancer, and osteoporosis.

(B) Menopause.

(C) Mental health.



- 1 (D) Substance abuse.
- 2 (E) Sexually transmitted diseases.
- 3 (F) Sexual assault and domestic violence.
- 4 (G) Female genital mutilation (as defined in IC 35-42-2-10).
- 5 (4) To collect, classify, and analyze relevant research
- 6 information and data conducted or compiled by:
- 7 (A) the state department; or
- 8 (B) other entities in collaboration with the state department;
- 9 and to provide interested persons with information regarding the
- 10 research results, except as prohibited by law.
- 11 (5) To develop and recommend funding and program activities
- 12 for educating the public on women's health initiatives, including
- 13 the following:
- 14 (A) Health needs throughout a woman's life.
- 15 (B) Diseases that significantly affect women, including
- 16 heart disease, cancer, and osteoporosis.
- 17 (C) Access to health care for women.
- 18 (D) Poverty and women's health.
- 19 (E) The leading causes of morbidity and mortality for
- 20 women.
- 21 (F) Special health concerns of minority women.
- 22 (6) To make recommendations to the state health commissioner
- 23 regarding programs that address women's health issues for
- 24 inclusion in the state department's biennial budget and strategic
- 25 planning.
- 26 (7) To seek funding from private or governmental entities to
- 27 carry out the purposes of this chapter.
- 28 (8) To prepare materials for publication and dissemination to the
- 29 public on women's health.
- 30 (9) To conduct public educational forums in Indiana to raise
- 31 public awareness and to educate citizens about women's health
- 32 programs, issues, and services.
- 33 (10) To coordinate the activities and programs of the office with
- 34 other entities that focus on women's health or women's issues,
- 35 including the ~~Indiana commission for women (IC 4-23-25-3).~~
- 36 **Indiana cultural commission established by IC 4-23-36.**
- 37 (11) To represent the state health commissioner, upon request,
- 38 before the general assembly and the ~~Indiana commission for~~
- 39 ~~women established by IC 4-23-25-3.~~ **Indiana cultural**
- 40 **commission established by IC 4-23-36.**
- 41 (12) To provide an annual report to the governor, the legislative

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council, and the ~~Indiana commission for women~~ **Indiana cultural commission established by IC 4-23-36** regarding the successes of the programs of the office, priorities and services needed for women's health in Indiana, and areas for improvement. A report provided under this subdivision to the legislative council must be in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.

This section does not allow the director or any employees of the office to advocate, promote, refer to, or otherwise advance abortion or abortifacients.

SECTION 313. IC 16-20-2-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.164-2023, SECTION 23, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 5. (a) For a county with a population of at least two hundred thousand (200,000), the members of a local board of health shall be chosen as follows:

(1) Five (5) persons knowledgeable in clinical and public health, at least two (2) of whom are licensed physicians, and appointed by the county executive. The other appointees may be any of the following:

(A) A registered nurse licensed under IC 25-23.

(B) A registered pharmacist licensed under IC 25-26.

(C) A dentist licensed under IC 25-14.

(D) A hospital administrator.

(E) A social worker.

(F) An attorney with expertise in health matters.

(G) A school superintendent.

(H) A veterinarian licensed under IC 25-38.1.

(I) A professional engineer registered under ~~IC 25-31~~ **IC 25-4-3**.

(J) An environmental scientist.

(K) A physician assistant licensed under IC 25-27.5.

(L) A public health professional, including an epidemiologist.

(2) One (1) representative of the general public, appointed by the county executive.

(3) One (1) individual appointed by the county fiscal body who either:

(A) has public health knowledge; or

(B) is a member of the general public.

(4) Two (2) representatives appointed by the county executive, one (1) each from a list of three (3) recommendations from each



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executive of the county's two (2) most populous municipalities in the county of individuals described in subdivision (1)(B) through (1)(K).

(b) For a county with a population of less than two hundred thousand (200,000), the members of a local board of health shall be chosen as follows:

(1) Five (5) persons knowledgeable in clinical and public health, at least one (1) of whom is a physician, and appointed by the county executive. The other appointees may be any of the following:

(A) A physician licensed under IC 25-22.5.

(B) A registered nurse licensed under IC 25-23.

(C) A registered pharmacist licensed under IC 25-26.

(D) A dentist licensed under IC 25-14.

(E) A hospital administrator.

(F) A social worker.

(G) An attorney with expertise in health matters.

(H) A school superintendent.

(I) A veterinarian licensed under IC 25-38.1.

(J) A professional engineer registered under ~~IC 25-31~~.

IC 25-4-3.

(K) An environmental scientist.

(L) A physician assistant licensed under IC 25-27.5.

(M) A public health professional, including an epidemiologist.

(2) One (1) person who either has public health knowledge or is a member of the general public, and is appointed by the county fiscal body.

(3) One (1) person appointed by the county executive from a list of three (3) recommendations by the executive of the most populous municipality in the county of individuals described in subdivision (1)(C) through (1)(M).

SECTION 314. IC 16-20-3-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.164-2023, SECTION 29, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 2. (a) There must be at least seven (7) members of a multiple county board of health.

(b) The county executives establishing a multiple county health department shall determine the following for the multiple county board of health:

(1) The number of members.

(2) The qualifications of members.



- 1 (3) The number of appointments made by each county.
- 2 (c) The county executive of each county participating in a multiple
- 3 county board of health shall appoint the members of the multiple
- 4 county board of health, except that the executive of the most populous
- 5 municipality of the participating counties of the multiple county board
- 6 of health shall appoint one (1) member to the multiple county board of
- 7 health.
- 8 (d) The appointments made by the county executives must meet
- 9 the following requirements:
- 10 (1) At least five (5) individuals appointed to the multiple county
- 11 board of health must be knowledgeable in clinical and public
- 12 health and also be one (1) of the following:
- 13 (A) A physician licensed under IC 25-22.5.
- 14 (B) A registered nurse licensed under IC 25-23.
- 15 (C) A registered pharmacist licensed under IC 25-26.
- 16 (D) A dentist licensed under IC 25-14.
- 17 (E) A hospital administrator.
- 18 (F) A social worker.
- 19 (G) An attorney with expertise in health matters.
- 20 (H) A school superintendent.
- 21 (I) A veterinarian licensed under IC 25-38.1.
- 22 (J) A professional engineer registered under ~~IC 25-31.~~
- 23 **IC 25-4-3.**
- 24 (K) An environmental scientist.
- 25 (L) A physician assistant licensed under IC 25-27.5.
- 26 (M) A public health professional, including an
- 27 epidemiologist.
- 28 (2) At least one (1) individual who either has public health
- 29 knowledge or is a member of the public and is recommended by
- 30 any of the participating county fiscal bodies.
- 31 SECTION 315. IC 16-28-1-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.141-2014,
- 32 SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 33 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. The state department shall do the following:
- 34 (1) Adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 governing the following:
- 35 (A) Health and sanitation standards necessary to protect the
- 36 health, safety, security, rights, and welfare of patients.
- 37 (B) Qualifications of applicants for licenses issued under
- 38 this article to assure the proper care of patients.
- 39 (C) Operation, maintenance, management, equipment, and
- 40 construction of facilities required to be licensed under this
- 41 article if jurisdiction is not vested in any other state agency.

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(D) Manner, form, and content of the license, including rules governing disclosure of ownership interests.

(E) Levels of medical staffing and medical services in cooperation with the office of Medicaid policy and planning, division of family resources, and other agencies authorized to pay for the services.

(2) Recommend to the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** fire safety rules necessary to protect the health, safety, security, rights, and welfare of patients.

(3) Classify health facilities in health care categories.

SECTION 316. IC 16-29-2-6 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 6. A certificate of need for a project to construct, add, or convert beds that receives final approval of the state department under this chapter or IC 16-10-4 (before its repeal) becomes void eighteen (18) months after the determination becomes final unless the following conditions are met:

(1) Construction plans for the project are approved by the state department and the department of fire and building safety.

(2) The applicant has completed construction of the project's foundation in conformity with the approved plans as certified by an independent architect licensed under IC 25-4 or an independent professional engineer licensed under ~~IC 25-31~~ **IC 25-4-3**.

(3) Construction work on the project is continuous and in conformity with the approved plans.

SECTION 317. IC 16-29-7-15, AS ADDED BY P.L.202-2018, SECTION 8, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 15. A certificate of need that is approved under this chapter is valid for eighteen (18) months after approval is final. The certificate of need becomes void after eighteen (18) months unless:

(1) construction plans for the project are approved by the state department and the department of fire and building safety;

(2) the applicant has completed construction of the project's foundation in conformity with the approval plans and an independent:

(A) architect licensed under IC 25-4; or

(B) professional engineer licensed under ~~IC 25-31~~ **IC 25-4-3**;

has certified the completion; and

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1 (3) construction work on the project is continuous and conforms
2 with the approved plans.

3 However, modification of the approved plans to make technical
4 changes, correct errors or omissions, or comply with zoning or other
5 requirements of a governmental entity are allowable.

6 SECTION 318. IC 16-31-1-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
7 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 1. (a) The general
8 assembly declares that the provision of emergency medical services is
9 a matter of vital concern affecting the public health, safety, and welfare
10 of the people of Indiana.

11 (b) It is the purpose of this article:

12 (1) to promote the establishment and maintenance of an effective
13 system of emergency medical service, including the necessary
14 equipment, personnel, and facilities to ensure that all emergency
15 patients receive prompt and adequate medical care throughout
16 the range of emergency conditions encountered;

17 (2) that the ~~emergency medical services~~ **Indiana fire and EMS**
18 **standards and education** commission established under
19 IC 16-31-2 shall cooperate with other agencies empowered to
20 license persons engaged in the delivery of health care so as to
21 coordinate the efforts of the commission and other agencies; and
22 (3) to establish standards and requirements for the furnishing of
23 emergency medical services by persons not licensed or regulated
24 by other appropriate agencies.

25 SECTION 319. IC 16-31-2-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
26 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. **(a)** The Indiana
27 emergency medical services commission is created.

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

29 SECTION 320. IC 16-31-2-1.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
30 CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
31 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 1.5. (a) This section applies after**
32 **December 31, 2026.**

33 **(b) The commission consists of the following eleven (11)**
34 **members who must reside in Indiana:**

35 **(1) The director of the Indiana department of homeland**
36 **security or the director's designee.**

37 **(2) The commissioner of the Indiana department of health.**

38 **(3) The state emergency medical services medical director.**

39 **(4) Three (3) members representing the fire services**
40 **appointed as follows:**

41 **(A) One (1) member appointed by the Indiana fire chiefs**
42 **association.**



- 1 (B) One (1) member appointed by the professional fire
 2 fighters union of Indiana.
 3 (C) One (1) member appointed by the Indiana volunteer
 4 firefighters association.
 5 (5) Three (3) members appointed as follows who are
 6 knowledgeable in the training of emergency medical services
 7 providers:
 8 (A) A provider of emergency medical services appointed
 9 by the Indiana fire chiefs association.
 10 (B) A provider of emergency medical services appointed
 11 by the professional fire fighters union of Indiana.
 12 (C) A provider of emergency medical services appointed
 13 by the Indiana volunteer firefighters association.
 14 (6) A licensed physician appointed by the governor who is a
 15 member of the national association of EMS physicians.
 16 (7) An individual appointed by the governor who is an
 17 executive employed by a hospital that provides emergency
 18 medical services.
 19 (c) This subsection applies to a member of the commission
 20 appointed under subsection (b)(4) through (b)(7). The initial term
 21 of each member begins January 1, 2027. Except as provided in
 22 subsection (d), a member of the commission serves a four (4) year
 23 term.
 24 (d) The initial terms of the members described in subsection
 25 (c) expire as follows:
 26 (1) The terms of the members appointed under subsection
 27 (b)(4)(A), (b)(5)(B), and (b)(6) expire December 31, 2030.
 28 (2) The terms of the members appointed under subsection
 29 (b)(4)(B), (b)(5)(B), and (b)(7) expire December 31, 2029.
 30 (3) The terms of the members appointed under subsection
 31 (b)(4)(C) and (b)(5)(C) expire December 31, 2028.
 32 (e) Members of the commission may be reappointed to
 33 successive terms. The appropriate appointing authority shall fill a
 34 vacancy on the commission for the duration of the unexpired term.
 35 (f) The director of the Indiana department of homeland
 36 security or the director's designee shall serve as the chairperson of
 37 the commission. The commissioner of the Indiana department of
 38 health shall serve as the vice chairperson of the commission.
 39 (g) The director of the Indiana department of homeland
 40 security shall assist the appointing authorities in appointing
 41 members of the commission from throughout Indiana to ensure
 42 balanced representation from every region of Indiana.



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SECTION 321. IC 16-31-2-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.170-2022,
SECTION 24, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) The commission is composed of fourteen
(14) members. The governor shall appoint the members for four (4)
year terms as follows:

(1) One (1) must be appointed from a volunteer fire department
that provides emergency medical service.

(2) One (1) must be appointed from a full-time municipal fire or
police department that provides emergency medical service.

(3) One (1) must be a nonprofit provider of ambulance services
organized on a volunteer basis other than a volunteer fire
department.

(4) One (1) must be a provider of private ambulance services.

(5) One (1) must be a state licensed paramedic.

(6) One (1) must be a licensed physician who:

(A) has a primary interest, training, and experience in
emergency medical services; and

(B) is currently practicing in an emergency medical services
facility.

(7) One (1) must be a chief executive officer of a hospital that
provides ambulance services.

(8) One (1) must be a registered nurse who has supervisory or
administrative responsibility in a hospital emergency
department.

(9) One (1) must be a licensed physician who:

(A) has a primary interest, training, and experience in
trauma care; and

(B) is practicing in a trauma facility.

(10) One (1) must be a state certified emergency medical service
technician.

(11) One (1) must be an individual who:

(A) represents the public at large; and

(B) is not in any way related to providing emergency
medical services.

(12) One (1) must be a program director (as defined in 836
IAC 4-2-2(12)(B)(iii)) for a commission certified advanced life
support training institution.

(13) One (1) must be the executive director of the department of
homeland security appointed under IC 10-19-3-1 or the designee
of the executive director.

(14) One (1) must be a representative of an entity that provides

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1 air ambulance services.

2 (b) The chief executive officer of a hospital appointed under
3 subsection (a)(7) may designate another administrator of the hospital
4 to serve for the chief executive officer on the commission.

5 (c) Not more than eight (8) members may be from the same
6 political party.

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

8 SECTION 322. IC 16-31-2-3 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
9 JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 3. An appointment to fill a vacancy~~
10 ~~occurring on the commission is for the unexpired term.~~

11 SECTION 323. IC 16-41-25-5, AS ADDED BY P.L.167-2022,
12 SECTION 10, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
13 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 5. (a) The authority of a local health
14 department to administer the rule of the state department concerning
15 residential onsite sewage systems is subject to this section.

16 (b) If a professional engineer registered under ~~IC 25-31-1~~
17 **IC 25-4-3** certifies that the:

- 18 (1) location;
- 19 (2) design;
- 20 (3) proposed construction; and
- 21 (4) proposed installation;

22 of a planned residential onsite sewage system comply with the
23 administrative rule of the state department concerning residential onsite
24 sewage systems, a local health department may not disapprove an
25 application for a permit for the residential onsite sewage system on the
26 grounds that the location, design, construction, or installation of the
27 residential onsite sewage system is faulty.

28 (c) If a professional engineer registered under ~~IC 25-31-1~~
29 **IC 25-4-3** certifies that the:

- 30 (1) design;
- 31 (2) construction;
- 32 (3) installation;
- 33 (4) location;
- 34 (5) maintenance; and
- 35 (6) operation;

36 of an existing residential onsite sewage system comply with the
37 administrative rule of the state department concerning residential onsite
38 sewage systems, a local health department may not issue an order
39 based on a finding that the residential onsite sewage system is a failed
40 system.

41 (d) If a professional engineer registered under ~~IC 25-31-1~~

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1 **IC 25-4-3** certifies that an existing residential onsite sewage system is
 2 not functioning properly but can be restored to proper functioning
 3 through repair, a local health department must allow the repair of the
 4 residential onsite sewage system to be made in accordance with the
 5 certification of the professional engineer.

6 SECTION 324. IC 16-41-25-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.232-2023,
 7 SECTION 10, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 8 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 8. (a) If:

9 (1) an application has been filed with a local health department
 10 for a permit for the installation of a residential onsite sewage
 11 system;

12 (2) a professional soil scientist registered under IC 25-31.5-4 has
 13 conducted an onsite evaluation, including a description of the
 14 soil profile, and has determined that the proposed site of the
 15 residential onsite sewage system is suitable for the installation of
 16 the residential onsite sewage system; and

17 (3) the design and specifications for the residential onsite sewage
 18 system proposed for installation at the site described in
 19 subdivision (2) have been approved by either:

20 (A) the local health department; or

21 (B) at the option and expense of the property owner:

22 (i) a professional engineer registered under ~~IC 25-31-1~~;
 23 **IC 25-4-3**;

24 (ii) a septic system installer or inspector registered
 25 with the county in which the residential onsite sewage
 26 system would be installed; and

27 (iii) the designer of the system, if the system was
 28 designed by someone other than a person referred to in
 29 item (i) or (ii);

30 the local health department shall issue a permit for the residential
 31 onsite sewage system not later than thirty (30) business days after
 32 receiving a complete application for the permit.

33 (b) Subject to IC 16-19-3-27.5, IC 16-19-3-27.6, and sections 5
 34 and 6 of this chapter, this section does not affect the authority of a local
 35 health department to inspect an onsite sewage system before or after
 36 the system's installation.

37 SECTION 325. IC 16-41-25-10, AS AMENDED BY
 38 P.L.160-2024, SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 39 [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 10. (a) Neither an officer or
 40 employee of a local health department nor another agency, officer, or
 41 employee of a county, city, or town may enter property on which a

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residential onsite sewage system is located for the purpose of inspecting the residential onsite sewage system if, not more than one hundred eighty (180) days before the date of the inspection, the owner or occupant of the residence served by the residential onsite sewage system and:

- (1) a septic system installer or inspector registered with the county in which the residential onsite sewage system is located;
- (2) an onsite sewage system technician; or
- (3) an Indiana professional engineer registered under ~~IC 25-31-1;~~

IC 25-4-3;

state in a writing transmitted to the local health department, county, city, or town that the residential onsite sewage system is functioning properly.

(b) Subject to subsection (d), if subsection (a) does not apply, an officer or employee of a local health department or another officer or employee of a county, city, or town may not enter property on which a residential onsite sewage system is located for the purpose of inspecting the residential onsite sewage system unless the owner or occupant of the residence served by the residential onsite sewage system is given notice of the inspection by first class mail addressed to the residence at least seven (7) days before the day of the inspection.

(c) Subject to subsection (d), an officer or employee of a local health department may inspect residential onsite sewage systems and nonresidential onsite sewage systems (as defined in IC 16-19-3.5-3.5):

(1) after installation if:

- (A) the manufacturer of a residential onsite sewage system recommends inspection of the system multiple times a year;
- (B) an owner of the property on which a residential onsite sewage system is located requests an officer or employee of a local health department or another agency, officer, or employee of a county, city, or town to inspect the residential onsite sewage system located on the owner's property; or
- (C) a complaint is filed with the local health department requiring an inspection or inspections to protect the health of the community;

(2) to verify compliance with a permit issued under best judgment pursuant to rules adopted under IC 4-22-2 not more than once per year; or

(3) to verify compliance with an operating permit issued pursuant to rules adopted under IC 4-22-2 at least once per year.

(d) An advance notice to the owner or occupant of the residence

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is not required under subsection (b) in an urgent situation caused by a malfunction of the residential onsite sewage system that creates a clear and immediate danger to the public's health, safety, or property.

(e) This section shall not be interpreted as prohibiting or restricting the periodic:

- (1) inspection;
- (2) servicing;
- (3) testing; or
- (4) maintenance;

of an onsite residential sewage discharging disposal system (as defined in IC 13-11-2-144.7).

SECTION 326. IC 16-41-25-11, AS ADDED BY P.L.232-2023, SECTION 13, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 11. (a) As used in this section, "residential onsite sewage system failure" means a residential onsite sewage system that exhibits one (1) or more of the following:

- (1) The onsite sewage system refuses to accept sewage at the rate of design application and interferes with the normal use of residential plumbing fixtures.
- (2) Effluent discharge exceeds the absorptive capacity of the soil, resulting in ponding, seepage, or other discharge of the effluent to the ground surface or to surface waters.
- (3) Effluent is discharged from the onsite sewage system causing contamination of a potable water supply, ground water, or surface waters.

(b) A local health department that determines that a residential onsite sewage system is in residential onsite sewage system failure may issue an order requiring that the failure be corrected. However, an order issued under this subsection is stayed if the owner or occupant of the residence served by the residential onsite sewage system, within fourteen (14) days after the date of the order, enters into a contract with:

- (1) a septic system installer or inspector registered with the county in which the residential onsite sewage system is located;
- (2) an onsite sewage system technician; or
- (3) an Indiana professional engineer registered under ~~IC 25-31-1;~~ **IC 25-4-3;**

under which the installer or inspector, onsite sewage system technician, or professional engineer agrees to conduct an inspection to determine whether the residential onsite sewage system is in residential onsite sewage system failure.



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(c) An order is stayed under subsection (b) until the earlier of the following:

(1) The date on which the installer or inspector, technician, or engineer performs the inspection and presents the results of the inspection in writing to:

(A) the owner or occupant of the residence served by the residential onsite sewage system; and

(B) the local health department.

(2) The expiration of forty-five (45) days after the date of the order issued under subsection (b).

(d) If the installer or inspector, onsite sewage system technician, or professional engineer states in the report provided to the local health department that the residential onsite sewage system is not in residential onsite sewage system failure, the local health department shall:

(1) withdraw the order issued under subsection (b); or

(2) conduct an investigation of the residential onsite sewage system to make a new determination whether the residential onsite sewage system is in residential onsite sewage system failure.

(e) If the local health department conducts an investigation under subsection (d)(2), the order issued under subsection (b) is stayed pending the new determination of the local health department based on the investigation.

SECTION 327. IC 16-41-26-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.181-2018, SECTION 18, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), the state department shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of persons living in agricultural labor camps, prescribing standards for living quarters at agricultural labor camps, including provisions relating to construction of camps, sanitary conditions, light, air, safety protection from fire hazards, equipment, maintenance and operation of the camp, sewage disposal through septic tank absorption fields or other approved methods, and other matters appropriate for the security of the life and health of occupants.

(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 328. 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 329. IC 16-41-37.5-4, AS ADDED BY P.L.79-2008, SECTION 12, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 4. (a) An individual conducting an indoor air quality test under this chapter must be:

(1) a professional engineer (as defined in ~~IC 25-31-1-2~~; **IC 25-4-0.5-10**);

(2) an industrial hygienist; or

(3) a supervisor or technician certified by a national organization that:

(A) writes and adheres to standards for:

(i) testing, adjusting, and balancing of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning equipment or exhaust systems; and

(ii) indoor air quality testing procedures and requirements; and

(B) certifies supervisors and technicians to perform:

(i) testing, adjusting, and balancing of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning equipment or exhaust systems; and

(ii) indoor air quality testing procedures and requirements.

(b) The report of a test conducted under this chapter must be certified by the person conducting the test. If the person uses a

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professional seal on documents, the certification must include the person's seal.

SECTION 330. IC 16-41-42.2-1 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "board" refers to the spinal cord and brain injury research board established by section 5 of this chapter.~~

SECTION 331. IC 16-41-42.2-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.200-2015, SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 4. The fund is to be used for the following purposes:

(1) Establishing and maintaining a state medical surveillance registry for traumatic spinal cord and brain injuries.

~~(2) Fulfilling the duties of the board established by section 5 of this chapter.~~

~~(3)~~ (2) Funding research related to the treatment and cure of spinal cord and brain injuries, including acute management, medical complications, rehabilitative techniques, and neuronal recovery. Research must be conducted in compliance with all state and federal laws.

~~(4)~~ (3) Concerning spinal cord injuries, funding of at least ten percent (10%) and not more than fifteen percent (15%) of money in the fund for:

(A) post acute extended treatment and services for an individual with a spinal cord injury; or

(B) facilities that offer long term activity based therapy services at affordable rates to an individual with a spinal cord injury that requires extended post acute care.

~~(5)~~ (4) Concerning brain injuries, funding of at least ten percent (10%) and not more than fifteen percent (15%) of money in the fund for:

(A) post acute extended treatment and services for an individual with a brain injury; or

(B) facilities that offer long term activity based therapy services at affordable rates to an individual with a brain injury that requires extended post acute care.

~~(6)~~ (5) Develop a statewide trauma system. However, not more than fifty percent (50%) of money in the fund may be used for purposes of developing a statewide trauma system.

SECTION 332. IC 16-41-42.2-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.29-2016, SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 5. ~~(a) The spinal cord and~~

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1 brain injury research board is established for the purpose of
 2 administering the fund. The board is composed of eleven (11)
 3 members:

4 (b) The following six (6) members of the board shall be appointed
 5 by the governor:

6 (1) One (1) member who has a spinal cord or head injury or who
 7 has a family member with a spinal cord or head injury:

8 (2) One (1) member who is a physician licensed under
 9 IC 25-22.5 who has specialty training in neuroscience and
 10 surgery:

11 (3) One (1) member who is a physiatrist holding a board
 12 certification from the American Board of Physical Medicine and
 13 Rehabilitation:

14 (4) One (1) member representing the technical life sciences
 15 industry:

16 (5) One (1) member who is a physical therapist licensed under
 17 IC 25-27 who treats individuals with traumatic spinal cord
 18 injuries or brain injuries:

19 (6) One (1) member who owns or operates a facility that
 20 provides long term activity based therapy services at affordable
 21 rates to individuals with traumatic spinal cord injuries or brain
 22 injuries:

23 (c) Five (5) members of the board shall be appointed as follows:

24 (1) One (1) member representing Indiana University to be
 25 appointed by Indiana University:

26 (2) One (1) member representing Purdue University to be
 27 appointed by Purdue University:

28 (3) One (1) member representing the National Spinal Cord Injury
 29 Association to be appointed by the National Spinal Cord Injury
 30 Association:

31 (4) One (1) member representing the largest freestanding
 32 rehabilitation hospital for brain and spinal cord injuries in
 33 Indiana to be appointed by the Rehabilitation Hospital of Indiana
 34 located in Indianapolis:

35 (5) One (1) member representing the Brain Injury Association of
 36 America to be appointed by the Brain Injury Association of
 37 Indiana:

38 (d) The term of a member is four (4) years. A member serves until
 39 a successor is appointed and qualified. If a vacancy occurs on the board
 40 before the end of a member's term, the appointing authority appointing
 41 the vacating member shall appoint an individual to serve the remainder



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1 of the vacating member's term:

2 (e) A majority of the members appointed to the board constitutes
3 a quorum. The affirmative votes of a majority of the members are
4 required for the board to take action on any measure.

5 (f) Each member of the board is entitled to the minimum salary per
6 diem provided by IC 4-10-11-2.1(b). The member is also entitled to
7 reimbursement for traveling expenses as provided under IC 4-13-1-4
8 and other expenses actually incurred in connection with the member's
9 duties as provided in the state policies and procedures established by
10 the Indiana department of administration and approved by the budget
11 agency.

12 (g) The board shall annually elect a chairperson who shall be the
13 presiding officer of the board. The board may establish other officers
14 and procedures as the board determines necessary.

15 (h) The board shall meet at least two (2) times each year. The
16 chairperson may call additional meetings.

17 (i) The state department shall provide staff for the board. The state
18 department shall maintain a registry of the members of the board. An
19 appointing authority shall provide written confirmation of an
20 appointment to the board to the state department in the form and
21 manner specified by the state department.

22 (j) The board **state department** shall do the following:

23 (1) Consider policy matters relating to spinal cord and brain
24 injury research projects and programs under this chapter.

25 (2) Consider research applications and make grants for approved
26 research projects under this chapter.

27 (3) Consider applications and make grants to health care clinics
28 that:

29 (A) are exempt from federal income taxation under Section
30 501 of the Internal Revenue Code;

31 (B) employ physical therapists licensed under IC 25-27; and

32 (C) provide in Indiana long term activity based therapy
33 services at affordable rates to individuals with spinal cord
34 injuries or brain injuries that require extended post acute
35 care.

36 (4) Consider the application's efficacy in providing significant
37 and sustained improvement to individuals with spinal cord
38 injuries or brain injuries.

39 (5) Formulate policies and procedures concerning the operation
40 of the board.

41 (6) Review and authorize spinal cord and brain injury research

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projects and programs to be financed under this chapter. For purposes of this subdivision, the ~~board~~ **state department** may establish an independent scientific advisory panel composed of scientists and clinicians who are not members of the ~~board~~ **state department** to review proposals submitted to the board and make recommendations to the ~~board~~ **state department**. Collaborations are encouraged with other Indiana-based researchers as well as researchers located outside Indiana, including researchers in other countries.

(7) Review and approve progress and final research reports on projects authorized under this chapter, including any other information the board has required to be submitted as a condition of receiving a grant.

(8) Review and make recommendations concerning the expenditure of money from the fund.

(9) Take other action necessary for the purpose stated in 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 333. IC 16-42-5.3-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.151-2024, SECTION 8, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. (a) As used in this chapter, "end consumer" means a person who is the last person to purchase any food product and who does not resell the food product.

(b) As used in this chapter, "roadside stand" means a structure, including a tent, stand, vehicle, or trailer that is:

(1) visible from a road; and

(2) located not more than one hundred (100) feet from the edge



of the side of the road;
 where whole uncut produce, food products that are not time
 temperature control for safety food, poultry that is exempt under
 IC 15-17-5-11, rabbits, or eggs permitted for sale by the ~~state egg board~~
Indiana state board of animal health are sold to an end consumer.

SECTION 334. IC 16-42-11-1.1, AS AMENDED BY
 P.L.11-2023, SECTION 60, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1.1. The following definitions apply
 throughout this chapter:

(1) **"Board"** refers to the **Indiana state board of animal
 health established by IC 15-17-3-1.**

~~(1)~~ (2) "Case" means thirty (30) dozen.

~~(2)~~ (3) "Eggs" means shell eggs represented as fresh or treated.

~~(3)~~ (4) "Farmers' market" means a common facility where two
 (2) or more farmers or growers gather on a regular basis to sell
 farm products, which they produce, directly to the consumer.

~~(4)~~ (5) "Fresh eggs" means consumer grades of eggs as defined
 by the standards of quality and weights as set forth by the state
 egg board.

~~(5)~~ (6) "Person" means any individual, partnership, association,
 business trust, corporation, or any organized group of persons,
 regardless of whether the group is incorporated.

~~(6)~~ (7) "Retailer" means any person who sells eggs for human
 consumption and not for resale.

~~(7)~~ (8) "Treated eggs" means eggs that have been treated by a
 process such as pasteurization, irradiation, or other method of
 treatment that changes the interior quality of an egg in such a
 manner that United States Department of Agriculture quality
 standards do not apply.

~~(8)~~ (9) "Wholesaler" means any person engaged in buying eggs
 for human consumption for resale to retailers, hotels, restaurants,
 hospitals, nursing homes, schools, state or federal institutions,
 operators of multiple unit retail outlets engaged in the
 distribution of eggs to their own retail units, or producers who
 sell or deliver eggs to retailers, hotels, restaurants, hospitals,
 nursing homes, schools, or state or federal institutions.

SECTION 335. IC 16-42-11-4 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
 JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 4: (a) ~~The state egg board is established. The
 board consists of nine (9) members appointed by the governor as
 follows:~~

~~(1)~~ One ~~(1)~~ member from recommendations submitted by the



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1 Indiana State Poultry Association, Inc.

2 (2) One (1) member from recommendations submitted by the
3 Indiana Farm Bureau, Inc.

4 (3) One (1) member from recommendations submitted by the
5 Indiana Retail Grocery and Convenience Store Association, Inc.

6 (4) One (1) member from recommendations submitted by the
7 Indiana Retail Council, Inc.

8 (5) One (1) member from recommendations submitted by the
9 Egg Council of the Indiana State Poultry Association, Inc.

10 (6) One (1) member from recommendations submitted by the
11 dean of the college of agriculture of Purdue University.

12 (7) One (1) member at large to represent the interests of the
13 consumer.

14 (8) One (1) member to represent those engaged in the
15 wholesaling of eggs through the Federal-State Egg Grading
16 Program in Indiana.

17 (9) One (1) member to represent the interests of the food service
18 industry.

19 (b) All appointments are for terms of three (3) years. However, an
20 appointment to fill an unexpired term shall be made by the governor for
21 the remainder of that term only.

22 (c) The recommendations provided for in this section shall be
23 submitted to the governor within ten (10) days before an appointment
24 is to be made to the state egg board. All appointments by the governor
25 under this chapter shall be made within twenty (20) days after
26 submission to the governor of the recommendations for appointments.
27 If the recommendations are not submitted to the governor within the
28 specified time, the governor shall make the appointment without the
29 recommendations. If the governor does not make an appointment to fill
30 an expired term for a member described in subsection (a)(1), (a)(2),
31 (a)(3), (a)(4), (a)(5), or (a)(6) within twenty (20) days after receiving
32 the recommendation, the current members of the state egg board may
33 select an individual from the names submitted by an organization under
34 subsection (a) to fill the position represented by that organization on
35 the state egg board. The individual shall serve a three (3) year term
36 beginning with the next official board meeting following the twenty
37 (20) day deadline.

38 (d) The members of the state egg board shall, before entering upon
39 their duties, take and subscribe to the oath of office provided for other
40 state officers. The oath of office shall be filed in the office of the
41 secretary of state. The secretary of state shall administer the oath as a

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part of the duties of the office of secretary of state:

(e) The state egg board shall elect from its own membership the following officers:

(1) President:

(2) A vice president who serves in the president's absence or disability:

(3) Recording secretary:

The officers serve for one (1) year or until their successors are elected and qualified:

(f) Each member of the state egg board 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 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:

(g) The state egg board shall provide a suitable office, equipment, supplies, and facilities for the conduct of the board's business:

SECTION 336. IC 16-42-11-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.28-2009, SECTION 6, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) The state egg board shall administer, enforce, and carry out this chapter.

(b) The state egg board shall do the following:

(1) Formulate and determine standards of quality and weights of eggs sold or offered for sale.

(2) Regulate the sale of and commerce in eggs sold or offered for sale at retail or wholesale and regulate the sale of eggs by wholesalers and retailers.

(3) Formulate and publish definitions, names, and grades of eggs and specifications for the care and handling of eggs that may be offered for sale at retail and wholesale under the terms of this chapter and for the care and handling of eggs that may be offered for sale by wholesalers and retailers as eggs fit for human consumption.

(4) Provide for and issue permits to wholesalers or retailers of eggs and provide for the registration of wholesalers and retailers of eggs.

(5) Adopt rules necessary for or incident to carrying out this chapter.

(6) Investigate and report violations of this chapter and violations of the rules of the state egg board to the proper

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authorities for prosecution.

(7) Revoke any registration or permit for a violation of this chapter or of the rules adopted by the ~~state egg~~ board.

(8) ~~Hold four (4) regular meetings at quarterly intervals at the time and place the state egg board designates. The president of the state egg board may call special meetings of the state egg board whenever in the president's judgment it becomes necessary. The president shall call a special meeting of the state egg board upon written request of a majority of the members of the state egg board.~~

~~(9) The state egg board shall~~ Publish or cause to be published an annual report of the board's work. In addition, the ~~state egg~~ board may periodically publish or cause to be published and distributed other information concerning eggs.

SECTION 337. IC 16-42-11-5.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.93-2024, SECTION 137, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5.5. (a) The ~~state egg~~ board may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 when there is a declared emergency or sudden disruption that affects the commerce of eggs.

(b) After June 30, 2026, rules adopted by the state egg board (before its repeal) under subsection (a) or section 10.2 of this chapter are considered rules adopted by the board.

SECTION 338. IC 16-42-11-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.28-2009, SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. A person may not sell, offer for sale, or advertise for sale at retail or wholesale eggs that do not meet the standards of quality and weight set forth by the ~~state egg~~ board.

SECTION 339. IC 16-42-11-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.28-2009, SECTION 8, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) Every person selling eggs to a retailer shall furnish proof of delivery at the time of delivery showing:

- (1) the date;
- (2) the grades; and
- (3) the quantity of the eggs;

according to the standards prescribed by the ~~state egg~~ board.

(b) A copy of the proof of delivery shall be kept on file by retailers at their respective places of business for thirty (30) days and at all reasonable times shall be available and open for inspection by accredited inspectors or representatives of the state egg board.

SECTION 340. IC 16-42-11-9.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.11-2023, SECTION 61, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9.5. (a) A farmer or bona fide egg

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1 producer who markets directly to the consumer at a location that is not
 2 the farmer's or producer's own premises and is recognized as a farmers'
 3 market may be required to have a farmers' market retail permit issued
 4 by the state egg board. The state egg board shall establish requirements
 5 and procedures for obtaining a farmers' market retail permit by rule
 6 under IC 4-22-2.

7 (b) Notwithstanding any other law, a local unit of government (as
 8 defined in IC 14-22-31.5-1) may not by ordinance or resolution require
 9 any licensure, certification, or inspection of foods or food products of
 10 a farmer or bona fide egg producer acting under this section.

11 SECTION 341. IC 16-42-11-10, AS AMENDED BY P.L.28-2009,
 12 SECTION 10, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 13 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) Except as provided in section 10.2(d) of
 14 this chapter, this section applies to:

- 15 (1) registrations and permits issued by; and
 16 (2) fees due and payable to;

17 the state egg board before July 1, 2010.

18 (b) Every wholesaler or retailer selling eggs shall, before July 1 of
 19 each year, file with the state egg board a statement setting forth the fact
 20 that the wholesaler or retailer desires to sell eggs. The statement shall
 21 designate the name of the wholesaler or retailer desiring to register the
 22 location of the wholesaler's or retailer's principal office and any
 23 location where eggs are stored or distributed if that location is different
 24 from the principal office. The state egg board shall furnish blank forms
 25 for registration. The state egg board shall register the facts set forth in
 26 the statement in a permanent record. The state egg board shall furnish
 27 to each registered wholesaler a registration number upon payment of
 28 the registration fee and deposit.

29 (c) The state egg board shall require and collect from each
 30 wholesaler at the time of registration a fee based upon the average
 31 number of cases of eggs sold to retailers, hotels, restaurants, hospitals,
 32 nursing homes, schools, or to state or federal institutions each week
 33 during the preceding calendar year, as follows:

Average Number of Cases Sold		Registration Fee
0 -	100	\$ 30
101 -	250	\$ 60
251 -	500	\$ 90
501 -	1,000	\$ 120
1,001	and over	\$ 150

41 (d) The state egg board shall require and collect from each

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wholesaler at the time of registration a deposit equal to the product obtained by using a multiplier of six cents (\$0.06) and a multiplicand that is the number of cases of eggs sold in that quarter of the immediately preceding five (5) calendar quarters in which the highest number of cases of eggs were sold by the wholesaler to retailers, hotels, restaurants, hospitals, nursing homes, schools, or to state or federal institutions. However, if the wholesaler does not have a five (5) quarter history, the state egg board shall fix the deposit at a reasonable amount.

(e) The state egg board shall require and collect from each retail store or unit of retailing a fee based upon the average number of cases of eggs sold each week during the preceding calendar year, as follows:

Average Number of Cases Sold	Registration Fee
1-5	\$20
more than 5	\$25

(f) All registered wholesalers must make application to the state egg board for a permit to report the case volume of eggs sold in Indiana and submit a fee of six cents (\$0.06) for each thirty (30) dozen eggs or a fraction of that number of the volume reported. In applying for a permit, the applicant must agree to do the following:

- (1) Keep records the state egg board considers necessary to indicate accurately the case volume of eggs sold in Indiana.
- (2) Grant the state egg board permission to examine those records and verify the statement of the number and grade of eggs reported.
- (3) Report under oath to the state egg board, on forms furnished by the state egg board, the number of eggs reported during the period covered.

(g) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 342. IC 16-42-11-10.2, AS ADDED BY P.L.28-2009, SECTION 11, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10.2. (a) ~~Except as provided in subsection (d),~~ This section applies to:

- (1) registrations and permits issued by; and
 - (2) fees due and payable to;
- the state egg board after June 30, 2010.
- (b) The ~~state egg board may~~ **shall** establish requirements for issuing a permit or registration under this chapter by rule under IC 4-22-2.
 - (c) The ~~state egg board may~~ **shall** establish fees necessary to carry out this chapter by rule under IC 4-22-2.
 - ~~(d) If a rule is not in effect by July 1, 2010, the fees and~~

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requirements for obtaining a registration or permit under section 10 of this chapter apply until the date the rule takes effect.

SECTION 343. IC 16-42-11-10.4, AS ADDED BY P.L.28-2009, SECTION 12, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10.4. The ~~state egg~~ board may grant a permit if the board determines that the action will lead to efficient enforcement of this chapter. The ~~state egg~~ board may revoke a permit at any time if it appears to the ~~state egg~~ board that a wholesaler is not complying with the terms of the agreement entered into at the time of the issuance. The report of eggs is due and the fees are payable quarterly on the last day of the month following the end of the quarter. If:

(1) the report is not filed and the fee paid by the tenth day following the due date;

(2) the report is false; or

(3) the requirements of this chapter have not been complied with; the ~~state egg~~ board may revoke the permit. If the fee is unpaid after the ten (10) day grace period, a penalty of the greater of twenty dollars (\$20) or ten percent (10%) of the amount due in addition to the amount due shall be assessed. If the ~~state egg~~ board determines that an account review is necessary, out-of-state permit holders shall reimburse the ~~state egg~~ board for expenses incurred to conduct the account review.

SECTION 344. IC 16-42-11-12, AS AMENDED BY P.L.28-2009, SECTION 14, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 12. The ~~dean of the college of agriculture of Purdue University may; subject to the approval of the state egg board~~ **may** employ an executive administrator, inspectors, clerks, and other assistants necessary to carry out this chapter. ~~under the direction and supervision of the state egg board:~~ The inspectors shall inspect and examine eggs sold, offered for sale, or exposed for sale and shall also inspect and examine eggs sold by wholesalers and retailers as fit for human consumption under this chapter at times and places and in the manner the ~~state egg~~ board directs.

SECTION 345. IC 16-42-11-13 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 13. **(a)** All money received by the ~~state egg~~ board shall be paid to the treasurer of Purdue University who shall, ~~under the direction of the state egg board;~~ expend the money on proper vouchers to meet all necessary expenditures for carrying out this chapter and for any other expenses of Purdue University agricultural programs authorized by law and in support of the purposes of this chapter. The dean of agriculture shall submit to the ~~state egg~~ board under this chapter must be transferred to the

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1 **treasurer of state for deposit in the state general fund.**

2 **(b) The board shall prepare** an annual report showing the receipts
3 and expenditures of all money received and expended by the ~~director~~
4 **board** under this chapter. ~~The report shall be made a part of the annual~~
5 ~~report of the state egg board. The board shall submit the report to~~
6 **the legislative council in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.**

7 SECTION 346. IC 16-42-11-15, AS AMENDED BY P.L.28-2009,
8 SECTION 15, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
9 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 15. The

10 ~~(+) members of the state egg board;~~

11 ~~(2) dean of the college of agriculture of Purdue University; and~~

12 ~~(3) employees of the state egg board~~

13 are not liable in their individual capacity, except to the state, for an act
14 done or omitted in connection with the performance of their respective
15 duties under this chapter.

16 SECTION 347. IC 16-42-11-16 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
17 CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
18 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 16. On July 1, 2026, the records,**
19 **accounts, and property held by the state egg board (before its**
20 **repeal) are transferred to the board as the successor agency.**

21 SECTION 348. IC 16-46-6-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
22 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. **(a)** As used in this
23 chapter, "council" refers to the interagency state council on black and
24 minority health.

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

26 SECTION 349. IC 16-46-6-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
27 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. **(a)** The state
28 department shall establish the interagency state council on black and
29 minority health.

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

31 SECTION 350. IC 16-46-6-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.42-2024,
32 SECTION 126, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
33 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) The council consists of the
34 following twenty-one (21) members:

35 (1) Two (2) members of the house of representatives from
36 different political parties appointed by the speaker of the house of
37 representatives.

38 (2) Two (2) members of the senate from different political parties
39 appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate.

40 (3) The governor or the governor's designee.

41 (4) The state health commissioner or the commissioner's

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designee.

(5) The director of the division of family resources established by IC 12-13-1-1 or the director's designee.

(6) The director of the office of Medicaid policy and planning established by IC 12-8-6.5-1 or the director's designee.

(7) The director of the division of mental health and addiction established by IC 12-21-1-1 or the director's designee.

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

(9) One (1) representative of a local health department appointed by the governor.

(10) One (1) representative of a public health care facility appointed by the governor.

(11) One (1) psychologist appointed by the governor who:

(A) is licensed to practice psychology in Indiana; and

(B) has knowledge and experience in the special health needs of minorities.

(12) One (1) member appointed by the governor based on the recommendation of the Indiana State Medical Association.

(13) One (1) member appointed by the governor based on the recommendation of the National Medical Association.

(14) One (1) member appointed by the governor based on the recommendation of the Indiana Hospital and Health Association.

(15) One (1) member appointed by the governor based on the recommendation of the American Cancer Society.

(16) One (1) member appointed by the governor based on the recommendation of the American Heart Association.

(17) One (1) member appointed by the governor based on the recommendation of the American Diabetes Association.

(18) One (1) member appointed by the governor based on the recommendation of the Black Nurses Association.

(19) One (1) member appointed by the governor based on the recommendation of the Indiana Minority Health Coalition.

(b) At least fifty-one percent (51%) of the members of the council must be minorities.

(c) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 351. IC 16-46-6-5 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 5: (a) ~~Except as provided in subsection (b); all appointments to the council are for two (2) years. A legislative member's term expires on June 30 of an odd-numbered year.~~

(b) ~~The term of a member appointed by the governor is four (4)~~

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years and expires as follows:

(1) June 30, 2025; and each fourth year thereafter for a member appointed under section 4(a)(9) through 4(a)(14) of this chapter.

(2) December 31, 2025; and each fourth year thereafter for a member appointed under section 4(a)(15) through 4(a)(19) of this chapter.

(c) A member may be reappointed to the commission for succeeding terms.

SECTION 352. IC 16-46-6-6 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 6: The council shall select a chairman from the membership annually.

SECTION 353. IC 16-46-6-7 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 7: Appointments to fill a vacancy are for the remainder of an unexpired term and are made by the authority who made the original appointment.

SECTION 354. IC 16-46-6-8 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 8: The state department shall provide staff for the council.

SECTION 355. IC 16-46-6-9 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 9: The council shall hold at least four (4) meetings annually.

SECTION 356. IC 16-46-6-10 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 10. The council state department shall do the following:

(1) Identify and study the special health care needs and health problems of minorities.

(2) Examine the factors and conditions that affect the health of minorities.

(3) Examine the health care services available to minorities in the public and private sector and determine the extent to which these services meet the needs of minorities.

(4) Study the state and federal laws concerning the health needs of minorities.

(5) Examine the coordination of services to minorities and recommend improvements in the delivery of services.

(6) Examine funding sources for minority health care.

(7) Examine and recommend preventive measures concerning the leading causes of death or injury among minorities, including the following:

(A) Heart disease.

(B) Stroke.

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- 1 (C) Cancer.
- 2 (D) Intentional injuries.
- 3 (E) Accidental death and injury.
- 4 (F) Cirrhosis.
- 5 (G) Diabetes.
- 6 (H) Infant mortality.
- 7 (I) HIV and acquired immune deficiency syndrome.
- 8 (J) Mental Health.
- 9 (K) Substance Abuse.
- 10 (8) Examine the impact of the following on minorities:
- 11 (A) Adolescent pregnancy.
- 12 (B) Sexually transmitted and other communicable diseases.
- 13 (C) Lead poisoning.
- 14 (D) Long term disability and aging.
- 15 (E) Sickle cell anemia.
- 16 (9) Monitor the Indiana minority health initiative and other public
- 17 policies that affect the health status of minorities.
- 18 (10) Develop and implement a comprehensive plan and time line
- 19 to address health disparities and health issues of minority
- 20 populations in Indiana.
- 21 SECTION 357. IC 16-46-6-11 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
- 22 JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 11: The council shall submit a report in an
- 23 electronic format under IC 5-14-6 to the general assembly before
- 24 November 1 of each year. The report must include the following:
- 25 (1) The findings and conclusions of the council.
- 26 (2) Recommendations of the council.
- 27 SECTION 358. IC 16-46-6-12 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
- 28 JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 12: (a) Except as otherwise provided, a
- 29 person who recklessly violates or fails to comply with this chapter
- 30 commits a Class B misdemeanor.
- 31 (b) Each day a violation continues constitutes a separate offense.
- 32 SECTION 359. IC 16-46-6-13 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
- 33 JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 13: (a) Each member of the council who is
- 34 not a state employee is entitled to the minimum salary per diem
- 35 provided by IC 4-10-11-2.1(b). The council member is also entitled to
- 36 reimbursement for mileage, traveling expenses as provided under
- 37 IC 4-13-1-4, and other expenses actually incurred in connection with
- 38 the member's duties as provided in the state policies and procedures
- 39 established by the Indiana department of administration and approved
- 40 by the budget agency.
- 41 (b) Each member of the council who is a state employee is entitled

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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) Except as provided in subsection (d), expenses incurred under this section must be paid out of the funds appropriated to the state department.

(d) Each member of the council 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.

SECTION 360. IC 16-46-11-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.56-2023, SECTION 171, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. The office of minority health and the state department, in partnership with the Indiana Minority Health Coalition, Inc., shall do the following:

(1) Staff, coordinate, and assist in the implementation of the comprehensive health plan developed by the interagency state council on black and minority health established under IC 16-46-6. **This subdivision expires December 31, 2026.**

(2) Expand, develop, and implement a community based state structure that is conducive to addressing the health disparities of the minority populations in Indiana.

(3) Monitor minority health progress.

(4) Establish policy.

(5) Fund minority health programs, research, and other initiatives.

(6) Provide the following through interdepartmental coordination:

(A) The data and technical assistance needs of the local minority health coalitions.

(B) Measurable minority health objectives to local minority health coalitions for the development of health intervention programs.

(7) Provide through the state health data center established by IC 16-19-10-3 minority health research and resource information addressing the following:

(A) Research within minority populations.

(B) A resource database that can be disseminated to local organizations interested in minority health.

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- 1 (C) Racial and ethnic specific databases including morbidity,
- 2 diagnostic groups, social/economic, education, and population.
- 3 (D) Attitude, knowledge, and belief information.
- 4 (8) Staff a minority health hotline that establishes linkages with
- 5 other health and social service hotlines and local coalitions.
- 6 (9) Develop and implement an aggressive recruitment and
- 7 retention program to increase the number of minorities in the
- 8 health and social services professions.
- 9 (10) Develop and implement an awareness program that will
- 10 increase the knowledge of health and social service providers to
- 11 the special needs of minorities.
- 12 (11) Develop and implement culturally and linguistically
- 13 appropriate health promotion and disease prevention programs
- 14 that would emphasize avoiding the health risk factors for
- 15 conditions affecting minorities and incorporate an accessible,
- 16 affordable, and acceptable early detection and intervention
- 17 component.
- 18 (12) Provide the state support necessary to ensure the continued
- 19 development of the existing minority health coalitions and to
- 20 develop coalitions in other areas targeted for minority health
- 21 intervention.
- 22 (13) Coordinate each of the counties with existing local minority
- 23 health coalitions to:
- 24 (A) provide community planning and needs assessment
- 25 assistance to the local minority health coalitions; and
- 26 (B) assist the local minority health coalitions in the
- 27 development of local minority health intervention plans. The
- 28 plans shall be developed to coincide with the state fiscal year.
- 29 (14) Establish a liaison between the state department and the
- 30 Indiana Minority Health Coalition, Inc., to:
- 31 (A) coordinate the state department resources needed for the
- 32 development of local coalitions;
- 33 (B) provide assistance to and monitor the local coordinators in
- 34 the development of local intervention plans;
- 35 (C) serve as the barometer to the state department on the
- 36 minority health concerns of local coalitions;
- 37 (D) assist in coordinating the minority community input on
- 38 state policies and programs;
- 39 (E) serve as the linkage with the state department and the local
- 40 minority health coordinators; and
- 41 (F) monitor the progress of the fulfilling of their

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- responsibilities.
- (15) Provide funding, within the limits of appropriations, to support preventive health, education, and treatment programs in the minority communities that are developed, planned, and evaluated by approved organizations.
- (16) Provide assistance to local communities to obtain funding for the development of a health care delivery system to meet the needs, gaps, and barriers identified in the local plans.
- SECTION 361. 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 362. IC 20-20-38-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.213-2025, SECTION 163, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 4. (a) The state board shall develop and implement a long range state plan for a comprehensive secondary level career and technical education program in Indiana.
- (b) The plan developed under this section must be updated as changes occur. The state board shall make the plan and any revisions made to the plan available to:
- (1) the governor;
 - (2) the general assembly;
 - (3) the department of workforce development;
 - (4) the commission for higher education; **and**
 - ~~(5) the board for proprietary education; and~~
 - ~~(6)~~ **(5)** any other appropriate state or federal agency.
- A plan or revised plan submitted under this section to the general assembly must be in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.
- (c) The plan developed under this section must set forth specific goals for secondary level public career and technical education and must include the following:
- (1) The preparation of each graduate for both employment and further education.
 - (2) Accessibility of career and technical education to individuals of all ages who desire to explore and learn for economic and personal growth.
 - (3) Projected employment opportunities in various career and technical education fields.
 - (4) A study of the supply of and the demand for a labor force skilled in particular career and technical education areas.
 - (5) A study of technological and economic change affecting



1 Indiana.

2 (6) An analysis of the private career and education sector in
3 Indiana.

4 (7) Recommendations for improvement in the state career and
5 technical education program.

6 (8) The educational levels expected of career and technical
7 education programs proposed to meet the projected employment
8 needs.

9 (d) When making any revisions to the plan, the state board shall
10 consider the workforce needs and training and education needs
11 identified in the occupational demand report prepared by the
12 department of workforce development under IC 22-4.1-4-10.

13 (e) The state board shall use data from the department of workforce
14 development to develop and implement a plan or make revisions to a
15 plan under this section.

16 SECTION 363. IC 20-20-38-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.213-2025,
17 SECTION 164, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
18 [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 6. (a) The state board shall do
19 the following:

20 (1) Make recommendations to the general assembly concerning
21 the development, duplication, and accessibility of employment
22 training and career and technical education on a regional and
23 statewide basis.

24 (2) Consult with any state agency, commission, or organization
25 that supervises or administers programs of career and technical
26 education concerning the coordination of career and technical
27 education, including the following:

28 (A) The Indiana economic development corporation.

29 (B) A private industry council (as defined in 29 U.S.C. 1501 et
30 seq.).

31 (C) The department of labor.

32 (D) The commission for higher education.

33 (E) The department of workforce development.

34 ~~(F) The board for proprietary education.~~

35 ~~(G)~~ (F) The department of veterans' affairs.

36 (3) Review and make recommendations concerning plans
37 submitted by the commission for higher education. The state
38 board may request the resubmission of plans or parts of plans that:

39 (A) are not consistent with the long range state plan of the state
40 board;

41 (B) are incompatible with other plans within the system; or



- 1 (C) duplicate existing services.
- 2 (4) Report to the general assembly on the state board's
- 3 conclusions and recommendations concerning interagency
- 4 cooperation, coordination, and articulation of career and technical
- 5 education and employment training. A report under this
- 6 subdivision must be in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.
- 7 (5) Study and develop a plan concerning the transition between
- 8 secondary level career and technical education and postsecondary
- 9 level career and technical education.
- 10 (b) The state board shall use data from the department of workforce
- 11 development in carrying out the state board's duties under this section.
- 12 SECTION 364. IC 20-20-40-3 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
- 13 JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 3: As used in this chapter, "commission"
- 14 refers to the commission on seclusion and restraint in schools
- 15 established by section 11 of this chapter.
- 16 SECTION 365. IC 20-20-40-3.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
- 17 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
- 18 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3.5. As used in this chapter,
- 19 "council" refers to the state advisory council established by
- 20 IC 20-35-3-1.
- 21 SECTION 366. IC 20-20-40-11 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
- 22 JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 11: (a) The commission on seclusion and
- 23 restraint in schools is established:
- 24 (b) The commission has the following ten (10) members:
- 25 (1) The designee of the secretary of education, who serves at the
- 26 pleasure of the secretary of education.
- 27 (2) A representative of the Autism Society of Indiana, chosen by
- 28 the organization, who serves a two (2) year term.
- 29 (3) A representative of the Arc of Indiana, chosen by the
- 30 organization, who serves a two (2) year term.
- 31 (4) A representative of the Indiana Council of Administrators of
- 32 Special Education, chosen by the organization, who serves a two
- 33 (2) year term.
- 34 (5) A representative of Mental Health America of Indiana, chosen
- 35 by the organization, who serves a two (2) year term.
- 36 (6) A parent of a student with a disability, nominated by a
- 37 member described in subdivisions (2); (3); and (5) and approved
- 38 by a majority of the members described in subdivisions (1)
- 39 through (5) and (8) through (10); who serves a two (2) year term.
- 40 (7) A parent of a student who does not have a disability,
- 41 nominated by a member described in subdivisions (2); (3); and (5)

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and approved by a majority of the members described in subdivisions (1) through (5) and (8) through (10); who serves a two (2) year term.

(8) One (1) state accredited nonpublic school administrator nominated by the Indiana Non-public Education Association; who serves a two (2) year term.

(9) One (1) public school superintendent nominated by the Indiana Association of Public School Superintendents; who serves a two (2) year term.

(10) One (1) member of the Indiana School Resource Officers Association chosen by the organization; who serves a two (2) year term.

(c) 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). A member who is not a state employee 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.

SECTION 367. IC 20-20-40-12 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 12: (a) The designee of the secretary of education under section 11(b)(1) of this chapter serves as chairperson of the commission.

(b) The commission shall meet at least biannually on the call of the chairperson; and may meet as often as is necessary. The chairperson shall provide not less than fourteen (14) days notice of a meeting to the members of the commission and to the public.

(c) The affirmative votes of at least five (5) members of the commission are necessary for the commission to take action. The votes of the commission must be recorded.

(d) All commission meetings shall be open to the public; and each meeting must include opportunities for public comment.

(e) The department shall provide staff support for the commission.

SECTION 368. IC 20-20-40-13, AS AMENDED BY P.L.162-2024, SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 13. (a) The **commission council** has the following duties:

(1) To adopt rules concerning the following:

(A) The use of restraint and seclusion in a school corporation or a state accredited nonpublic school, with an emphasis on eliminating or minimizing the use of restraint and seclusion.



- 1 (B) The prevention of the use of types of restraint or seclusion
- 2 that may harm a student, a school employee, a school volunteer,
- 3 or the educational environment of the school.
- 4 (C) Requirements for notifying parents.
- 5 (D) Training regarding the use of restraint and seclusion,
- 6 including the frequency of training and what employees must
- 7 be trained.
- 8 (E) The distribution of the seclusion and restraint policy to
- 9 parents and the public.
- 10 (F) Requirements for the reporting of incidents of restraint and
- 11 seclusion in the annual school performance report, including
- 12 incidents of restraint and seclusion involving school resource
- 13 officers (as defined in IC 20-26-18.2-1).
- 14 (G) Circumstances that may require more timely incident
- 15 reporting and the requirements for such reporting.
- 16 (2) To develop, maintain, and revise a model restraint and
- 17 seclusion plan for schools that includes the following elements:
- 18 (A) A statement on how students will be treated with dignity
- 19 and respect and how appropriate student behavior will be
- 20 promoted and taught.
- 21 (B) A statement ensuring that the school will use prevention,
- 22 positive behavior intervention and support, and conflict
- 23 de-escalation to eliminate or minimize the need for use of any
- 24 of the following:
- 25 (i) Seclusion.
- 26 (ii) Chemical restraint.
- 27 (iii) Mechanical restraint.
- 28 (iv) Physical restraint.
- 29 (v) Time-out.
- 30 (C) A statement ensuring that any behavioral intervention used
- 31 will be consistent with the student's most current behavioral
- 32 intervention plan, or individualized education program, if
- 33 applicable.
- 34 (D) Definitions for restraint and seclusion, as defined in this
- 35 chapter.
- 36 (E) A statement ensuring that if a procedure listed in clause (B)
- 37 is used, the procedure will be used:
- 38 (i) as a last resort safety procedure, employed only after
- 39 another, less restrictive procedure has been implemented
- 40 without success; and
- 41 (ii) in a situation in which there is an imminent risk of injury

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- 1 to the student, other students, school employees, or visitors to
 2 the school.
- 3 (F) An indication that restraint or seclusion may be used only
 4 for a short time period, or until the imminent risk of injury has
 5 passed.
- 6 (G) A documentation and recording requirement governing
 7 instances in which procedures listed in clause (B) are used,
 8 including:
- 9 (i) how every incident will be documented and debriefed;
 10 (ii) how responsibilities will be assigned to designated
 11 employees for evaluation and oversight; and
 12 (iii) designation of a school employee to be the keeper of
 13 such documents.
- 14 (H) A requirement that the student's parent must be notified as
 15 soon as possible when an incident involving the student occurs
 16 that includes use of procedures listed in clause (B).
- 17 (I) A requirement that a copy of an incident report must be sent
 18 to the student's parent after the student is subject to a procedure
 19 listed in clause (B).
- 20 (J) Required recurrent training for appropriate school
 21 employees on the appropriate use of effective alternatives to
 22 physical restraint and seclusion, including the use of positive
 23 behavioral intervention and support and conflict de-escalation.
 24 The training must include the safe use of physical restraint and
 25 seclusion in incidents involving imminent danger or serious
 26 harm to the student, school employees, or others. Consideration
 27 must be given to available school resources and the time
 28 commitments of school employees.
- 29 (3) To accept and review reports from the public and make
 30 nonbinding recommendations to the department of any suggested
 31 action to be taken.
- 32 ~~(4) To biannually provide a report to the state advisory council on~~
 33 ~~the education of children with disabilities appointed under~~
 34 ~~IC 20-35-3-1 regarding the:~~
- 35 ~~(A) execution of the commission's duties under this section; and~~
 36 ~~(B) review of incident reports under section 13-6 of this~~
 37 ~~chapter.~~
- 38 (b) The model policy developed by the ~~commission~~ **council** must
 39 take into consideration that implementation and reporting requirements
 40 for state accredited nonpublic schools may vary, and the model plan
 41 must provide state accredited nonpublic schools flexibility with regards

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to accountability under and implementation of the plan adopted by a state accredited nonpublic school under section 14 of this chapter.

(c) The ~~commission~~ **council** will assist the department in enabling training required by this section to be provided after ~~June 30, 2024,~~ **January 1, 2027**, through the online platform established or licensed for use under IC 20-19-3-29, if the online platform is established.

SECTION 369. IC 20-20-40-13.6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.162-2024, SECTION 6, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 13.6. (a) The department shall biannually review incident reports under rules established by the ~~commission~~ **council** under IC 4-22-2 and submit summary findings to the ~~commission~~ **council** in compliance with the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (20 U.S.C. 1232g and 34 CFR Part 99).

(b) The ~~commission~~ **council** shall biannually review summary findings submitted by the department under subsection (a) and may make nonbinding recommendations to the department or other entities.

(c) If the department receives a recommendation from the ~~commission~~ **council** under subsection (b), the department shall provide the ~~commission~~ **council** a response with regard to the ~~commission's~~ **council's** recommendation in a manner prescribed by the department within a reasonable time after the department receives the recommendation from the ~~commission~~ **council**.

SECTION 370. IC 20-20-40-15, AS AMENDED BY P.L.92-2020, SECTION 24, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 15. (a) Nothing in this chapter may be construed to prevent a school employee from stopping a physical altercation, acting to prevent physical harm to a student or another individual, or acting to address an emergency until the emergency is over, whether or not the school employee has received training under this chapter.

(b) This chapter may not be construed to give rise to a cause of action, either civil or criminal, against the state, the department, a school corporation, a state accredited nonpublic school, the ~~commission~~ **council**, or a member of the ~~commission~~ **council**.

(c) In all matters relating to the plan adopted under section 14 of this chapter, school corporation or state accredited nonpublic school personnel have qualified immunity with respect to an action taken to promote student conduct under a plan adopted under section 14 of this chapter if the action is taken in good faith and is reasonable.

SECTION 371. IC 20-20-40-16, AS AMENDED BY P.L.93-2024,

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SECTION 139, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
[EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 16. The ~~commission~~ **council**
shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to carry out the purposes of this
chapter.

SECTION 372. IC 20-20-40-17 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
[EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 17. (a) **The commission on
seclusion and restraint in schools established by section 11 of this
chapter (before its repeal) is abolished on December 31, 2026.**

(b) **The following are transferred on January 1, 2027, from the
commission on seclusion and restraint in schools to the state
advisory council established by IC 20-35-3-1:**

(1) **All real and personal property of the commission on
seclusion and restraint in schools.**

(2) **All powers, duties, assets, and liabilities of the commission
on seclusion and restraint in schools.**

(3) **All appropriations to the commission on seclusion and
restraint in schools.**

(c) **All rules or policies that were adopted by the commission on
seclusion and restraint in schools before December 31, 2026, shall
be treated as though the rules were adopted by the state advisory
council established by IC 20-35-3-1 until the council adopts new
rules or policies.**

(d) **After December 31, 2026, a reference to the commission on
seclusion and restraint in schools in a statute or rule shall be
treated as a reference to the state advisory council established by
IC 20-35-3-1.**

SECTION 373. 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 374. IC 20-37-2-13, AS AMENDED BY P.L.168-2022,

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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 occupancy classification that is:

- (1) most closely related to the intended use of the building; and
- (2) determined by the rules of the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission established by IC 22-12-2-1~~ **department of homeland security** that apply to the building immediately preceding the date that the applicable high school agrees to use the building.

(c) Except as provided in subsection (d), an applicable high school shall comply with all rules of the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** applicable to the primary use of the building.

(d) The ~~fire prevention and building commission~~ **department of homeland security** may grant a variance under IC 22-13-2-11 to the rules applicable to the primary use of the building necessary to implement this section.

SECTION 375. IC 21-7-13-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.11-2023, SECTION 70, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 6. (a) "Approved postsecondary educational institution", for purposes of this title (except section 15 of this chapter and IC 21-12-6) means the following:

(1) A postsecondary educational institution that operates in Indiana and:

- (A) provides an organized two (2) year or longer program of collegiate grade directly creditable toward a baccalaureate degree;
- (B) is either operated by the state or operated nonprofit; and
- (C) is accredited by a recognized regional accrediting agency, including:
 - (i) Ancilla College;
 - (ii) Anderson University;
 - (iii) Bethel University;
 - (iv) Butler University;
 - (v) Calumet College of St. Joseph;
 - (vi) DePauw University;
 - (vii) Earlham College;



- 1 (viii) Franklin College;
- 2 (ix) Goshen College;
- 3 (x) Grace College and Seminary;
- 4 (xi) Hanover College;
- 5 (xii) Holy Cross College;
- 6 (xiii) Huntington University;
- 7 (xiv) Indiana Institute of Technology;
- 8 (xv) Indiana Wesleyan University;
- 9 (xvi) Manchester University;
- 10 (xvii) Marian University;
- 11 (xviii) Martin University;
- 12 (xix) Oakland City University;
- 13 (xx) Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology;
- 14 (xxi) Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College;
- 15 (xxii) Saint Mary's College;
- 16 (xxiii) Taylor University;
- 17 (xxiv) Trine University;
- 18 (xxv) University of Evansville;
- 19 (xxvi) University of Indianapolis;
- 20 (xxvii) University of Notre Dame;
- 21 (xxviii) University of Saint Francis;
- 22 (xxix) Valparaiso University; and
- 23 (xxx) Wabash College;
- 24 or is accredited by the ~~board for proprietary education~~
- 25 **commission for higher education** under IC 21-18.5-6 or an
- 26 accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department
- 27 of Education.
- 28 (2) Ivy Tech Community College.
- 29 (3) A hospital that operates a nursing diploma program that is
- 30 accredited by the Indiana state board of nursing.
- 31 (4) A postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational
- 32 institution that meets the following requirements:
- 33 (A) Is incorporated in Indiana, or is registered as a foreign
- 34 corporation doing business in Indiana.
- 35 (B) Is fully accredited by and is in good standing with the ~~board~~
- 36 ~~for proprietary education~~ **commission for higher education**
- 37 under IC 21-18.5-6.
- 38 (C) Is accredited by and is in good standing with a regional or
- 39 national accrediting agency.
- 40 (D) Offers a course of study that is at least eighteen (18)
- 41 consecutive months in duration (or an equivalent to be

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determined by the ~~board for proprietary education~~ **commission for high education** under IC 21-18.5-6) and that leads to an associate or a baccalaureate degree recognized by the ~~board for proprietary education~~ **commission for higher education** under IC 21-18.5-6.

(E) Is certified by the ~~board for proprietary education~~ **commission for higher education** as meeting the requirements of this subdivision.

(5) A postsecondary SEI affiliated educational institution.

(b) "Approved postsecondary educational institution" for purposes of section 15 of this chapter and IC 21-12-6, means the following:

(1) A state educational institution.

(2) A nonprofit college or university.

(3) A postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational institution that is accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education.

(4) A postsecondary SEI affiliated educational institution.

SECTION 376. IC 21-7-13-26.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.217-2017, SECTION 142, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 26.5. (a) "Postsecondary SEI affiliated educational institution" means a degree granting and credit bearing institution that:

(1) is organized as a public benefit corporation (as described in IC 23-17-2-23) and controlled by a state educational institution;

(2) is authorized under procedures approved by the executive officer of the commission under IC 21-18-12.4 to provide instructional or educational services or training in Indiana using onsite, online, or any combination of these or other instructional modalities;

(3) is accredited by a recognized regional accrediting agency or is seeking or progressing toward accreditation by a recognized regional accrediting agency; and

(4) has its debts and liabilities backed by the controlling state educational institution described in subdivision (1) in the form of a contribution, bond, or other surety consisting solely of eligible property (as defined in IC 21-27-10-4).

(b) The term does not include the following:

(1) A state educational institution.

(2) A postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational institution approved or regulated by the ~~board for proprietary education~~ **commission for higher education** under IC 21-18.5-6.

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- 1 (3) Any educational institution or educational training that:
 2 (A) is maintained or provided by an employer or employers at
 3 no charge for employees or potential employees;
 4 (B) is maintained or provided by a labor organization at no
 5 charge for its members or apprentices; or
 6 (C) offers instruction that is exclusively focused on
 7 self-improvement or exclusively intended to be motivational or
 8 avocational, including instruction in dance, music, self-defense,
 9 and private tutoring.
 10 (4) A public or nonprofit degree granting institution organized or
 11 incorporated in a jurisdiction other than Indiana that offers
 12 instructional or educational services or training in Indiana.
 13 (5) A religious institution that offers educational instruction or an
 14 educational program of a clearly religious nature.

15 SECTION 377. IC 21-9-4-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.43-2021,
 16 SECTION 139, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 17 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. (a) The board of directors of the
 18 authority is established. The board consists of the following:

- 19 (1) The following four (4) ex officio members or directors:
 20 (A) The treasurer of state.
 21 (B) The secretary of education.
 22 (C) The Indiana commissioner for higher education.
 23 (D) The budget director.
 24 (2) Five (5) ~~appointed~~ members or directors ~~who:~~
 25 ~~(A) are appointed by the governor; and~~
 26 ~~(B) who~~ have knowledge, skill, and experience in academic,
 27 business, financial, or education fields **appointed as follows:**
 28 **(A) One (1) member appointed by the governor.**
 29 **(B) Two (2) members appointed by the president pro**
 30 **tempore of the senate.**
 31 **(3) Two (2) members appointed by the speaker of the house of**
 32 **representatives.**
 33 (b) During a member's term of service on the board, an appointed
 34 member of the board may not be an official or employee of the state.
 35 ~~(c) Not more than three (3) of the appointed members of the board~~
 36 ~~may belong to the same political party.~~
 37 ~~(d)~~ **(c)** An appointed member serves a four (4) year term. An
 38 appointed member shall hold over after the expiration of the member's
 39 term until the member's successor is appointed and qualified. **A**
 40 **member may be appointed to successive terms.**
 41 ~~(e) The governor may reappoint an appointed member of the board.~~

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1 ~~(d)~~ **(d)** A vacancy shall be filled by the appropriate appointing
 2 authority for the balance of an unexpired term in the same manner as
 3 the original appointment.

4 ~~(g)~~ **(e)** The treasurer of state shall serve as chairman of the board.
 5 The board shall annually elect one (1) of its ex officio members as vice
 6 chairman, and may elect any other officer that the board desires.

7 ~~(h)~~ **(f)** The governor appointing authority may remove an
 8 appointed member for misfeasance, malfeasance, willful neglect of
 9 duty, or other cause after notice and a public hearing, unless the
 10 member expressly waives the notice and hearing in writing.

11 SECTION 378. IC 21-12-1-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.157-2023,
 12 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 13 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 8. "Eligible institution", for the purposes of:

- 14 (1) IC 21-12-6, refers to a postsecondary educational institution
 15 that qualifies as an eligible institution under IC 21-12-6-4; and
 16 (2) IC 21-12-8, refers to a postsecondary educational institution
 17 that:

18 (A) operates in Indiana;

19 (B) is either operated by the state or operated nonprofit;

20 (C) operates an organized program of postsecondary education
 21 leading to a technical certificate, nursing diploma, or associate
 22 or baccalaureate degree; and

23 (D) is authorized by the department of workforce development
 24 under IC 22-4.1-21 or accredited by:

25 (i) a recognized regional accrediting agency;

26 (ii) the board for proprietary education commission for
 27 higher education under IC 21-18.5-6; or

28 (iii) the Indiana state board of nursing.

29 SECTION 379. IC 21-12-4-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.281-2013,
 30 SECTION 13, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 31 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 2. A person is eligible for a freedom of
 32 choice grant if:

33 (1) the person is qualified for a higher education award under the
 34 terms of IC 21-12-3-1, IC 21-12-3-2, and IC 21-12-3-3 or
 35 IC 21-12-3-4, even if lack of funds prevents the award or grant;

36 (2) for a freedom of choice grant awarded before September 1,
 37 2014, the person has a financial need that exceeds the award, as
 38 determined in accordance with:

39 (A) this chapter, IC 21-18.5-4, IC 21-12-2, and IC 21-12-3; and

40 (B) the rules of the commission; and

41 (3) the person will attend an approved postsecondary educational



institution that:

(A) either:

(i) operates in Indiana, provides an organized two (2) year or longer program of collegiate grade directly creditable toward a baccalaureate degree, is operated by a nonprofit entity, and is accredited by a recognized regional accrediting agency or the ~~board for proprietary education~~ **commission for higher education** under IC 21-18.5-6; or

(ii) is a hospital that operates a nursing diploma program that is accredited by the Indiana state board of nursing; and

(B) is operated privately and not administered or controlled by any state agency or entity.

SECTION 380. IC 21-12-6-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.107-2012, SECTION 21, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 4. A scholarship recipient may apply a scholarship under this chapter to the educational costs of a postsecondary educational institution only if the postsecondary educational institution qualifies under this section. For a postsecondary educational institution to qualify under this section, the postsecondary educational institution must satisfy the following requirements:

- (1) Be an approved postsecondary educational institution.
- (2) Be accredited by an agency that is recognized by the Secretary of the United States Department of Education.
- (3) Operate an organized program of postsecondary education leading to an associate or a baccalaureate degree on a campus located in Indiana.
- (4) Be approved by the commission:
 - (A) under rules adopted under IC 4-22-2; and
 - (B) in consultation with the ~~board for proprietary education established by IC 21-18.5-5-1;~~ **commission for higher education**, if appropriate.

SECTION 381. IC 21-13-6-7, AS ADDED BY P.L.170-2009, SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 7. The medical **graduate and** education board shall annually make available to the commission the most recent information concerning the number of primary care physicians who are serving as medical residents in Indiana.

SECTION 382. IC 21-13-6.5-3, AS ADDED BY P.L.190-2015, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 3. The medical **graduate and** education board shall annually make available to the commission the most recent

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1 information concerning the number of current residency program slots
2 in Indiana.

3 SECTION 383. IC 21-16-4-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.152-2018,
4 SECTION 13, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
5 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 7. The commission may remove an eligible
6 institution's qualified status upon finding, after reasonable notice and
7 hearing, that the eligible institution fails to meet the standards
8 established by the commission. The commission may direct the
9 department of workforce development ~~or the board for proprietary~~
10 ~~education~~ to review a school under its jurisdiction, or a comparable
11 school outside Indiana that is an eligible institution under this chapter.
12 The commission may use the results of the review to determine
13 whether to remove an eligible institution's qualified status.

14 SECTION 384. IC 21-18-6-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.213-2025,
15 SECTION 245, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
16 [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 1. The general purposes of the
17 commission are the following:

- 18 (1) Plan for and coordinate Indiana's state supported system of
- 19 postsecondary education.
- 20 (2) Review appropriation requests of state educational
- 21 institutions.
- 22 (3) Make recommendations to the governor, budget agency, or the
- 23 general assembly concerning postsecondary education.
- 24 (4) Perform other functions assigned by the governor or the
- 25 general assembly.
- 26 (5) Administer state financial aid programs under IC 21-18.5-4.
- 27 ~~(6) Provide staff and office space for the board for proprietary~~
- 28 ~~education established by IC 21-18.5-5-1.~~

29 SECTION 385. IC 21-18-12-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.92-2020,
30 SECTION 106, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
31 [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 1. (a) The Indiana e-transcript
32 program is created to allow students at all state accredited high schools
33 accredited under IC 20-31-4.1 located in Indiana to request that the
34 student's school transcripts be transmitted electronically to state
35 educational institutions, participating Indiana not-for-profit or privately
36 endowed institutions, and participating Indiana institutions authorized
37 by the ~~board for proprietary education established by IC 21-18.5-5-1.~~
38 **commission for higher education.**

39 (b) The commission shall administer the program.

40 (c) Beginning July 1, 2013, the department of education established
41 by IC 20-19-3-1, in collaboration with the state educational institutions

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1 and the commission, shall develop a common electronic transcript,
 2 using common data fields and formats that are required by state
 3 educational institutions.

4 (d) Not later than July 1, 2015, all public secondary schools shall
 5 use the common electronic transcript developed by the department of
 6 education.

7 (e) The governing body of a state accredited nonpublic secondary
 8 school may elect to use the common electronic transcript developed by
 9 the department of education.

10 SECTION 386. IC 21-18.5-1-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.152-2018,
 11 SECTION 15, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 12 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 3. Any reference to the Indiana commission
 13 for postsecondary proprietary education or the Indiana commission on
 14 proprietary education in any statute or rule shall be treated:

15 (1) after June 30, 2012, as a reference to the board for proprietary
 16 education established by IC 21-18.5-5-1 (**before its expiration**)
 17 if the reference pertains to a postsecondary credit bearing
 18 proprietary educational institution; or

19 (2) if the reference pertains to a postsecondary proprietary
 20 educational institution (as defined in IC 22-4.1-21-9):

21 (A) after June 30, 2012, and before July 1, 2016, as a reference
 22 to the state workforce innovation council established by
 23 IC 22-4.1-22-3 (before its repeal); or

24 (B) after June 30, 2016, as a reference to the department of
 25 workforce development established by IC 22-4.1-2-1.

26 SECTION 387. IC 21-18.5-1-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.152-2018,
 27 SECTION 16, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 28 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 4. (a) Changes made by P.L.218-1987 do not
 29 affect:

30 (1) rights or liabilities accrued;

31 (2) penalties incurred;

32 (3) crimes committed; or

33 (4) proceedings begun;

34 before July 1, 1987. These rights, liabilities, penalties, crimes, and
 35 proceedings continue and shall be imposed and enforced under prior
 36 law as if P.L.218-1987 had not been enacted.

37 (b) The abolishment of the Indiana commission on proprietary
 38 education on July 1, 2012, by P.L.107-2012 does not affect:

39 (1) rights or liabilities accrued;

40 (2) penalties incurred;

41 (3) crimes committed; or



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(4) proceedings begun;
before July 1, 2012, that pertain to a postsecondary credit bearing
proprietary educational institution. These rights, liabilities, penalties,
crimes, and proceedings continue and shall be imposed and enforced
by the board for proprietary education established by IC 21-18.5-5-1
(before its expiration).

(c) The abolishment of the Indiana commission on proprietary
education on July 1, 2012, by P.L.107-2012 does not affect:

(1) rights or liabilities accrued;

(2) penalties incurred;

(3) crimes committed; or

(4) proceedings begun;

before July 1, 2012, that pertain to a postsecondary proprietary
educational institution (as defined in IC 22-4.1-21-9). After June 30,
2012, and before July 1, 2016, these rights, liabilities, penalties, crimes,
and proceedings continue and shall be imposed and enforced by the
state workforce innovation council established under IC 22-4.1-22-3
(before its repeal). After June 30, 2016, these rights, liabilities,
penalties, crimes, and proceedings continue and shall be imposed and
enforced by the department of workforce development established by
IC 22-4.1-2-1.

SECTION 388. IC 21-18.5-1-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.152-2018,
SECTION 17, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 5. (a) The Indiana commission on
proprietary education is abolished on July 1, 2012.

(b) Unless otherwise specified in a memorandum of understanding
described in subsection (e), the following are transferred on July 1,
2012, from the Indiana commission on proprietary education to the
commission for higher education established by IC 21-18-2-1:

(1) All real and personal property of the Indiana commission on
proprietary education.

(2) All assets and liabilities of the Indiana commission on
proprietary education.

(3) All appropriations to the Indiana commission on proprietary
education.

(c) All powers and duties of the Indiana commission on proprietary
education before its abolishment pertaining to the accreditation of a
postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational institution are
transferred to the board for proprietary education established by
IC 21-18.5-5-1 **(before its expiration).**

(d) All powers and duties of the Indiana commission on proprietary



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1 education before its abolishment pertaining to the accreditation of a
 2 postsecondary proprietary educational institution (as defined in
 3 IC 22-4.1-21-9) are transferred to the state workforce innovation
 4 council established by IC 22-4.1-22-3 (before its repeal). After June 30,
 5 2016, all powers and duties transferred to the state workforce
 6 innovation council by this subsection are transferred to the department
 7 of workforce development established by IC 22-4.1-2-1.

8 (e) The commission for higher education established by
 9 IC 21-18-2-1 may enter into a memorandum of understanding with the
 10 state workforce innovation council established by IC 22-4.1-22-3
 11 (before its repeal) to implement the transition of the responsibilities
 12 and obligations of the Indiana commission on proprietary education
 13 before its abolishment to the commission for higher education and the
 14 state workforce innovation council. After June 30, 2016, the rights,
 15 powers, duties, and obligations of the state workforce innovation
 16 council under a memorandum of understanding entered into by the
 17 state workforce innovation council under this subsection are transferred
 18 to the department of workforce development established by
 19 IC 22-4.1-2-1.

20 (f) Rules that were adopted by the Indiana commission on
 21 proprietary education before July 1, 2012, shall be treated as though the
 22 rules were adopted by the state workforce innovation council
 23 established by IC 22-4.1-22-3 (before its repeal) until the state
 24 workforce innovation council or the department of workforce
 25 development adopts rules under IC 4-22-2 to implement IC 22-4.1-21.
 26 Rules that were adopted by the state workforce innovation council after
 27 June 30, 2012, and before July 1, 2016, to implement IC 22-4.1-21
 28 shall be treated as though the rules were adopted by the department of
 29 workforce development until the department of workforce development
 30 adopts rules under IC 4-22-2 to implement IC 22-4.1-21.

31 (g) An accreditation granted or a permit issued under IC 21-17-3
 32 (repealed) by the Indiana commission on proprietary education before
 33 July 1, 2012, shall be treated after June 30, 2012, as an authorization
 34 granted by the:

- 35 (1) board for proprietary education established by IC 21-18.5-5-1
 36 **(before its expiration)** if the accreditation pertains to a
 37 postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational institution
 38 (as defined in IC 21-18.5-2-12); or
 39 (2) department of workforce development if the accreditation
 40 pertains to a postsecondary proprietary educational institution (as
 41 defined in IC 22-4.1-21-9).

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(h) An accreditation granted or a permit issued before May 15, 2013, under IC 21-17-3 (repealed):

- (1) by the board for proprietary education established by IC 21-18.5-5-1 **(before its expiration)** shall be treated as an authorization granted by the board for proprietary education; and
- (2) by the state workforce innovation council shall be treated as an authorization granted by the department of workforce development.

(i) Proceedings pending before the Indiana commission on proprietary education on July 1, 2012, shall be transferred from the Indiana commission on proprietary education to:

- (1) the board for proprietary education established by IC 21-18.5-5-1 **(before its expiration)** for a proceeding pertaining to a postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational institution (as defined in IC 21-18.5-2-12); or
- (2) the state workforce innovation council if the proceeding pertains to a postsecondary proprietary educational institution (as defined in IC 22-4.1-21-9).

(j) Proceedings that pertain to a postsecondary proprietary educational institution (as defined in IC 22-4.1-21-9) pending before the state workforce innovation council on July 1, 2012, shall be transferred from the state workforce innovation council to the department of workforce development established by IC 22-4.1-2-1.

SECTION 389. IC 21-18.5-1-7 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: **Sec. 7. All of the rights, duties, obligations, and responsibilities transferred from the Indiana commission on proprietary education to the board for proprietary education established by IC 21-18.5-5-1 (before its expiration) under this chapter are transferred to the commission for higher education, including the following:**

- (1) The rights, liabilities, penalties, crimes, and proceedings described in section 4(b) of this chapter continue and are imposed and enforced by the commission for higher education.
- (2) The powers and duties described in section 5(c) of this chapter are transferred to the commission for higher education.
- (3) An accreditation granted or a permit issued as described in sections 5(g) of this chapter is treated as an authorization by the commission for higher education.
- (4) Any proceedings pending as described in section 5(i) of this

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chapter are transferred to the commission for higher education.

SECTION 390. IC 21-18.5-2-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.273-2013, SECTION 6, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 5. "Application", for purposes of IC 21-18.5-6, means a written request for authorization on forms supplied by the ~~board for proprietary education~~ **commission for higher education**.

SECTION 391. IC 21-18.5-2-5.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.273-2013, SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 5.5. "Authorization", for purposes of IC 21-18.5-6, means certification of a status of approval or authorization by the ~~board for proprietary education~~ **commission for higher education** to conduct business as a postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational institution.

SECTION 392. IC 21-18.5-2-12, AS AMENDED BY P.L.273-2013, SECTION 8, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 12. (a) "Postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational institution" means a degree granting and credit bearing institution that provides instructional or educational services or training, whether onsite, online, or through any combination of these or other instructional modalities, and is accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education or is seeking and progressing toward accreditation by an accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education.

(b) The term does not include the following:

(1) An Indiana state educational institution or another Indiana educational institution established by law and financed in whole or in part by public funds.

(2) A postsecondary proprietary educational institution approved or regulated by any other state regulatory board, agency, or commission other than the ~~board for proprietary education~~ **commission for higher education**.

(3) An elementary or secondary school attended by students in kindergarten or grades 1 through 12 and supported in whole or in part by private tuition payments.

(4) Any educational institution or educational training that:

(A) is maintained or given by an employer or a group of employers, without charge, for employees or for individuals the employer anticipates employing;

(B) is maintained or given by a labor organization, without

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charge, for its members or apprentices;

(C) offers exclusively instruction that is clearly self-improvement, motivational, or avocational in intent (including instruction in dance, music, or self-defense, and private tutoring); or

(D) is a Montessori or nursery school.

(5) A privately endowed two (2) or four (4) year degree granting institution that is regionally accredited and whose principal campus is located in Indiana.

(6) Out-of-state public and nonprofit degree granting institutions offering instructional or educational services or training in Indiana.

(7) A religious institution that offers educational instruction or an educational program of a clearly religious nature.

SECTION 393. IC 21-18.5-4-11 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. The commission may cooperate in developing training programs concerning grant program requirements with the board for proprietary education.

SECTION 394. IC 21-18.5-5-1 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 1: The board for proprietary education is established.

SECTION 395. IC 21-18.5-5-2 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 2: (a) The board for proprietary education consists of the following seven (7) members:

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

(2) The executive officer of the commission for higher education or the executive officer's designee.

(3) Five (5) members appointed by the governor:

(b) The members appointed by the governor under subsection (a) serve for a term of four (4) years.

(c) Not more than three (3) of the members appointed by the governor may be members of the same political party.

(d) Of the five (5) members appointed by the governor:

(1) one (1) must have been engaged for a period of at least five (5) years immediately preceding appointment in an executive or a managerial position in a postsecondary proprietary educational institution subject to IC 21-18.5-6;

(2) one (1) must have been engaged in administering or managing an industrial employee training program for a period of at least five (5) years immediately preceding appointment; and

(3) three (3) must be representatives of the public at large who are



not representatives of the types of postsecondary credit bearing
proprietary educational institutions to be authorized:

For purposes of subdivision (3), an elected or appointed state or local
official or a member of a private or public school may not be appointed
as a representative of the public at large:

(c) An appointment to fill a vacancy occurring on the board for
proprietary education is for the unexpired term.

SECTION 396. IC 21-18.5-5-3 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 3: (a) A member of the board for proprietary
education 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 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 for proprietary education 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:

SECTION 397. IC 21-18.5-5-4 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 4: (a) The board for proprietary education
may select officers from the board for proprietary education's
membership as the board for proprietary education considers necessary:

(b) The board for proprietary education may adopt reasonable rules
under IC 4-22-2 to implement this chapter and IC 21-18.5-6:

(c) The board for proprietary education:

(1) may meet as necessary upon call of the chairperson; and

(2) shall meet at least four (4) times a year:

SECTION 398. IC 21-18.5-5-5 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 5: An associate commissioner of the
commission (as defined in IC 21-18.5-2-7) shall serve as the executive
director of the board for proprietary education:

SECTION 399. IC 21-18.5-5-6 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
[EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6 (a) The board for proprietary
education established by section 1 of this chapter (before its repeal)
expires on December 31, 2026.

(b) The following are transferred on January 1, 2027, from the
board for proprietary education to the commission for higher



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education:

(1) All real and personal property of the board for proprietary education.

(2) All powers, duties, assets, and liabilities of the board for proprietary education.

(3) All appropriations to the board for proprietary education.

(c) All rules or policies that were adopted by the board for proprietary education before December 31, 2026, are treated as through the rules were adopted by the commission for higher education until the commission adopts new rules or policies.

(d) After December 31, 2026, a reference to the board for proprietary education in a statute or a rule is treated as a reference to the commission for higher education.

SECTION 400. IC 21-18.5-6-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.273-2013, SECTION 10, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 2. A person may not do business as a postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational institution in Indiana without having obtained authorization by the ~~board for proprietary education~~ **commission for higher education** under this chapter, except for a religious institution that offers educational instruction or an educational program of a clearly religious nature.

SECTION 401. IC 21-18.5-6-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.273-2013, SECTION 12, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 3. Applications for authorization under this chapter must be filed with the ~~board for proprietary education~~ **commission for higher education** and accompanied by an application fee of at least one hundred dollars (\$100) for processing the application and evaluating the postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational institution.

SECTION 402. IC 21-18.5-6-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.273-2013, SECTION 14, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 5. The ~~board for proprietary education~~ **commission for higher education** shall require each postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational institution to include in each curriculum catalog and promotional brochure the following:

(1) A statement indicating that the postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational institution is authorized by the ~~board for proprietary education~~ **commission for higher education** under this chapter.

(2) The ~~board for proprietary education's~~ **commission for higher education's** mailing address and telephone number.

SECTION 403. IC 21-18.5-6-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.273-2013,

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SECTION 15, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 6. (a) The career college student assurance fund is established to provide indemnification to a student or an enrollee of a postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational institution who suffers loss or damage as a result of:

- (1) the failure or neglect of the postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational institution to faithfully perform all agreements, express or otherwise, with the student, enrollee, one (1) or both of the parents of the student or enrollee, or a guardian of the student or enrollee as represented by the application for the institution's authorization and the materials submitted in support of that application;
- (2) the failure or neglect of the postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational institution to maintain and operate a course or courses of instruction or study in compliance with the standards of this chapter; or
- (3) an agent's misrepresentation in procuring the student's enrollment.

(b) The ~~board for proprietary education~~ **commission for higher education** shall administer the fund.

(c) The expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from money in the fund.

(d) 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.

(e) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not revert to the state general fund but remains available to be used for providing money for reimbursements allowed under this chapter.

(f) Upon the fund acquiring fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000), the balance in the fund must not become less than fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000). If:

- (1) a claim against the fund is filed that would, if paid in full, require the balance of the fund to become less than fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000); and
- (2) the ~~board for proprietary education~~ **commission for higher education** determines that the student is eligible for a reimbursement under the fund;

the ~~board for proprietary education~~ **commission for higher education** shall prorate the amount of the reimbursement to ensure that the balance of the fund does not become less than fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000), and the student is entitled to receive that balance of the

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1 student's claim from the fund as money becomes available in the fund
2 from contributions to the fund required under this chapter.

3 (g) The ~~board for proprietary education~~ **commission for higher**
4 **education** shall ensure that all outstanding claim amounts described in
5 subsection (f) are paid as money in the fund becomes available in the
6 chronological order of the outstanding claims.

7 (h) A claim against the fund may not be construed to be a debt of the
8 state.

9 SECTION 404. IC 21-18.5-6-7, AS ADDED BY P.L.107-2012,
10 SECTION 58, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
11 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 7. (a) Except as otherwise provided in this
12 section, each postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational
13 institution shall make quarterly contributions to the fund. The quarters
14 begin January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1.

15 (b) For each quarter, each postsecondary credit bearing proprietary
16 educational institution shall make a contribution equal to the STEP
17 THREE amount derived under the following formula:

18 STEP ONE: Determine the total amount of tuition and fees earned
19 during the quarter.

20 STEP TWO: Multiply the STEP ONE amount by one-tenth of one
21 percent (0.1%).

22 STEP THREE: Add the STEP TWO amount and sixty dollars
23 (\$60).

24 (c) After June 30, 2012, upon the career college student assurance
25 fund achieving at least an initial balance of five hundred thousand
26 dollars (\$500,000), a postsecondary credit bearing proprietary
27 educational institution that contributes to the career college student
28 assurance fund when the initial quarterly contribution is required under
29 this chapter after the fund's establishment is not required to make
30 contributions to the fund.

31 (d) The ~~board for proprietary education~~ **commission for higher**
32 **education** shall determine the number of quarterly contributions
33 required for the career college student assurance fund to initially
34 accumulate five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000).

35 (e) Except as provided in subsections (a), (b), and (f), a
36 postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational institution that
37 begins making contributions to the career college student assurance
38 fund after the initial quarterly contribution as required under this
39 section shall make contributions to the fund for the same number of
40 quarters as determined by the ~~board for proprietary education~~
41 **commission for higher education** under subsection (d).

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(f) If, after a career college student assurance fund acquires five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000), the balance in the fund becomes less than two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000), all postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational institutions not required to make contributions to the career college student assurance fund as described in subsection (c) or (e) shall make contributions to the career college student assurance fund for the number of quarters necessary for the fund to accumulate five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000).

SECTION 405. IC 21-18.5-6-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.273-2013, SECTION 16, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 8. (a) Upon receipt of an application for authorization under this chapter, the ~~board for proprietary education~~ **commission for higher education** shall make an investigation to determine the accuracy of the statements in the application to determine if the postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational institution meets the minimum standards for authorization.

(b) During the investigation under subsection (a), the ~~board for proprietary education~~ **commission for higher education** may grant a temporary status of authorization. The temporary status of authorization is sufficient to meet the requirements of this chapter until a determination on authorization is made.

SECTION 406. IC 21-18.5-6-10, AS AMENDED BY P.L.9-2021, SECTION 6, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 10. (a) A postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational institution shall maintain at least the following records for each student:

- (1) The program in which the student enrolls.
- (2) The length of the program.
- (3) The date of the student's initial enrollment in the program.
- (4) A transcript of the student's academic progress.
- (5) The amount of the student's tuition and fees.
- (6) A copy of the enrollment agreement.

(b) Upon the request of the ~~board for proprietary education;~~ **commission for higher education**, a postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational institution shall submit the records described in subsection (a) to the ~~board for proprietary education;~~ **commission for higher education.**

(c) If a postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational institution ceases operation, the postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational institution shall submit the records described



1 in subsection (a) to the Indiana archives and records administration not
 2 later than thirty (30) days after the institution ceases to operate,
 3 regardless of any outstanding debts owed to the institution.

4 SECTION 407. IC 21-18.5-6-11, AS AMENDED BY P.L.273-2013,
 5 SECTION 17, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 6 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 11. Full authorization under this chapter may
 7 not be issued unless and until the ~~board for proprietary education~~
 8 **commission for higher education** finds that the postsecondary credit
 9 bearing proprietary educational institution meets minimum standards
 10 that are appropriate to that type or class of postsecondary credit bearing
 11 proprietary educational institution, including the following minimum
 12 standards:

13 (1) The postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational
 14 institution has a sound financial structure with sufficient
 15 resources for continued support.

16 (2) The postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational
 17 institution has satisfactory training or educational facilities with
 18 sufficient tools, supplies, or equipment and the necessary number
 19 of work stations or classrooms to adequately train, instruct, or
 20 educate the number of students enrolled or proposed to be
 21 enrolled.

22 (3) The postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational
 23 institution has an adequate number of qualified instructors or
 24 teachers, sufficiently trained by experience or education, to give
 25 the instruction, education, or training contemplated.

26 (4) The advertising and representations made on behalf of the
 27 postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational institution
 28 to prospective students are truthful and free from
 29 misrepresentation or fraud.

30 (5) The charge made for the training, instruction, or education is
 31 clearly stated and based upon the services rendered.

32 (6) The premises and conditions under which the students work
 33 and study are sanitary, healthful, and safe according to modern
 34 standards.

35 (7) The postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational
 36 institution has and follows a refund policy approved by the ~~board~~
 37 ~~for proprietary education.~~ **commission for higher education.**

38 (8) The owner or chief administrator of the postsecondary credit
 39 bearing proprietary educational institution is subject to a
 40 background check by the ~~board for proprietary education~~
 41 **commission for higher education** and has not been convicted of



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1 a felony.

2 (9) The owner or chief administrator of the postsecondary credit
3 bearing proprietary educational institution has not been the owner
4 or chief administrator of a postsecondary credit bearing
5 proprietary educational institution that has had its authorization
6 revoked or has been closed involuntarily in the five (5) year
7 period preceding the application for authorization. However, if
8 the owner or chief administrator of the postsecondary credit
9 bearing proprietary educational institution has been the owner or
10 chief administrator of a postsecondary credit bearing proprietary
11 educational institution that has had its authorization revoked or
12 has been closed involuntarily more than five (5) years before the
13 application for authorization, the ~~board for proprietary education~~
14 **commission for higher education** may issue full authorization at
15 the board for proprietary education's discretion.

16 SECTION 408. IC 21-18.5-6-12, AS AMENDED BY P.L.273-2013,
17 SECTION 18, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
18 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 12. (a) After an investigation and a finding
19 that the information in the application is true and that the
20 postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational institution meets
21 the minimum standards, the ~~board for proprietary education~~
22 **commission for higher education** shall issue an authorization to the
23 postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational institution upon
24 payment of an additional fee of at least twenty-five dollars (\$25). An
25 applicant's market research may not be considered or required by the
26 ~~board for proprietary education~~ **commission for higher education** as
27 a condition for authorizing or renewing the accreditation of or for
28 authorization of the programs of a postsecondary credit bearing
29 proprietary educational institution.

30 (b) The ~~board for proprietary education~~ **commission for higher**
31 **education** may waive inspection of a postsecondary credit bearing
32 proprietary educational institution that has been authorized by an
33 accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of
34 Education whose standards are approved by the ~~board for proprietary~~
35 ~~education~~ **commission for higher education** as meeting or exceeding
36 the requirements of this chapter.

37 (c) A valid license, authorization to operate, or other form of
38 authorization issued to a postsecondary credit bearing proprietary
39 educational institution by another state may be accepted, instead of
40 inspection, if:

41 (1) the requirements of that state meet or exceed the requirements

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of this chapter; and

(2) the other state will, in turn, extend reciprocity to postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational institutions authorized by the ~~board for proprietary education~~; **commission for higher education**.

(d) The ~~board for proprietary education~~ **commission for higher education** may join interstate reciprocity agreements and authorize an institution to operate in Indiana, if the:

(1) institution; and

(2) state in which both the institution's:

(A) principal campus is located; and

(B) institutional accreditation is provided;

are members of the interstate reciprocity agreement.

(e) An authorization issued under this section expires one (1) year following the authorization's issuance.

(f) An authorized postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational institution may renew the institution's authorization annually upon:

(1) the payment of a fee of at least twenty-five dollars (\$25); and

(2) continued compliance with this chapter.

SECTION 409. IC 21-18.5-6-13, AS AMENDED BY P.L.273-2013, SECTION 19, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 13. Authorization may be revoked by the ~~board for proprietary education~~; **commission for higher education**:

(1) for cause upon notice and an opportunity for a hearing before the ~~board for proprietary education~~; **commission for higher education**; and

(2) for the authorized postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational institution failing to make the appropriate quarterly contributions to the career college student assurance fund not later than forty-five (45) days after the end of a quarter.

SECTION 410. IC 21-18.5-6-14, AS AMENDED BY P.L.273-2013, SECTION 20, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 14. (a) A postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational institution, after notification that the institution's authorization has been refused, revoked, or suspended, may apply for a hearing before the ~~board for proprietary education~~ **commission for higher education** concerning the institution's qualifications. The application for a hearing must be filed in writing with the ~~board for proprietary education~~ **commission for higher education** not more than thirty (30) days after receipt of notice of the

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denial, revocation, or suspension.

(b) The ~~board for proprietary education~~ **commission for higher education** shall give a hearing promptly and with not less than ten (10) days notice of the date, time, and place. The postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational institution is entitled to be represented by counsel and to offer oral and documentary evidence relevant to the issue.

(c) Not more than fifteen (15) days after a hearing, the ~~board for proprietary education~~ **commission for higher education** shall make written findings of fact, a written decision, and a written order based solely on the evidence submitted at the hearing, either granting or denying authorization to the postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational institution.

SECTION 411. IC 21-18.5-6-20, AS AMENDED BY P.L.13-2013, SECTION 62, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 20. (a) This section applies to claims against the balance of the career college student assurance fund.

(b) A student or enrollee of a postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational institution who believes that the student or enrollee has suffered loss or damage resulting from any of the occurrences described in section 6(a) of this chapter may file a claim with the ~~board for proprietary education~~ **commission for higher education** against the balance of the fund.

(c) A claim under this section is limited to a refund of the claimant's applicable tuition and fees.

(d) All claims must be filed not later than five (5) years after the occurrence resulting in the loss or damage to the claimant occurs.

(e) Upon the filing of a claim under this section, the ~~board for proprietary education~~ **commission for higher education** shall review the records submitted by the appropriate postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational institution described under section 12 of this chapter and shall investigate the claim.

(f) Upon a determination by the ~~board for proprietary education~~ **commission for higher education** that a claimant shall be reimbursed under the career college student assurance fund, the ~~board for proprietary education~~ **commission for higher education** shall prioritize the reimbursements under the following guidelines:

- (1) A student's educational loan balances.
- (2) Federal grant repayment obligations of the student.
- (3) Other expenses paid directly by the student.

SECTION 412. IC 21-18.5-6-23, AS ADDED BY P.L.107-2012,

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1 SECTION 58, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
2 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 23. The prosecuting attorney of the county
3 in which an offense under this chapter occurred shall, at the request of
4 the ~~board for proprietary education~~ **commission for higher education**
5 or on the prosecuting attorney's own motion, bring any appropriate
6 action, including a mandatory and prohibitive injunction.

7 SECTION 413. IC 21-18.5-6-24, AS AMENDED BY P.L.273-2013,
8 SECTION 27, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
9 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 24. An action of the ~~board for proprietary~~
10 ~~education~~ **commission for higher education** concerning the issuance,
11 denial, or revocation of an authorization under this chapter is subject
12 to review under IC 4-21.5.

13 SECTION 414. IC 21-18.5-6-26, AS AMENDED BY P.L.273-2013,
14 SECTION 28, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
15 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 26. (a) As used in this section, "fund" means
16 the postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational institution
17 authorization fund established by subsection (b).

18 (b) The postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational
19 institution authorization fund is established.

20 (c) The fund shall be administered by the commission (as defined
21 in IC 21-18.5-2-7.).

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

24 (e) All fees collected by the ~~board for proprietary education~~
25 **commission for higher education** under this chapter shall be
26 deposited in the fund.

27 (f) Money in the fund shall be used by the ~~board for proprietary~~
28 ~~education~~ **commission for higher education** to administer this
29 chapter.

30 SECTION 415. IC 21-18.5-6-27, AS ADDED BY P.L.107-2012,
31 SECTION 58, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
32 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 27. The ~~board for proprietary education~~
33 **commission for higher education** may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to
34 implement this chapter.

35 SECTION 416. IC 21-38-1-1.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
36 CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
37 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1.5. "Commission" refers to the
38 **commission for higher education of the state of Indiana established**
39 **by IC 21-18-2.**

40 SECTION 417. IC 21-38-1-3, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2007,
41 SECTION 279, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS

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[EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) "Council" refers to the Indiana excellence in teaching council.

(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 418. IC 21-38-8-1, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2007, SECTION 279, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. (a) The Indiana excellence in teaching council is established. The council consists of nine (9) members as follows:

(1) One (1) representative of the commission for higher education.

(2) One (1) representative of the budget agency.

(3) One (1) representative from each state educational institution.

(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 419. IC 21-38-8-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.234-2007, SECTION 56, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) The Indiana excellence in teaching endowment is established to provide state educational institutions with grants to match interest income generated by an endowment to attract and retain distinguished teachers. The fund shall be administered by the ~~council~~ **commission**.

(b) The expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from money in the fund.

(c) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not currently needed to meet obligations of the fund in the same manner as other public funds may be invested.

(d) Money in the fund at the end of the state fiscal year does not revert to the state general fund but remains available to be used for providing money for grants as allowed under this chapter.

SECTION 420. IC 21-38-8-4, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2007, SECTION 279, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. A state educational institution must apply for a matching grant in the manner prescribed by the ~~council~~ **commission**.

SECTION 421. IC 21-38-8-5, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2007, SECTION 279, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. When determining a distinguished teacher's prominence, the ~~council~~ **commission** shall consider the following criteria when distributing endowment funds:

(1) Evidence of excellent teaching ability.

(2) Distinguished accomplishments.

(3) Either:

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1 (A) productive scholarship; or

2 (B) artistic achievement and superior talent.

3 The ~~council~~ **commission** may consider any other criteria for
4 distributing endowment funds that the ~~council~~ **commission** determines
5 appropriate.

6 SECTION 422. IC 21-38-8-6, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2007,
7 SECTION 279, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
8 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. (a) The ~~council~~ **commission**
9 shall approve or disapprove a matching grant application within sixty
10 (60) days after the application is received by the ~~council~~ **commission**.

11 (b) The ~~council~~ **commission** may approve a grant application with
12 an amount that is the same or less than the amount requested by the
13 state educational institution.

14 SECTION 423. IC 21-38-8-7, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2007,
15 SECTION 279, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
16 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) Each matching grant from the
17 fund is intended to be used to supplement, and may not be used instead
18 of, a distinguished teacher's regular annual salary.

19 (b) The ~~council~~ **commission** may not approve a matching grant from
20 the fund that exceeds income generated from the endowment of the
21 institution.

22 SECTION 424. IC 21-38-8-8, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2007,
23 SECTION 279, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
24 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) Staff for the council shall be
25 provided by the commission for higher education.

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

27 SECTION 425. IC 21-38-8-10, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2007,
28 SECTION 279, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
29 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) The council may:

30 (1) develop guidelines; and

31 (2) adopt rules under IC 4-22-2;

32 to administer the fund and this chapter.

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

34 SECTION 426. IC 21-44-1-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.190-2015,
35 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
36 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 3. (a) "Board", for purposes of IC 21-44-5
37 **and IC 21-44-7**, refers to the medical **graduate and** education board
38 established by IC 21-44-5-1.

39 (b) "Board", for purposes of IC 21-44-6, refers to the mental health
40 and addiction services development programs board established by
41 ~~IC 21-44-6-1~~.

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(c) "Board"; for purposes of IC 21-44-7, refers to the graduate medical education board established by IC 21-44-7-2.

SECTION 427. IC 21-44-1-12, AS AMENDED BY P.L.170-2009, SECTION 6, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 12. "Intern, residency, and graduate program", for purposes of IC 21-44-5, refers to an intern, residency, and graduate program for which the medical **graduate and** education board establishes policies under IC 21-44-5.

SECTION 428. IC 21-44-5-1, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2007, SECTION 285, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 1. There is established a medical **graduate and** education board. ~~consisting of seven (7) persons.~~

SECTION 429. IC 21-44-5-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.56-2023, SECTION 202, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 2. (a) The board consists of the following members:

(1) The dean of the Indiana University School of Medicine, who serves as an ex officio member of the board. The dean of the Indiana University School of Medicine shall serve as the chairman of the board.

(2) The commissioner of the Indiana department of health, who serves as an ex officio member of the board.

(3) Five (5) members appointed by the governor as follows:

(A) One (1) member appointed by the governor who is a director of medical education of an Indiana hospital not owned or operated by Indiana University.

(B) One (1) member who:

(i) is a hospital administrator in a hospital not owned or operated by Indiana University; and

(ii) is not the hospital administrator for the hospital that employs the member appointed under clause (A).

(C) One (1) member who:

(i) is a citizen of Indiana; and

(ii) is not a physician and not a hospital administrator.

(D) Two (2) members who are physicians holding unlimited licenses to practice medicine in Indiana. The two (2) physicians appointed under this subdivision may not be directors of medical education. One (1) of the members appointed under this subdivision must practice in the specialty of family practice.



(b) The terms of the five (5) members appointed to the board by the governor are for three (3) years beginning January 1 of the year of appointment and continuing until the member's successor is appointed and qualified. If a membership on the board becomes vacant before the expiration of the term, the governor shall appoint a replacement with the same representative status to fill the unexpired term.

(c) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 430. IC 21-44-5-2.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 2.5. (a) This section applies after December 31, 2026.**

(b) The board consists of the following fourteen (14) members:

(1) The dean of the Indiana University School of Medicine, who serves as the chairperson of the board.

(2) The following thirteen (13) members appointed by the governor:

(A) One (1) member representing a regional medical school campus of the Indiana University School of Medicine.

(B) One (1) member representing the Marian University College of Osteopathic Medicine.

(C) One (1) member representing the Indiana state medical association.

(D) One (1) member representing the Indiana primary health care association.

(E) One (1) member representing a teaching hospital that is a member of the Indiana hospital association.

(F) One (1) member representing a non-teaching hospital that is a member of the Indiana hospital association.

(G) Two (2) members who are medical directors of residency programs.

(H) One (1) member who is the director of medical education of an Indiana hospital that is not owned by, operated by, or affiliated with Indiana University.

(I) One (1) member who is:

(i) a hospital administrator employed by a hospital not owned by, operated by, or affiliated with Indiana University; and

(ii) not employed by the hospital that employs the member appointed under clause (H).

(J) Two (2) members who are physicians holding unlimited licenses to practice medicine in Indiana. The following apply to the members appointed under this clause:



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(i) Neither member may be employed as a director of medical education.

(ii) At least one of the members must practice in the specialty of family medicine.

(c) The terms of the appointed to the board by the governor are for three (3) years beginning January 1 of the year of appointment and continuing until the member's successor is appointed and qualified. If a membership on the board becomes vacant before the expiration of the term, the governor shall appoint a replacement with the same representative status to fill the unexpired term.

(d) A member may be reappointed to successive terms.

SECTION 431. IC 21-44-5-3.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: **Sec. 3.5. The chairperson of the board is permitted to vote only to break a tie.**

SECTION 432. IC 21-44-6-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.142-2014, SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. **(a)** There is established the mental health and addiction services development programs board.

(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 433. IC 21-44-6-1.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 1.5. As used in this chapter, "commission" refers to the commission for higher education of the state of Indiana established by IC 21-18-2.**

SECTION 434. IC 21-44-6-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.56-2023, SECTION 203, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. **(a)** The board consists of the following ten (10) members:

(1) The dean of the Indiana University School of Medicine or the dean's designee. The dean of the Indiana University School of Medicine or the dean's designee shall serve as the chairperson of the board.

(2) The chairperson of the department of psychiatry of the Indiana University School of Medicine or the chairperson's designee.

(3) The director of the division of mental health and addiction created by IC 12-21-1-1 or the director's designee.

(4) The commissioner of the Indiana department of health or the 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.

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(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 435. 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 436. 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 437. 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

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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 addiction dual diagnoses treatment settings.

(4) ~~To~~ Develop standards for participation in the training track program that include:

- (A) guidelines for the amounts of grants and other assistance a participant receives;



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- (B) guidelines for the type of training in integrated behavioral health and addiction treatment the participant receives;
- (C) guidelines for agreements with mental health hospitals, community mental health centers, and other entities participating in the training track program; and
- (D) other guidelines and standards necessary for governing the training track program.

SECTION 438. IC 21-44-6-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.142-2014, SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. The ~~board~~ **commission** shall establish guidelines for the repayment of the loans incurred by a psychiatrist, psychologist, psychiatric nurse, addiction counselor, or mental health professional, including the following:

- (1) A participant may not receive more than twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) in a year.
- (2) Except as provided in subdivision (3), a participant may not receive grants for more than four (4) years.
- (3) A participant who is a psychiatrist pursuing fellowship training and certification in addiction psychiatry may not receive grants for more than five (5) years.
- (4) A participant must commit to a full year of service in an integrated behavioral health and addiction treatment setting as described in section 5(2) or 5(3) of this chapter for each year of loan repayment.
- (5) A participant must be a practitioner who:
 - (A) is:
 - (i) from Indiana; and
 - (ii) accepting a new position in Indiana; or
 - (B) is:
 - (i) from outside Indiana;
 - (ii) not currently practicing in Indiana and has not practiced in Indiana for three (3) years before applying for the program; and
 - (iii) establishing a new practice in Indiana.

SECTION 439. 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

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1 providing grants for loan repayment under this chapter. The account
 2 shall be administered by the ~~board~~ **commission**. Money in the account
 3 shall be used to fund loan forgiveness grants under this chapter.

4 (c) The account consists of:

- 5 (1) appropriations made by the general assembly;
- 6 (2) grants; and
- 7 (3) gifts and bequests.

8 (d) The expenses of administering the account shall be paid from
 9 money in the account.

10 (e) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the account not
 11 currently needed to meet the obligations of the account in the same
 12 manner as other public money may be invested. Interest that accrues
 13 from these investments shall be deposited in the account.

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

16 SECTION 440. IC 21-44-6-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.142-2014,
 17 SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 18 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) As used in this section, "account" refers to
 19 the integrated behavioral health and addiction treatment development
 20 program account established in subsection (b).

21 (b) The integrated behavioral health and addiction treatment
 22 development program account within the state general fund is
 23 established for the purpose of providing funding for the integrated
 24 behavioral health and addiction treatment development program
 25 established under this chapter. The account shall be administered by
 26 the division of mental health and addiction. Money in the account shall
 27 be used to fund residency positions, fellowship training, and
 28 certification in addiction psychiatry, including:

- 29 (1) educational expenses;
- 30 (2) grants and scholarships;
- 31 (3) salaries; and
- 32 (4) benefits.

33 (c) The account consists of:

- 34 (1) appropriations made by the general assembly;
- 35 (2) grants; and
- 36 (3) gifts and bequests.

37 (d) The expenses of administering the account shall be paid from
 38 money in the account.

39 (e) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the account not
 40 currently needed to meet the obligations of the account in the same
 41 manner as other public money may be invested. Interest that accrues

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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.

(g) The ~~board~~ **division of mental health and addiction, in consultation with the commission**, shall give due consideration to annually funding two (2) psychiatrists pursuing fellowship training and certification in addiction psychiatry. A participant who is a psychiatrist pursuing fellowship training and certification in addiction psychiatry must agree to establish a new practice in Indiana for at least five (5) years upon completion of the fellowship training and certification in addiction psychiatry.

SECTION 441. IC 21-44-6-9 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 9: The division of mental health and addiction shall provide administrative support for the board.~~

SECTION 442. IC 21-44-7-1, AS ADDED BY P.L.190-2015, SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 1. The following definitions apply throughout this chapter:

(1) "Board" refers to the ~~graduate~~ medical **graduate and** education board established by ~~section 2 of this chapter.~~ **IC 21-44-5-1.**

(2) "Fund" refers to the graduate medical education fund established by section 8 of this chapter.

SECTION 443. IC 21-44-7-2, AS ADDED BY P.L.190-2015, SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) The graduate medical education board is established for the following purposes:

(1) To provide funding for residents not funded by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

(2) To provide technical assistance for entities that wish to establish a residency program, including the following:

(A) Entities that are not licensed hospitals.

(B) Federally qualified health centers.

(3) To provide startup funding for entities that wish to establish a residency program.

(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 444. IC 21-44-7-3, AS ADDED BY P.L.190-2015, SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) The board is comprised of ten (10) members appointed by the governor as follows:

(1) One (1) member representing the Indiana University School



1 of Medicine.

2 (2) One (1) member representing a regional medical school
3 campus of the Indiana University School of Medicine.

4 (3) One (1) member representing the Marian University College
5 of Osteopathic Medicine.

6 (4) One (1) member representing the Indiana State Medical
7 Association.

8 (5) One (1) member representing the Indiana Osteopathic Medical
9 Association.

10 (6) One (1) member representing the Indiana Primary Health Care
11 Association.

12 (7) One (1) member representing a teaching hospital in the
13 Indiana Hospital Association.

14 (8) One (1) member representing a nonteaching hospital in the
15 Indiana Hospital Association.

16 (9) Two (2) members who are medical directors of residency
17 programs.

18 (b) Except as provided in subsection (c), a member appointed to the
19 board shall serve for a term of two (2) years. Except as provided in
20 subsection (c), the term of a member appointed under subsection (a)(1)
21 through (a)(4) begins on January 1 of an odd-numbered year. The term
22 of a member appointed under subsection (a)(5) through (a)(9) begins
23 on January 1 of an even-numbered year.

24 (c) This subsection applies to a member appointed under subsection
25 (a)(1) through (a)(4) before January 1, 2016. A member to whom this
26 subsection applies serves for a term of one (1) year beginning January
27 1, 2016.

28 (d) The governor shall make appointments to the board at the
29 following times:

30 (1) The governor shall make the initial appointments to the board
31 before January 1, 2016.

32 (2) Before the end of each year after 2015, the governor shall
33 appoint members to the board to succeed those members whose
34 terms are scheduled to expire at the end of the year.

35 (3) When a member resigns or is otherwise unable to complete
36 the member's term, the governor shall appoint a member to serve
37 the remaining term of the member who has resigned or who is
38 otherwise unable to complete the member's term.

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

40 SECTION 445. IC 21-44-7-4 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
41 JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 4. (a) The commission for higher education~~



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1 shall provide staff for the board. The commission shall call the first
2 meeting of the board and notify members of the board.

3 (b) The board members shall designate a chairperson from among
4 themselves. The member designated as the chairperson continues to
5 serve as chairperson until the earlier of:

6 (1) the first anniversary of the chairperson's designation under this
7 section; or

8 (2) the date on which the chairperson's term expires.

9 (c) The board shall meet at the call of the chairperson or at the call
10 of a majority of the appointed members.

11 SECTION 446. IC 21-44-7-5 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
12 JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 5: An affirmative vote of at least six (6)
13 members is necessary in order for the board to take any official action.

14 SECTION 447. IC 21-47-2-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.161-2025,
15 SECTION 27, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
16 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) There is established a geological and water
17 survey advisory council.

18 (b) The council consists of the following members:

19 (1) One (1) member appointed by the president of Indiana
20 University who is a faculty member of the Indiana University
21 School of Public and Environmental Affairs to serve for a period
22 of four (4) years. A member appointed under this subdivision
23 must have a background in energy, geology, water, or
24 environmental science.

25 (2) One (1) member appointed by the president of Indiana
26 University who is a faculty member of the earth sciences
27 department to serve for a period of four (4) years.

28 (3) The vice provost of research of Indiana University, or the vice
29 provost's designee.

30 (4) The chairperson of the house of representatives standing
31 committee tasked with studying utilities and energy, or the
32 chairperson's designee.

33 (5) The chairperson of the senate standing committee tasked with
34 studying utilities and energy, or the chairperson's designee.

35 (6) The director of the department of natural resources, or the
36 director's designee.

37 (7) The director of the Indiana department of environmental
38 management, or the director's designee.

39 (8) The director of the Indiana economic development
40 corporation, or the director's designee.

41 (9) The public finance director appointed under IC 5-1.2-3-6, or

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the public finance director's designee.

(10) Two (2) individuals who:

(A) are appointed by the governor;

(B) represent private industry; and

(C) have a background in energy, geology, water, or environmental science.

An individual appointed by the governor under this subdivision serves for a term of four (4) years.

A designee under subdivision (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), (8), or (9) must have a background in energy, geology, water, or environmental science. The members of the council shall annually elect a chair and vice chair from among the membership of the council.

(c) A member who is appointed or designated to serve on the council under subsection (b):

(1) in the case of an appointed member:

(A) holds the position for the term of the appointment;

(B) continues to serve after expiration of the appointment until a successor is appointed and qualified; and

(C) subject to subdivision (2), is eligible for reappointment;

(2) may not serve on the council for a total of more than two (2) consecutive terms; and

(3) serves at the pleasure of the appointing or designating authority and may be removed by the appointing or designating authority at any time.

The appointing or designating authority shall fill a vacancy that occurs after a member appointed or designated by the authority resigns, is removed, or is no longer qualified to serve.

(d) The state geologist shall serve as secretary of the council, shall provide staff support to the council, and shall report on the following at each meeting of the council:

(1) The staffing of the survey.

(2) The finances of the survey.

(3) The outreach programs of the survey.

(4) The current research projects of the survey.

(5) Any other report requested by the council.

(e) The state geologist may cast the deciding vote to break a tie.

(f) Each member of the council who is not a state employee is entitled to the minimum salary per diem provided by IC 4-10-11-2.1(b). A member is also entitled to reimbursement for mileage and traveling 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.

(g) Each member of the council 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 section shall be paid from appropriations made to the legislative council or the legislative services agency.

(h) 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.

(i) Expenses paid under subsections (f) and (h) shall be paid from appropriations made to the state geologist.

(j) The council shall meet quarterly in the first month of each quarter. The date, time, and location of a meeting must be upon agreement of the council.

(k) The council shall meet with the state geologist to make recommendations concerning:

- (1) the functions and performance of the survey; and
- (2) appropriations and funding for the survey.

(l) The council may make recommendations concerning the effectiveness and efficiency of the survey and other matters.

(m) Recommendations and reports of the council shall be directed to the following:

- (1) The governor.
- (2) The budget agency.
- (3) The president of Indiana University.
- (4) The director of the department of natural resources.
- (5) The commissioner of the department of environmental management.

(n) The terms of the members of the council described in subsection (b)(1), (b)(2), and (b)(10) expire as follows:

- (1) For the members described in subsection (b)(1) and (b)(2), June 30, 2025, and each fourth year thereafter.
- (2) For the members described in subsection (b)(10), June 30, 2027, and each fourth year thereafter.

(o) The terms of the members of the council who are members of the general assembly designated under subsection (b)(4) and (b)(5) expire June 30 of an odd-numbered year.

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(p) On or before July 1, 2027, and July 1 biennially thereafter, the 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 council during the preceding two (2) years.

(p) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 448. IC 21-47-2-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.42-2024, SECTION 145, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 7. (a) As used in this section, "center" refers to the center for water 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.

~~(e)~~ **(b)** The center for water is established within the survey for the purpose of:

- (1) carrying out the survey's statutory duties concerning Indiana's water resources;
- (2) supporting long term studies of the state's water resources, as requested by the Indiana finance authority; and
- (3) upon request, providing resources to:
 - (A) state agencies;
 - (B) municipal agencies; and
 - (C) soil and water conservation groups.

~~(d)~~ **(c)** The center shall be staffed

~~(1)~~ by employees of the survey who have expertise in water 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 449. 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) 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) 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) The state geologist shall oversee and manage the activities of the center.

(g) The center shall be funded by the available resources of the survey.

SECTION 450. IC 22-1-1-11, AS AMENDED BY P.L.113-2014, SECTION 112, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 11. The commissioner of labor is authorized and directed to do the following:

(1) To investigate and adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 prescribing what safety devices, safeguards, or other means of protection shall be adopted for the prevention of accidents in every employment or place of employment, to determine what suitable devices, safeguards, or other means of protection for the prevention of industrial accidents or occupational diseases shall be adopted or followed in any or all employments or places of employment, and to adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 applicable to either employers or employees, or both for the prevention of accidents and the prevention of industrial or occupational diseases.

(2) Annually forward the report received from the mining board bureau of mines and mine safety under IC 22-10-1.5-5(a)(5) to the legislative council in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6 and request from the general assembly funding for necessary

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1 additional mine inspectors.

2 (3) Administer the mine safety fund established under
3 IC 22-10-12-16.

4 SECTION 451. IC 22-4.1-21-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.174-2018,
5 SECTION 40, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
6 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 9. As used in this chapter, "postsecondary
7 proprietary educational institution" means a person doing business in
8 Indiana by offering to the public, for a tuition, fee, or charge,
9 instructional or educational services or training in a technical,
10 professional, mechanical, business, or industrial occupation, in the
11 recipient's home, at a designated location, or by mail. The term does
12 not include the following:

13 (1) A postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational
14 institution accredited by the ~~board for proprietary education~~
15 **commission for higher education** under IC 21-18.5-6.

16 (2) A state educational institution or another educational
17 institution established by law and financed in whole or in part by
18 public funds.

19 (3) A postsecondary proprietary educational institution approved
20 or regulated by any other state regulatory board, agency, or
21 commission.

22 (4) An elementary or secondary school attended by students in
23 kindergarten or grades 1 through 12 and supported in whole or in
24 part by private tuition payments.

25 (5) Any educational institution or educational training that:

26 (A) is maintained or given by an employer or a group of
27 employers, without charge, for employees or for individuals the
28 employer anticipates employing;

29 (B) is maintained or given by a labor organization, without
30 charge, for its members or apprentices;

31 (C) offers exclusively instruction that is clearly
32 self-improvement, motivational, or avocational in intent
33 (including instruction in dance, music, or self-defense, and
34 private tutoring); or

35 (D) is a Montessori or nursery school.

36 (6) A privately endowed two (2) or four (4) year degree granting
37 institution that is regionally accredited and whose principal
38 campus is located in Indiana.

39 (7) All educational institutions offering programs requiring
40 approval by the Indiana state board of nursing under
41 IC 25-23-1-7.

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SECTION 452. IC 22-8-1.1-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.32-2008, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, unless otherwise provided:

"Board" means the board of safety review created by this chapter.

~~"Commission" means the occupational safety standards commission created by this chapter.~~

"Commissioner" means the commissioner of labor or the commissioner's duly designated representative.

"Department" means the department of labor.

"Employee" means a person permitted to work by an employer in employment.

"Employer" means any individual or type of organization, including the state and all its political subdivisions, that has in its employ one (1) or more individuals.

"INSafe" means the division of the department created by section 40 of this chapter.

"Safety order" refers to a notice issued to employers by the commissioner of labor for alleged violations of this chapter, including any health and safety standards.

"Standard" refers to both health and safety standards.

"Voluntary protection program" means a program offered by the United States Occupational Safety and Health Administration to employers subject to this chapter that exempts the employers from general scheduled inspections.

SECTION 453. IC 22-8-1.1-7 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 7. An occupational safety standards commission is created within the department to promulgate, modify, or revoke safety and health standards in Indiana and to hear and determine applications for temporary and permanent variances from those standards.~~

SECTION 454. IC 22-8-1.1-8 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 8. Commission: Membership: The commission shall be composed of nine (9) members, all of whom shall be selected by the governor as follows: three (3) shall represent the management of principal industries in the state; one (1) of which shall represent agricultural industry; three (3) shall represent labor and three (3) shall represent the public all of whom shall be recognized as experienced in the field of occupational health and safety. The commissioner shall serve as secretary of the commission. No member of the commission having an economic interest in any application for~~

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1 a temporary or permanent variance; shall be allowed to participate in
2 the decision:

3 SECTION 455. IC 22-8-1.1-9 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
4 JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 9: Commission: Terms: Members of the
5 commission shall serve terms of three (3) years and until their
6 successors are appointed except that of the members first appointed;
7 three (3) members representing management, labor and the public shall
8 be appointed for three (3) years and three (3) members representing
9 management, labor and the public for two (2) years and three (3)
10 members representing management, labor and the public for one (1)
11 year. Vacancies shall be filled by appointment for an unexpired term
12 by the governor in the same manner as the original appointments:

13 SECTION 456. IC 22-8-1.1-10 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
14 JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 10: The commission shall meet annually at
15 the call of the commissioner and elect a chairman and such other
16 officers as they deem appropriate:

17 SECTION 457. IC 22-8-1.1-11 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
18 JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 11: (Commission: Quorum) A majority of
19 the commission constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business:

20 SECTION 458. IC 22-8-1.1-12 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
21 JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 12: (a) Each member of the commission who
22 is not a state employee is entitled to the minimum salary per diem
23 provided by IC 4-10-11-2.1(b). Such a member is also entitled to
24 reimbursement for traveling expenses and other expenses actually
25 incurred in connection with the member's duties; as provided in the
26 state travel policies and procedures established by the department of
27 administration and approved by the budget agency:

28 (b) Each member of the commission who is a state employee is
29 entitled to reimbursement for traveling expenses and other expenses
30 actually incurred in connection with the member's duties; as provided
31 in the state travel policies and procedures established by the
32 department of administration and approved by the budget agency:

33 SECTION 459. IC 22-8-1.1-13 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
34 JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 13: The commission shall meet at the call of
35 the commissioner or the chairman or upon the written request of any
36 four (4) members. However, the commission shall meet at least one (1)
37 time per year at the call of the commissioner to conduct the business
38 that comes before the commission:

39 SECTION 460. IC 22-8-1.1-15 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
40 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 15. (Standards:
41 Incorporation by reference) The ~~commission~~ **board** may adopt by

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reference any standards, code, manuals or portions thereof, published by any nationally recognized organizations or associations organized or conducted in whole or in part for the purpose of developing standards for the protection of the life, health or safety of employees.

SECTION 461. IC 22-8-1.1-15.1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.123-2006, SECTION 33, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 15.1. Any interested person, including representatives of employers and representatives of employees may propose a standard to the ~~commission~~, **board**, or the ~~commission board~~ may do so on its own motion. Such proposals shall be in writing. In the development or adoption of each standard proposed in this manner, the ~~commission board~~ shall appoint and consult with an advisory committee. The advisory committee shall include equal number of persons qualified to present the viewpoint of employers involved and of persons similarly qualified to present the viewpoint of the workers involved. All members of the advisory committee shall be experienced in the field to which the proposed standard will apply. The number of members of any advisory committee shall be at the discretion of the ~~commission board~~. Any standard developed shall not unduly burden interstate commerce. Any such standard must be adopted by the ~~commission board~~ in accordance with IC 4-22-2. The said standard shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation published in Marion County, Indiana, at least ten (10) days prior to the filing of said standard with the publisher of the Indiana Register.

SECTION 462. IC 22-8-1.1-16.1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.93-2024, SECTION 160, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 16.1. The ~~commission board~~ may adopt emergency temporary standards under IC 4-22-2. The emergency temporary standard shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation published in Marion County, Indiana, at least ten (10) days before the filing with the publisher of the Indiana Register. In the exercise of this power, the ~~commission board~~ shall first expressly determine:

- (1) that employees are exposed to grave danger from exposure to substances or agents determined to be toxic or physically harmful or from new hazards; and
- (2) that such emergency temporary standard is necessary to protect employees from such danger.

SECTION 463. IC 22-8-1.1-16.2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 16.2. (a) A United

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1 States Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)
 2 standard lawfully adopted by OSHA under federal law may be enforced
 3 by the department without any further action by the ~~commission-~~
 4 **board.**

5 (b) The commissioner or the commissioner's designee shall enforce
 6 the federal standards described in subsection (a) not earlier than sixty
 7 (60) days after the final standard by federal OSHA becomes effective.

8 (c) The ~~commission~~ **board** may adopt an alternate standard which
 9 it finds is at least as effective in providing safe and healthful
 10 employment as the federal standard under the procedures set forth in
 11 IC 22-8-1.1-15, IC 22-8-1.1-15.1, and IC 22-8-1.1-16.1.

12 (d) Notwithstanding IC 4-22-7-7(a), the ~~commission~~ **board** shall
 13 publish a statement describing a standard enforceable under this
 14 section. The statement must make reference to the federal regulation.
 15 The statement must be published under IC 4-22-7-7(b).

16 SECTION 464. IC 22-8-1.1-17.1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 17 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 17.1. (a) Any
 18 standard promulgated under this chapter shall prescribe the use of
 19 labels or other appropriate forms of warning as are necessary to insure
 20 that employees are apprised of all hazards to which they are exposed,
 21 relevant symptoms and appropriate emergency treatment, and proper
 22 conditions and precautions of safe use or exposure. Where appropriate,
 23 such a standard shall also prescribe suitable protective equipment and
 24 control or technological procedures to be used in connection with the
 25 hazards and shall provide for monitoring or measuring employee
 26 exposure at such locations and intervals and in such manner as may be
 27 necessary for the protection of employees. In addition where
 28 appropriate, any standard shall prescribe the type or frequency of
 29 medical examinations or other tests which shall be made available by
 30 the employer, at employer's cost, to employees exposed to hazards in
 31 order to most effectively determine whether the health of the
 32 employees is adversely affected by the exposure. Upon request, the
 33 results of examinations or tests shall be furnished to the department and
 34 shall remain confidential within the department. At the request of the
 35 employee, results shall be furnished to his physician.

36 (b) The ~~commission,~~ **board,** in promulgating standards dealing with
 37 toxic materials or harmful physical agents, shall set the standard which
 38 most adequately assures, to the extent feasible, on the basis of the best
 39 available evidence, that no employee will suffer material impairment
 40 of health or functional capacity even if the employee has regular
 41 exposure to the hazard dealt with by the standard for the period of his

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1 working life. Development of standards shall be based upon research,
 2 demonstrations, experiments, and such other information as may be
 3 appropriate. In addition to the attainment of the highest degree of
 4 health and safety protection for the employee, other considerations
 5 shall be the latest available scientific data in the field, the feasibility of
 6 the standards, and experience gained under this and other health and
 7 safety laws. Whenever practicable, the standard promulgated shall be
 8 expressed in terms of objective criteria and of the performance desired.

9 (c) The ~~commission~~, **board**, in promulgating standards, shall adopt
 10 rules requiring employers to maintain accurate records of employee
 11 exposures to potentially toxic material or harmful physical agents
 12 which are required to be monitored or measured under the standards.
 13 These rules shall provide employees or their representatives with an
 14 opportunity to observe monitoring or measuring and to have access to
 15 the records thereof. These rules shall also make appropriate provisions
 16 for each employee to have access to such records as will indicate his
 17 own exposure to toxic materials or harmful physical agents. Under
 18 these rules, each employer shall notify any employee who is being
 19 consistently exposed to toxic materials or harmful physical agents in
 20 concentrations or at levels which exceed those prescribed by an
 21 occupational safety and health standard and shall inform any employee
 22 who is being thus exposed of the corrective action being taken.

23 SECTION 465. IC 22-8-1.1-19 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 24 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 19. Standards:
 25 Declaratory Judgment. After promulgation of a safety standard by the
 26 ~~commission~~, **board**, any question as to its applicability or legal validity
 27 may be adjudicated by an action for a declaratory judgment filed by an
 28 affected person or firm under IC 34-14-1 (or IC 34-4-10 before its
 29 repeal).

30 SECTION 466. IC 22-8-1.1-19.1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 31 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 19.1. Temporary
 32 Variances. Any employer may apply to the ~~commission~~ **board** for a
 33 temporary order granting a variance from a standard or any provision
 34 thereof promulgated under this chapter. Such temporary order shall be
 35 granted only if the employer establishes that he is unable to comply
 36 with a standard by its effective date because of unavailability of
 37 professional or technical personnel or of materials and equipment
 38 needed to come into compliance with the standard or because necessary
 39 construction or alteration of facilities cannot be completed by the
 40 effective date; that he is taking all available steps to safeguard his
 41 employees against the hazards covered by the standard; and that he has

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1 an effective program for coming into compliance with a standard as
 2 quickly as practicable. Any temporary order issued under this section
 3 shall prescribe the practices, means, methods, operations and processes
 4 which the employer must adopt and use while the order is in effect and
 5 state in detail his program for coming into compliance with the
 6 standard. Such a temporary order may be granted only after notice to
 7 employees and an opportunity for a hearing. Said notice shall be given
 8 to the authorized representative of the employees and be posted at or
 9 near the location for which the variance is sought. No order for a
 10 temporary variance may be in effect for longer than the period needed
 11 by the employer to achieve compliance with the standard or one (1)
 12 year, whichever is shorter, except that such an order may be renewed
 13 not more than twice, so long as the requirements of this paragraph are
 14 met and if an application for renewal is filed at least ninety (90) days
 15 prior to the expiration date of the order.

16 SECTION 467. IC 22-8-1.1-20.1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 17 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 20.1. Any
 18 affected employer may apply to the ~~commission~~ **board** for a permanent
 19 variance from a standard promulgated under this chapter. Affected
 20 employees shall be given notice of each such application by posting it
 21 at or near the location for which the variance is sought, and an
 22 opportunity to participate in a hearing. The ~~commission~~ **board** shall
 23 issue such rule or order if it determines, after a hearing, including an
 24 inspection, if appropriate, that the proponent of the variance has
 25 demonstrated by a preponderance of the evidence that the conditions,
 26 practices, means, methods, operations, or processes used or proposed
 27 to be used by the employer will provide employment and places of
 28 employment to his employees which are as safe and healthful as those
 29 which would prevail if he complied with the standard. The rule or order
 30 so issued shall prescribe the conditions the employer must maintain,
 31 and the practices, means, methods, operations, and processes which he
 32 must adopt and utilize to the extent they differ from the standard in
 33 question. Such a rule or order may be modified or revoked upon
 34 application by an employer, employees, the commissioner of labor, or
 35 the ~~commission~~ **board** on its own motion, in the manner prescribed for
 36 its issuance under this section at any time after six (6) months from its
 37 issuance, provided that the moving party gives thirty (30) days notice
 38 to the other parties, and a hearing is held at the request of any of the
 39 parties.

40 SECTION 468. IC 22-8-1.1-21.1 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
 41 JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 21.1. The commissioner and the department~~

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1 shall provide such administrative services, including docketing,
 2 stenographic, and recordkeeping services, as the commission may
 3 require in discharging its function under this chapter.

4 SECTION 469. IC 22-8-1.1-22.1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 5 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 22.1.
 6 Commissioner to Administer - Other Agencies. The commissioner and
 7 such representatives as he may designate shall administer and enforce
 8 the provisions of this chapter and the safety standards adopted by the
 9 ~~commission~~ **board**. The commissioner may utilize other agencies of
 10 the state government and its political subdivisions in carrying out his
 11 functions under this chapter.

12 SECTION 470. IC 22-8-1.1-30.1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 13 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 30.1. (a) A board
 14 of safety review is created within the department.

15 (b) The board shall conduct hearings on contests involving safety
 16 orders, penalties, and notices of failure to correct a violation issued
 17 under this chapter and may affirm, modify, or dismiss the action of the
 18 commissioner in respect to the violation, the penalty, and the abatement
 19 period. All enforcement action on a properly contested safety order
 20 shall be suspended until a final decision has been rendered by the board
 21 of safety review. If a petition for judicial review is filed under
 22 IC 4-21.5-5, the person seeking review may seek a stay under
 23 IC 4-21.5-5-9. If compliance with the safety order is a final decision,
 24 the full abatement period shall commence from the date of the issuance
 25 of the final decision of the board of safety review or of a court if a stay
 26 has been granted.

27 (c) **The board may promulgate, modify, or revoke safety and**
 28 **health standards in Indiana and shall hear and determine**
 29 **applications for temporary and permanent variances from those**
 30 **standards.**

31 SECTION 471. IC 22-8-1.1-48.1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.32-2008,
 32 SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 33 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 48.1. The commissioner of labor, ~~the~~
 34 ~~occupational safety standards commission~~, the board of safety review,
 35 and INSafe shall have the power to make rules governing functions
 36 under this chapter, provided such rules shall not be inconsistent with
 37 this chapter or other applicable statutes.

38 SECTION 472. IC 22-8-1.1-48.4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.32-2008,
 39 SECTION 8, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 40 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 48.4. (a) All information reported to or
 41 otherwise obtained by the commissioner, the designated representatives

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of the commissioner, the department of labor, ~~the occupational safety standards commission~~, the board of safety review, INSafe, and the agents and employees of any of them that contains or might reveal a trade secret, shall be considered confidential and shall be disclosed only to such other officers or employees concerned with the functions set forth in this chapter as may be necessary for them to discharge their duties under this chapter. In any proceeding, the commissioner, ~~the commission~~, the board, or a court shall issue such orders as may be appropriate, including the impoundment of files, or portions of files, to protect the confidentiality of trade secrets.

(b) No person may violate the confidentiality of trade secrets.

SECTION 473. 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;

(2) a person residing in or intending to reside in the dwelling after the dwelling is sold, rented, or made available; or

(3) any person associated with the buyer or renter.

(b) A person may not discriminate against any person in the terms, conditions, or privileges of sale or rental of a dwelling or in the provision of services or facilities in connection with the dwelling because of a disability of:

(1) the person;

(2) a person residing in or intending to reside in the dwelling after the dwelling is sold, rented, or made available; or

(3) any person associated with the person.

(c) For purposes of this section only, discrimination includes the following:

(1) A refusal to permit, at the expense of the person with a disability, reasonable modifications of existing premises occupied or to be occupied by the person if the modifications may be necessary to afford the person full enjoyment of the premises.

(2) A refusal to make reasonable accommodations in rules, policies, practices, or services, when the accommodations may be necessary to afford the person equal opportunity to use and enjoy a dwelling.

(3) In connection with the design and construction of covered multifamily dwellings for first occupancy after March 13, 1991, a failure to design and construct those dwellings in a manner that:

(A) the public use and common use parts of the dwellings are

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1 readily accessible to and usable by persons with disabilities;
 2 (B) all the doors are designed to allow passage into and within
 3 all premises within the dwellings and are sufficiently wide to
 4 allow passage by persons with disabilities in wheelchairs; and
 5 (C) all premises within the dwellings contain the following
 6 features of adaptive design:

- 7 (i) An accessible route into and through the dwelling.
- 8 (ii) Light switches, electrical outlets, thermostats, and other
 9 environmental controls in accessible locations.
- 10 (iii) Reinforcements in bathroom walls to allow later
 11 installation of grab bars.
- 12 (iv) Usable kitchens and bathrooms so that an individual in
 13 a wheelchair can maneuver about the space.

14 (d) As used in subsection (c), "covered multifamily dwellings"
 15 means:

- 16 (1) buildings consisting of four (4) or more units if the buildings
 17 have one (1) or more elevators; and
- 18 (2) ground floor units in other buildings consisting of four (4) or
 19 more units.

20 (e) Compliance with the rules of the ~~fire prevention and building~~
 21 ~~safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** that incorporate
 22 by reference the appropriate requirements of the American National
 23 Standard for buildings and facilities providing accessibility and
 24 usability for people with physical disabilities (ANSI A117.1) satisfies
 25 the requirements of subsection (c)(3)(C).

26 (f) This section does not require that a dwelling be made available
 27 to an individual whose tenancy would constitute a direct threat to the
 28 health or safety of other individuals or whose tenancy would result in
 29 substantial physical damage to the property of others.

30 SECTION 474. IC 22-10-1.5-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.35-2007,
 31 SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 32 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 1. (a) This article applies to all mines.

33 (b) **The bureau of mines and mine safety created under**
 34 **IC 22-1-1-4(1) shall administer this chapter.**

35 SECTION 475. IC 22-10-1.5-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.35-2007,
 36 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 37 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) The mining board is established. The board
 38 is composed of five (5) members appointed by the governor. The
 39 members must have the following qualifications:

- 40 (1) Two (2) members must be practical and experienced
 41 nonsupervisory underground coal miners.



(2) Two (2) members must be practical and experienced underground coal operators.

(3) One (1) member must represent the general public and must not be associated with the coal industry.

(b) The governor shall appoint each member to a four (4) year term. The governor shall fill any vacancy occurring on the board for the unexpired term of the member being replaced. The individual appointed to fill a vacancy must have the same qualifications as the member the individual is replacing.

(c) The governor may remove a member of the board for cause.

(d) The board shall organize by the election of a chairman for a one (1) year term.

(e) The board may hold meetings on the call of the chairman or the director.

(f) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 476. IC 22-10-1.5-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.35-2007, SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), a member of the board is not entitled to the minimum salary per diem provided by IC 4-10-11-2.1(b). 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) Effective July 1, 2007, a member of the board 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 also 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) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 477. IC 22-10-1.5-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.35-2007, SECTION 6, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 4. The ~~board~~ **bureau of mines and mine safety** may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to implement this article. Notwithstanding any other law, the rules may include the setting of fees under:

(1) IC 22-10-3-10;

(2) IC 22-10-3-11; and



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(3) IC 22-10-3-13.

SECTION 478. IC 22-10-1.5-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.35-2007, SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 5. ~~(a)~~ The ~~board~~ **bureau of mines and mine safety** shall:

(1) collect and distribute information concerning the nature, causes, and prevention of mine accidents and the improvements of methods, conditions, and equipment of mines with special reference to health and safety and the conservation of mineral resources and the economic conditions respecting mining and the mining industry;

(2) promote the technical efficiency of all persons working in and about the mines of this state and examine persons applying for certificates under IC 22-10-3-10;

(3) submit any bills embodying legislation that the board may agree upon to the general assembly;

(4) if appropriations from the general assembly are considered insufficient by the ~~board~~, **bureau of mines and mine safety**, assess and collect from operators the amount necessary to purchase and maintain underground mine rescue equipment ~~for the bureau of mines and mine safety~~ created under IC 22-1-1-4 and deposit the assessment in the mine safety fund established under IC 22-10-12-16; and

(5) annually report to the commissioner of the department of labor concerning any need for additional mine inspectors.

~~(b) The board shall mail written notice to operators of a meeting of the board at which assessments described in subsection (a)(4) are discussed.~~

SECTION 479. IC 22-10-1.7-0.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: **Sec. 0.5. (a) On January 1, 2027, all powers, duties, agreements, and liabilities of the mining board are transferred to the bureau of mines and mine safety.**

(b) On January 1, 2027, all records and property of the mining board are transferred to the bureau of mines and mine safety, including appropriations and other funds under the control or supervision of the mining board, are transferred to the bureau of mines and mine safety.

(c) After December 31, 2026, any amounts owed to the mining board before December 31, 2026, are considered to be owed to the bureau of mines and mine safety as the successor agency.

(d) After December 31, 2026, a reference to the mining board in



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a statute, rule, or other document is considered a reference to the bureau of mines and mine safety.

(e) The rules adopted by the mining board before December 1, 2026, are considered, after January 1, 2027, rules of the bureau of mines and mine safety.

SECTION 480. IC 22-10-3-1 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 1. As used in this article:

"Active workings" means all places in a mine that are ventilated and inspected regularly.

"Belt examiner" means an individual designated by the mine foreman to perform the functions as required by 30 CFR Part 75 in connection with examinations to ensure that the belt, belt drives, dump points, air movement, roof, and ribs of a mine are in safe condition.

"Board" refers to the mining board established under IC 22-10-1.5-2.

"Commercial mine" means any underground mine from which coal is produced for sale, exchange, or commercial use.

"Director" means the director of the bureau of mines and mine safety established under IC 22-1-1-4.

"Hoisting engineer" means an individual who is capable of transporting people and material in and out of a mine by means of a hoist.

"Interested persons" means the director, safety personnel designated by the operator, state and federal coal mine inspectors, and, to the extent required by law, any other person.

"Mine" means an underground commercial coal mine.

"Mine electrician" means a properly certified individual who can perform electrical work in:

- (1) a surface coal mine;
- (2) surface areas of underground coal mines; and
- (3) underground coal mines.

"Mine examiner" means a properly certified person designated by the mine foreman to examine the mine for gas and other dangers. A mine examiner may temporarily act as a section foreman if designated to act as such by the mine foreman.

"Mine foreman" means the person charged with the responsibility of the general supervision of the underground working of a mine and the persons employed in the mine and for the health and safety of those employees.

"Mine inspector" means the person appointed to assist in administering this article.

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"Mine Safety Administration" refers to the Mine Safety and Health Administration, United States Department of Labor.

"Mining laws" means:

- (1) this article;
- (2) IC 22-1-1-5(a);
- (3) 30 CFR part 75; and
- (4) 30 CFR part 77.

"Operator" means an individual, firm, association, partnership, limited liability company, or corporation operating an underground coal mine or any part of a mine.

"Shot-firer" means a properly certified person designated by the mine foreman to perform the functions as required in this article in connection with breaking down coal or rock.

SECTION 481. IC 22-10-3-1 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: **Sec. 1. As used in this article, the following terms have the following meanings:**

(a) "Active workings" means all places in a mine that are ventilated and inspected regularly.

(b) "Belt examiner" means an individual designated by the mine foreman to perform the functions as required by 30 CFR Part 75 in connection with examinations to ensure that the belt, belt drives, dump points, air movement, roof, and ribs of a mine are in safe condition.

(c) "Bureau" refers to the bureau of mines and mine safety created under IC 22-1-1-4(1).

(d) "Commercial mine" means any underground mine from which coal is produced for sale, exchange, or commercial use.

(e) "Director" means the director of the bureau of mines and mine safety established under IC 22-1-1-4.

(f) "Hoisting engineer" means an individual who is capable of transporting people and material in and out of a mine by means of a hoist.

(g) "Interested persons" means the director, safety personnel designated by the operator, state and federal coal mine inspectors, and, to the extent required by law, any other person.

(h) "Mine" means an underground commercial coal mine.

(i) "Mine electrician" means a properly certified individual who can perform electrical work in:

- (1) a surface coal mine;
- (2) surface areas of underground coal mines; and
- (3) underground coal mines.

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(j) "Mine examiner" means a properly certified person designated by the mine foreman to examine the mine for gas and other dangers. A mine examiner may temporarily act as a section foreman if designated to act as such by the mine foreman.

(k) "Mine foreman" means the person charged with the responsibility of the general supervision of the underground working of a mine and the persons employed in the mine and for the health and safety of those employees.

(l) "Mine inspector" means the person appointed to assist in administering this article.

(m) "Mine Safety Administration" refers to the Mine Safety and Health Administration, United States Department of Labor.

(n) "Mining laws" means:

(1) this article;

(2) IC 22-1-1-5(a);

(3) 30 CFR part 75; and

(4) 30 CFR part 77.

(o) "Operator" means an individual, firm, association, partnership, limited liability company, or corporation operating an underground coal mine or any part of a mine.

(p) "Shot-firer" means a properly certified person designated by the mine foreman to perform the functions as required in this article in connection with breaking down coal or rock.

SECTION 482. IC 22-10-3-9, AS AMENDED BY THE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS BILL OF THE 2026 GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 9. (a) The ~~director~~ **bureau** shall keep a record of the board's official actions concerning certificates issued under this chapter and file the record together with questions and answers pertaining to examinations established by the board; including the grade given for the answer to each question. The record shall be open for inspection by interested persons. If applications for certification are received, the board shall meet at least quarterly at such time and place as it shall consider advisable for the purpose of examining applicants for certificates. These quarterly meetings shall be held in January, April, July, and October. The date, time, and place of examination shall be published at all coal mines in this state and posted on the website maintained by the bureau of mines and mine safety at least thirty (30) days before the examination. By a majority vote, the board shall establish its rules of procedure and provide suitable certificates. The board shall adopt rules establishing standards for the competent practice of mine foreman, belt examiner, mine examiner,

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shot-firer, mine electrician, and hoisting engineer.

(b) A person desiring certification for mine foreman, belt examiner, mine examiner, shot-firer, mine electrician, or hoisting engineer must make written application to the board on forms supplied by the board not later than ten (10) days prior to the examination date: **do the following:**

(1) Keep a record of official actions concerning certificates issued under this chapter.

(2) File the record together with questions and answers pertaining to examinations established by the bureau, including the grade given for the answer to each question.

(3) Ensure that the record is open for inspection by interested persons.

(4) Establish a criteria for the purpose of examining applicants for certificates

(5) Publish the date, time, and place of examination at all coal mines in this state and posted on the website maintained by the bureau at least thirty (30) days before the examination.

(6) Adopt rules establishing standards for the competent practice of mine foreman, belt examiner, mine examiner, shot-firer, mine electrician, and hoisting engineer.

(b) A person desiring certification for mine foreman, belt examiner, mine examiner, shot-firer, mine electrician, or hoisting engineer must make written application to the bureau on forms supplied by the bureau not later than ten (10) days prior to the examination date.

SECTION 483. IC 22-10-3-10, AS AMENDED BY P.L.10-2012, SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 10. (a) It is the duty of the ~~board~~ **bureau** to examine any person applying for a certificate for mine foreman, shot-firer, mine examiner, hoisting engineer, mine electrician, or belt examiner and to issue certificates of competency to the applicants who, upon examination, prove themselves competent and qualified.

(b) A certificate is valid only when the examination for certification has been held in the presence of a ~~member of the board and signed by the chairman of the board:~~ **an employee of the bureau.** A certificate of competency may not be issued to any person whose grade is less than seventy-five percent (75%) for any certification other than that of a certificate for mine electrician, which requires a passing grade of not less than eighty percent (80%). The ~~board~~ **bureau** shall observe the requirements set forth in this section in conducting the examinations.

(c) An applicant for a mine foreman certificate must have at



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1 least four (4) years of experience underground in coal mines. However,
 2 a person who has graduated and holds a degree in engineering or an
 3 approved four (4) year program in coal mining technology from an
 4 accredited school, college, or university is required to have only two (2)
 5 years of practical underground mining experience to qualify for the
 6 examination. A person who has graduated and holds a two (2) year
 7 associate in applied science degree in coal mining technology from an
 8 accredited school, college, or university is required to have only three
 9 (3) years of practical underground mining experience to qualify for the
 10 examination. An applicant must prove to the ~~board~~ **bureau** by written
 11 and oral examination and by demonstration, where applicable, that the
 12 applicant has a thorough knowledge of:

- 13 (1) the theory and practice of coal mining;
- 14 (2) the nature and properties of poisonous, noxious, and explosive
- 15 gases and methods for their detection and control;
- 16 (3) the requirements of the coal mining laws of this state; and
- 17 (4) the responsibilities and duties of a mine foreman under such
- 18 laws;

19 and that the applicant is otherwise qualified by law.

20 ~~(c)~~ **(d)** An applicant for a mine examiner certificate must have at
 21 least three (3) years of experience underground in coal mines.
 22 However, a person who has graduated and holds a degree in
 23 engineering or an associate in applied science degree in coal mining
 24 technology from an accredited school, college, or university is required
 25 to have only two (2) years of practical underground mining experience
 26 to qualify for the examination. An applicant must prove to the ~~board~~
 27 **bureau** by written and oral examination and by demonstration, where
 28 applicable, that the applicant has a thorough knowledge of:

- 29 (1) the nature and properties of poisonous, noxious, and explosive
- 30 gases and methods for their detection and control;
- 31 (2) the practical aspects of coal mining pertaining especially to
- 32 ventilation and roof control; and
- 33 (3) the responsibilities of a mine examiner under coal mining laws
- 34 of this state;

35 and that the applicant is otherwise qualified by law.

36 ~~(d)~~ **(e)** An applicant for a shot-firer certificate must have at least one
 37 (1) year of underground experience and must have been properly
 38 trained in a course approved by the director in the safe use and
 39 handling of explosives. An applicant must prove to the ~~board~~ **bureau**
 40 by written and oral examination and by demonstration, where
 41 applicable, that the applicant has a working knowledge of:

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- (1) the proper handling and use of explosives and blasting devices and the danger connected therewith;
- (2) the nature and properties of poisonous, noxious, and explosive gases and methods for their detection;
- (3) the coal mining laws of the state pertaining to ventilation, roof control, and blasting; and
- (4) the responsibilities of a shot-firer under applicable mining laws;

and that the applicant is otherwise qualified by law.

(f) An applicant for a hoisting engineer certificate must prove to the ~~board~~ **bureau** by written and oral examination and by demonstration, where applicable, that the applicant:

- (1) is capable of operating a hoist;
- (2) has a thorough knowledge of the coal mining laws of this state pertaining to hoisting operations;
- (3) has at least one (1) year mining experience;
- (4) has at least twenty (20) hours practical experience under the supervision of a certified hoisting engineer; and
- (5) is otherwise qualified by law.

(g) An applicant for a belt examiner certificate must have at least one (1) year of experience in belt maintenance or installation work. The applicant must prove to the ~~board~~ **bureau** by written and oral examination and by demonstration, where applicable, that the applicant has a thorough knowledge of:

- (1) the requirements of the coal mining laws of this state with particular emphasis upon those laws pertaining to the use of electrical or belt equipment and the transmission of electrical energy into coal mines; and
- (2) the responsibilities of a belt examiner under those laws;

and that the applicant is otherwise qualified by law.

(h) An applicant for a mine electrician certificate must have sufficient (but not less than one (1) year of) experience in performing electrical work. The applicant must prove to the ~~board~~ **bureau** by written and oral examination and by demonstration, where applicable, that the applicant has a thorough knowledge of:

- (1) the requirements of the coal mining laws of this state, with particular emphasis upon laws pertaining to electrical energy in coal mines;
- (2) direct and alternating current theory and application;
- (3) electric equipment and electrical circuits in coal mines;
- (4) permissibility of electric equipment;



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(5) 30 CFR 75 subparts F-K; and

(6) 30 CFR 77 subparts F-J and S.

~~(h)~~ **(i)** An applicant for an examination under this section must pay the bureau of mines and mine safety an examination fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25). All fees collected under this subsection shall be deposited in the mine safety fund established by IC 22-10-12-16. The ~~board~~ **bureau** may set a different fee by rule under IC 22-10-1.5-4.

~~(i)~~ **(j)** A mine foreman, mine examiner, shot-firer, hoisting engineer, mine electrician, or belt examiner certificate issued before September 1, 1979, is valid under the mining laws of Indiana.

~~(j)~~ **(k)** A person who was issued a fire-boss certificate before July 1, 2007, shall be issued a replacement mine examiner certificate upon request to the director.

~~(k)~~ **(l)** A person designated as mine superintendent or assistant mine superintendent, or acting in either capacity, must hold a mine foreman certificate.

~~(l)~~ **(m)** A certificate may be granted to an applicant who presents to the board satisfactory evidence that the applicant has not been convicted of:

(1) an act which would constitute a ground for disciplinary sanction under section 11.1(b) of this chapter; or

(2) a felony that has a direct bearing on the applicant's ability to act competently as a mine foreman, shot-firer, mine examiner, hoisting engineer, mine electrician, or belt examiner.

~~(m)~~ **(n)** For the purpose of safety, the board may refuse to examine an applicant who cannot:

(1) readily understand the written English language; or

(2) express himself or herself in the English language.

SECTION 484. IC 22-10-3-11, AS AMENDED BY P.L.10-2012, SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 11. (a) In event of loss or destruction of any certificate issued under the mining laws of this state, the ~~board~~ **bureau** upon satisfactory proof of such loss or destruction, shall issue a duplicate certificate upon receipt of five dollars (\$5). The fee shall be deposited into the mine safety fund established by IC 22-10-12-16. The ~~board~~ **bureau** may set a different fee by rule under IC 22-10-1.5-4.

(b) The holder of a mine foreman, mine examiner, shot-firer, hoisting engineer, mine electrician, or belt examiner certificate must present the same or a photostatic copy to the official of the mine where the holder is employed, who shall file it in the office at such mine, and such file shall be available for inspection by interested persons.

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SECTION 485. IC 22-10-3-11.1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 11.1. (a) As used in this section, "practitioner" means an individual who holds a certificate issued under this chapter.

(b) A practitioner shall conduct his duties as he is so certified in accordance with the standards established by the ~~board~~ **bureau** under ~~section 9(a)~~ **section 9** of this chapter and is subject to the exercise of the disciplinary sanctions under subsection (e), if after a hearing, the board finds:

(1) the practitioner has employed or knowingly cooperated in fraud or material deception in order to obtain a certificate, or has engaged in fraud or material deception in the course of professional services or activities, or has advertised services in a false or misleading manner;

(2) the practitioner has been convicted of a crime which has a direct bearing on the practitioner's ability to continue to practice competently;

(3) a practitioner has knowingly violated section 12 of this chapter, or any rule adopted by the ~~board under section 9(A) under this chapter;~~ **bureau under section 9 of this chapter;**

(4) a practitioner has continued to practice as certified although he has become unfit to practice due to:

(A) professional incompetence;

(B) failure to keep abreast of current professional theory or practice;

(C) physical or mental disability; or

(D) addiction or severe dependency upon alcohol or other drugs which endangers the public by impairing a practitioner's ability to practice safely;

(5) a practitioner has engaged in a course of lewd or immoral conduct in connection with the delivery of services to clients; or

(6) a practitioner has allowed his name or certificate issued to him under this chapter to be used in connection with any individual who renders mining services beyond the scope of his training, experience or competence.

(c) The ~~board~~ **bureau** may order a practitioner to submit to a reasonable physical or mental examination if his physical or mental capacity to practice safely is at issue in a disciplinary proceeding.

(d) Failure to comply with a ~~board~~ **bureau** order to submit to a physical or mental examination shall render a practitioner liable to the summary revocation procedures under subsection (f).

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(e) The ~~board~~ **bureau** may impose any of the following sanctions, singly or in combination, when it finds that a practitioner is guilty of any offense under subsection (b):

- (1) permanently revoke a practitioner's certificate;
- (2) suspend a practitioner's certificate;
- (3) censure a practitioner;
- (4) issue a letter of reprimand; or
- (5) place a practitioner on probation status and require the practitioner to:

(A) report regularly to the ~~board~~ **bureau** upon the matters which are the basis of probation;

(B) limit practice to those areas prescribed by the ~~board~~ **bureau**; or

(C) continue or renew professional education under a practitioner approved by the ~~board~~ **bureau** until satisfactory degree of skill has been attained in those areas which are the basis of the probation.

The ~~board~~ **bureau** may withdraw the probation if it finds that the deficiency which required disciplinary action has been remedied.

(f) The ~~board~~ **bureau** may summarily suspend a practitioner's certificate for a period of ninety (90) days in advance of a final adjudication or during the appeals process if the ~~board~~ **bureau** finds that a practitioner represents a clear and immediate danger to the public health and safety if he is allowed to continue to practice. The summary suspension may be renewed upon a hearing before the ~~board~~ **bureau**, and each renewal may be for a period of ninety (90) days or less.

(g) A certificate issued under this chapter is automatically suspended upon the conviction of the practitioner of a felony under 30 U.S.C. 820. A practitioner whose certificate is suspended under this subsection may apply for reinstatement under subsection (h) if at least five (5) years have elapsed from the practitioner's date of discharge from probation, imprisonment, or parole from the felony.

(h) The ~~board~~ **bureau** may reinstate a certificate which has been suspended under this chapter if, after a hearing, the ~~board~~ **bureau** is satisfied that the applicant is able to practice with reasonable skill and safety. As a condition for reinstatement, the ~~board~~ **bureau** may impose disciplinary or corrective measures authorized under this chapter.

(i) The ~~board~~ **bureau** shall seek to achieve consistency in the application of the sanctions authorized in this section, and significant departures from prior decisions involving similar conduct shall be explained in the board's findings or orders.



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SECTION 486. IC 22-10-3-12, AS AMENDED BY P.L.10-2012, SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 12. (a) It is unlawful for any person to serve in the capacity of mine foreman, mine examiner, shot-firer, hoisting engineer, mine electrician, or belt examiner at any time unless the person is properly certified. However, any person who meets the appropriate experience requirements of this chapter and who is properly certified in one (1) of these capacities or its equivalent in another state which recognizes the certification of Indiana may serve in such a capacity until the next examination by the ~~board~~, **bureau**, when the person must apply to the ~~board~~ **bureau** for certification in the person's particular classification. A mine electrician who is properly certified:

- (1) by the federal Mine Safety and Health Administration; or
- (2) in another state that recognizes the mine electrician certification in Indiana;

may serve in the individual's certified capacity and be issued a mine electrician certificate by the director in Indiana without the requirement of applying to the ~~board~~ **bureau** for examination. However, the individual must obtain an Indiana miner's certificate of competency from the director.

(b) It is unlawful for an operator in this state to employ any person in the capacity of mine superintendent, assistant mine superintendent, mine foreman, mine examiner, shot-firer, hoisting engineer, mine electrician, or belt examiner at any time unless the person is properly certified.

(c) Before any person certified in another state may perform in the capacity of mine superintendent, assistant mine superintendent, mine foreman, mine examiner, shot-firer, hoisting engineer, mine electrician, or belt examiner in Indiana, the person must present personally to the director evidence of the out-of-state certificate or certificates.

(d) Every inexperienced miner is required to wear an orange hard hat until the miner receives a certificate of competency.

SECTION 487. IC 22-10-3-13, AS AMENDED BY P.L.35-2007, SECTION 18, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 13. (a) A person may not be employed underground in any coal mine in this state unless the person possesses a certificate of competency issued by the director, except that a person who does not possess a certificate may be employed to work under the supervision of a person who does possess a certificate for the purpose of becoming qualified to obtain a certificate. A person who intends to

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work underground in a coal mine to obtain a certificate must first obtain a permit from the director by stating the person's date of birth and residence address. The director shall grant a permit to an applicant who is of legal age and who has intelligence and character such that the person will not be a danger to life and property.

(b) A certificate of competency shall be granted to an applicant who has at least six (6) months experience underground in coal mines, subject to subsection (f).

(c) The director's record shall include the names of applicants for certificates and the names of persons to whom certificates are issued, correlated with the certificate numbers.

(d) An applicant for a certificate must pay the director at the time of application a fee of five dollars (\$5). All money received under this subsection shall be deposited in the mine safety fund established by IC 22-10-12-16. The ~~board~~ **bureau** may set a different fee by rule under IC 22-10-1.5-4.

(e) The ~~board director of the bureau~~ shall ~~report to the director the record the~~ names of all persons issued certificates, the amount of money received, the names of all persons refused certificates, and the reasons for the refusals, and such reports shall be open for inspection by interested persons.

(f) If a person has been convicted of a felony under 30 U.S.C. 820 and fewer than five (5) years have elapsed from the person's date of discharge from probation, imprisonment, or parole, the person may not:

(1) obtain a certificate of competency;

(2) be employed to work with a person who does possess a certificate; or

(3) obtain a permit to work toward a certificate of competency;

under subsection (a).

SECTION 488. IC 22-10-12-11, AS AMENDED BY P.L.35-2007, SECTION 21, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 11. (a) The bureau of mines and mine safety shall maintain either one (1) or two (2) mine rescue teams. Each team must consist of at least five (5) members and two (2) alternate members. At the discretion of the commissioner of labor, the requirement to maintain either one (1) or two (2) mine rescue teams may be met by using an operator to provide the team members, equipment, and supplies necessary for not more than one (1) team. The ~~board~~ **bureau** shall:

(1) require active underground mines to provide personnel for the mine rescue teams; and

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(2) consult with operators to determine the number of personnel that each operator of an active underground mine is required to furnish for the mine rescue teams.

The ~~director, in consultation with the board,~~ **director** shall determine the training and retraining requirements for the mine rescue teams, consistent with Mine Safety Administration requirements.

(b) When practical, members of a mine rescue team shall be made up of supervisory and nonsupervisory employees.

(c) A member of a mine rescue team shall be fully compensated by the owner or operator for wages lost and expenses incurred while being trained under this section if the employee elects to be compensated.

(d) Compensation for damages arising from the injury or death of a member of a mine rescue team while performing rescue operations shall be limited to the rights and remedies provided by the injured person's employer. However, the employer of the injured or fatally injured mine rescue team member is entitled to reimbursement from the operator whose mine is the subject of the rescue attempt for the actual cost to the employer that is attributable to the injury or death.

(e) The operator of the mine that is the subject of the rescue attempt shall reimburse the bureau for the actual cost of a mine rescue operation, including compensation for all mine rescue team members.

SECTION 489. IC 22-10-12-16, AS AMENDED BY P.L.10-2012, SECTION 6, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 16. (a) The mine safety fund is established to provide funding for the purchase and maintenance of underground mine rescue equipment.

(b) The department of labor shall administer the fund.

(c) The fund consists of:

(1) assessments collected by the ~~mining board~~ **bureau** under IC 22-10-1.5-5(a)(4) and deposited into the fund;

(2) fees:

(A) from examinations under ~~IC 22-10-3-10(h);~~

IC 22-10-3-10(i);

(B) for duplicate certificates under IC 22-10-3-11(a); and

(C) from applicants for a certificate under IC 22-10-3-13(d); and

(3) interest from investments as accrued and deposited under subsection (d).

(d) 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 money may be invested. Interest that

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1 accumulates from these investments shall be deposited into the fund.

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

4 SECTION 490. IC 22-11-14-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021,
5 SECTION 63, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
6 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) The ~~fire prevention and building safety~~
7 ~~commission~~ **department of homeland security** shall:

8 (1) adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 for the granting of permits for
9 supervised public displays of fireworks by municipalities, fair
10 associations, amusement parks, and other organizations or groups
11 of individuals; and

12 (2) establish by rule the fee for the permit, which shall be paid
13 into the fire and building services fund created under
14 IC 22-12-6-1.

15 (b) The application for a permit required under subsection (a) must:

16 (1) name a competent operator who is to officiate at the display;

17 (2) set forth a brief resume of the operator's experience;

18 (3) be made in writing or an electronic format; and

19 (4) be received with the applicable fee by the department of
20 homeland security at least five (5) business days before the
21 display.

22 No operator who has a prior conviction for violating this chapter may
23 operate any display for one (1) year after the conviction.

24 (c) Every display shall be handled by a qualified operator approved
25 by the chief of the fire department of the municipality in which the
26 display is to be held. A display shall be located, discharged, or fired as,
27 in the opinion of:

28 (1) the chief of the fire department of the city or town in which
29 the display is to be held; or

30 (2) the township fire chief or the fire chief of the municipality
31 nearest the site proposed, in the case of a display to be held
32 outside of the corporate limits of any city or town;

33 after proper inspection, is not hazardous to property or person.

34 (d) A permit granted under this section is not transferable.

35 (e) A denial of a permit by a municipality shall be issued in writing
36 before the date of the display.

37 (f) A person may not possess, transport, or deliver special fireworks,
38 except as authorized under this section.

39 SECTION 491. IC 22-11-14-3.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.187-2006,
40 SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
41 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3.5. The ~~fire prevention and building safety~~

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1 ~~commission~~ **department of homeland security** may adopt rules under
 2 IC 4-22-2 that specify the conditions under which the chief of a
 3 municipal or township fire department may grant a permit to a person
 4 to sponsor a special discharge location in the municipality or township.

5 SECTION 492. IC 22-11-14-4.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021,
 6 SECTION 64, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 7 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4.5. (a) A retailer may sell consumer fireworks
 8 and items referenced in section 8(a) of this chapter from a tent under
 9 the following conditions:

10 (1) The tent may not be larger than one thousand five hundred
 11 (1,500) square feet.

12 (2) There may be only one (1) tent for each registration granted
 13 under section 11(a) of this chapter.

14 (3) The tent may not be located closer than one hundred (100) feet
 15 from a permanent structure.

16 (4) A vehicle may not be parked closer than twenty (20) feet from
 17 the edge of the tent.

18 (5) The tent must be fire retardant.

19 (6) The sales site must comply with all applicable local zoning
 20 and land use rules.

21 (7) Sales of fireworks may be made from the tent for not more
 22 than forty-five (45) days in a year.

23 (8) The weight of consumer fireworks in a tent may not exceed
 24 three thousand (3,000) gross pounds of consumer fireworks.

25 (9) A retailer that legally operated a tent with a registration in
 26 2005 may continue operation in a tent in 2006 and the following
 27 years. A registration under section 11(a) of this chapter is
 28 required for operation in 2006 and following years. For purposes
 29 of this subdivision, a retailer includes a resident wholesaler who
 30 supplied consumer fireworks to an applicant for a tent registration
 31 in 2005.

32 (10) The retailer holds a valid registration under section 11(a) of
 33 this chapter.

34 (b) A retailer may sell consumer fireworks and items referenced in
 35 section 8(a) of this chapter from a Class 1 structure (as defined in
 36 IC 22-12-1-4) if the Class 1 structure meets the requirements of any of
 37 the following subdivisions:

38 (1) The structure complied with the rules for a B-2 or M building
 39 occupancy classification before July 4, 2003, under the Indiana
 40 building code adopted by the fire prevention and building safety
 41 commission established under IC 22-12-2-1 **(before its repeal)**:

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- 1 (A) in which consumer fireworks were sold or stored on or
 2 before July 4, 2003; and
 3 (B) in which no subsequent intervening nonfireworks sales or
 4 storage use has occurred.
 5 (2) The structure complied with the rules for a B-2 or M building
 6 occupancy classification before July 4, 2003, under the Indiana
 7 building code adopted by the fire prevention and building safety
 8 commission established under IC 22-12-2-1 **(before its repeal):**
 9 (A) in which consumer fireworks were sold or stored on or
 10 before July 4, 2003;
 11 (B) in a location at which the retailer was registered as a
 12 resident wholesaler in 2005; and
 13 (C) in which the retailer's primary business is not the sale of
 14 consumer fireworks.
 15 (3) The structure complies with the rules for an H-3 building
 16 occupancy classification under the Indiana building code adopted
 17 by the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission established~~
 18 ~~under IC 22-12-2-1, or the equivalent occupancy classification~~
 19 ~~adopted by subsequent rules of the fire prevention and building~~
 20 ~~safety commission.~~ **department of homeland security.**
 21 (4) The structure complies with the rules adopted after July 3,
 22 2003, by the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~
 23 ~~established under IC 22-12-2-1~~ **department of homeland**
 24 **security** for an M building occupancy classification under the
 25 Indiana building code.
 26 A registration under section 11(a) of this chapter is required for
 27 operation in 2006 and following years.
 28 (c) This subsection does not apply to a structure identified in
 29 subsection (b)(1), (b)(2), (b)(3), or (b)(4). A retailer may sell consumer
 30 fireworks and items referenced in section 8(a) of this chapter from a
 31 structure under the following conditions:
 32 (1) The structure must be a Class 1 structure in which consumer
 33 fireworks are sold and stored.
 34 (2) The sales site must comply with all applicable local zoning
 35 and land use rules.
 36 (3) The weight of consumer fireworks in the structure may not
 37 exceed three thousand (3,000) gross pounds of consumer
 38 fireworks.
 39 (4) The retailer holds a valid registration under section 11(a) of
 40 this chapter.
 41 (5) A retailer that sold consumer fireworks and operated from a



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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 493. 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.

(3) Cone fountains.

(4) Illuminating torches.

(5) Wheels.

(6) Ground spinners.

(7) Flitter sparklers.

(8) Snakes or glow worms.

(9) Smoke devices.

(10) Trick noisemakers, which include:

(A) Party poppers.

(B) Booby traps.

(C) Snappers.

(D) Trick matches.

(E) Cigarette loads.

(F) Auto burglar alarms.

(b) A retailer or wholesaler of consumer fireworks may sell

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1 consumer fireworks to a person at least eighteen (18) years of age.

2 (c) An individual who sells consumer fireworks must be at least
3 eighteen (18) years of age.

4 (d) An individual who sells an item set forth in subsection (a) must
5 be at least sixteen (16) years of age.

6 (e) The ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department**
7 **of homeland security** may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 establishing
8 procedures to ensure compliance with the age limitations set forth in
9 this section.

10 SECTION 494. IC 22-11-14-15, AS ADDED BY P.L.187-2006,
11 SECTION 15, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
12 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 15. The ~~fire prevention and building safety~~
13 ~~commission~~ **department of homeland security** and the department of
14 state revenue shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to carry out this
15 chapter.

16 SECTION 495. IC 22-11-14.5-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.101-2006,
17 SECTION 30, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
18 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. The ~~fire prevention and building safety~~
19 ~~commission~~ **department of homeland security** shall adopt rules under
20 IC 4-22-2 to implement a statewide code concerning displays of indoor
21 pyrotechnics. The rules:

22 (1) must require that a certificate of insurance be issued that
23 provides general liability coverage of at least five hundred
24 thousand dollars (\$500,000) for the injury or death of any number
25 of persons in any one (1) occurrence and five hundred thousand
26 dollars (\$500,000) for property damage in any one (1) occurrence
27 by an intended display of indoor pyrotechnics arising from any
28 acts of the operator of the display or the operator's agents,
29 employees, or subcontractors;

30 (2) must require the person intending to present the display to
31 give, at least twenty four (24) hours before the time of the display,
32 written notice of the intended display to the chief of the
33 responding fire department of the location proposed for the
34 display of the indoor pyrotechnics and to include with the written
35 notice a certification from the person intending to display the
36 indoor pyrotechnics that the display will be made in accordance
37 with:

38 (A) the rules adopted under this section; and

39 (B) any ordinance or resolution adopted under section 4 of this
40 chapter;

41 (3) must include and adopt NFPA 1126, Standard for the Use of

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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 496. 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 497. 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 498. 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:

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- 1 (A) develop a plan to investigate an unplanned fire alarm
 2 activation before activating the audible and visual alarms
 3 requiring evacuation;
 4 (B) designate school officials to acknowledge that an alarm has
 5 been activated and initiate an investigation within fifteen (15)
 6 seconds;
 7 (C) secure-in-place for up to three (3) minutes in order for a
 8 designated school official to determine, by investigation, if an
 9 active shooter is on the property; and
 10 (D) following the three (3) minute period under clause (C), the
 11 school must evacuate, unless an active shooter has been
 12 verified to be on the school's property.
 13 (2) Compliance with all provisions of 675 IAC 28-1-28.
 14 SECTION 499. IC 22-12-1-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.142-2013,
 15 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 16 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) "Class 1 structure" means any part of the
 17 following:
 18 (1) A building or structure that is intended to be or is occupied or
 19 otherwise used in any part by any of the following:
 20 (A) The public.
 21 (B) Three (3) or more tenants.
 22 (C) One (1) or more persons who act as the employees of
 23 another.
 24 (2) A site improvement affecting access by persons with physical
 25 disabilities to a building or structure described in subdivision (1).
 26 (3) Outdoor event equipment.
 27 (4) Any class of buildings or structures that the ~~commission~~
 28 **department** determines by rules to affect a building or structure
 29 described in subdivision (1), except buildings or structures
 30 described in subsections (c) through (f).
 31 (b) Subsection (a)(1) includes a structure that contains three (3) or
 32 more condominium units (as defined in IC 32-25-2-9) or other units
 33 that:
 34 (1) are intended to be or are used or leased by the owner of the
 35 unit; and
 36 (2) are not completely separated from each other by an
 37 unimproved space.
 38 (c) Subsection (a)(1) does not include a building or structure that:
 39 (1) is intended to be or is used only for an agricultural purpose on
 40 the land where it is located; and
 41 (2) is not used for retail trade or is a stand used for retail sales of

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1 farm produce for eight (8) or less consecutive months in a
2 calendar year.

3 (d) Subsection (a)(1) does not include a Class 2 structure.

4 (e) Subsection (a)(1) does not include a vehicular bridge.

5 (f) Subsection (a)(1) does not include a structure that is intended to
6 be or is occupied solely to provide periodic maintenance or repair of:

7 (1) the structure; or

8 (2) mechanical or electrical equipment located within and affixed
9 to the structure.

10 SECTION 500. IC 22-12-1-6 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY
11 1, 2026]. ~~Sec. 6. "Commission" refers to the fire prevention and
12 building safety commission.~~

13 SECTION 501. IC 22-12-1-8 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
14 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) "Control" means
15 authority to create, change, or eliminate a condition or to initiate,
16 regulate, or terminate conduct that is based on any of the following:

17 (1) An agency, employment, or contractual relationship.

18 (2) A possessory or nonpossessory ownership or leasehold interest
19 in property.

20 (3) A contractual right to possess or use property.

21 **(b) The term does not apply to IC 22-12-2.1-1.**

22 SECTION 502. IC 22-12-1-10 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
23 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) "Education
24 board" refers to the board of firefighting personnel standards and
25 education.

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

27 SECTION 503. IC 22-12-1-10.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
28 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
29 [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 10.5. "Education
30 commission" refers to the Indiana fire and EMS standards and
31 education commission established by IC 16-31-2-1.5.

32 SECTION 504. IC 22-12-2 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
33 2026]. (Fire Prevention and Building Safety Commission).

34 SECTION 505. IC 22-12-2.1 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
35 CODE AS A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS
36 [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE]:

37 **Chapter 2.1. Transition of Responsibilities for Fire Prevention
38 and Building Safety**

39 **Sec. 1. (a) On July 1, 2026, all powers, duties, agreements, and
40 liabilities of the fire prevention and building safety commission are
41 transferred to the department.**

42 **(b) On July 1, 2026, all records and property of the fire**



1 prevention and building safety commission, including
 2 appropriations and other funds under the control or supervision of
 3 the fire prevention and building safety commission, are transferred
 4 to the department.

5 (c) After June 30, 2026, any amounts owed to the fire prevention
 6 and building safety commission before July 1, 2026, are considered
 7 to be owed to the department as the successor agency.

8 (d) After June 30, 2026, a reference to the fire prevention and
 9 building safety commission in a statute, rule, or other document is
 10 considered a reference to the department.

11 (e) Proceedings pending before the fire prevention and building
 12 safety commission on July 1, 2026, shall be transferred from the
 13 fire prevention and building safety commission to the department
 14 and treated as if initiated by the department.

15 (f) A license or permit issued by the fire prevention and building
 16 safety commission before July 1, 2026, shall be treated after June
 17 30, 2026, as a certification issued by the department.

18 (g) The rules adopted by the fire prevention and building safety
 19 commission before July 1, 2026:

20 (1) are considered, after June 30, 2026, rules of the
 21 department; and

22 (2) remain in place without expiration until the rules are
 23 codified by the general assembly.

24 (h) Not later than July 1, 2027, and each year thereafter, the
 25 department shall submit a report to the legislative council in an
 26 electronic format under IC 5-14-6 making recommendations for
 27 codification and amendment of the rules of the fire prevention and
 28 building safety commission. The legislative council shall assign the
 29 report to be reviewed by an study committee established under
 30 IC 2-5-1.3. In preparing the report required by this subsection, the
 31 department shall consult with industry experts, professionals, and
 32 interested stakeholders who have indicated an interest in the
 33 subject matter of the recommendations contained in the report.

34 SECTION 506. IC 22-12-2.5 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY
 35 1, 2026]. (Building Codes and Standards; Review and Implementation
 36 of Rules; Taking Effect of Rules).

37 SECTION 507. IC 22-12-3-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 38 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. (a) The board of
 39 firefighting personnel standards and education is established.

40 (b) This section expires December 31, 2026.

41 SECTION 508. IC 22-12-3-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021,
 42 SECTION 67, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE



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- 1 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) The education board consists of thirteen
 2 (13) voting members as follows:
 3 (1) The state fire marshal or the state fire marshal's designee.
 4 (2) The executive director of the department of homeland security
 5 appointed under IC 10-19-3-1 or the executive director's designee.
 6 (3) Eleven (11) members appointed by the governor, each serving
 7 a four (4) year term.
 8 (b) Each appointed member of the education board must be
 9 qualified by experience or education in the field of fire protection and
 10 related fields.
 11 (c) Each appointed member of the education board must be a
 12 resident of Indiana.
 13 (d) The education board must include the following appointed
 14 members:
 15 (1) Seven (7) individuals who are members of fire departments.
 16 Appointments under this subdivision must include the following:
 17 (A) At least one (1) individual who is a full-time firefighter (as
 18 defined in IC 36-8-10.5-3).
 19 (B) At least one (1) individual who is a volunteer firefighter (as
 20 defined in IC 36-8-12-2).
 21 (C) At least one (1) individual who is a fire department officer.
 22 (2) Two (2) citizens who are not members of a fire department.
 23 (3) One (1) emergency management director.
 24 (4) One (1) paramedic licensed under IC 16-31-3.
 25 **(e) This section expires December 31, 2026.**
 26 SECTION 509. IC 22-12-3-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 27 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) The governor
 28 may remove a member of the education board for inefficiency or
 29 neglect of duty.
 30 **(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.**
 31 SECTION 510. IC 22-12-3-4 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 32 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) If a vacancy
 33 occurs on the education board, the governor shall appoint an individual
 34 to serve the unexpired term of the vacating member.
 35 **(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.**
 36 SECTION 511. IC 22-12-3-5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 37 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) The education
 38 board shall annually elect a chairperson, a vice chairperson, and a
 39 secretary from among its members.
 40 **(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.**
 41 SECTION 512. IC 22-12-3-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.40-2015,



SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. (a) The education board shall meet as it determines necessary.

(b) Meetings of the education board shall be called upon the request of its chairperson or the written request of seven (7) of its members.

(c) Meetings of the education board must be held in Indiana.

(d) A quorum of the education board consists of seven (7) voting members. IC 4-21.5-3-3 applies to an education board action governed by IC 4-21.5. The education board may take other actions by an affirmative vote of:

(1) seven (7) members, if less than twelve (12) members are present and voting on the action; or

(2) eight (8) members, if at least twelve (12) members are present and voting on the action.

(e) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 513. IC 22-12-3-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021, SECTION 68, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) The department of homeland security shall provide facilities and staff to carry out the responsibilities of the education board.

(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 514. IC 22-12-3-8 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) Each member of the education board who is not a state employee is entitled to the minimum salary per diem provided by IC 4-10-11-2.1(b) for attendance at meetings of the education board where at least a quorum of its members are present, unless the member is a state employee. Such a member of the education board is also entitled to reimbursement for travel expenses and other expenses actually incurred in connection with attending a meeting of the education board where at least a quorum of its members are present, as provided in the state travel policies and procedures established by the department of administration and approved by the state budget agency.

(b) Each member of the education board who is a state employee is entitled to reimbursement for travel 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 state budget agency.

(c) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 515. IC 22-12-3-9, AS ADDED BY P.L.220-2011, SECTION 375, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS



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[EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. **(a)** A variance from a rule adopted by the board of firefighting personnel standards and education that was granted by the board before July 1, 1996, is valid.

(b) The expiration of the board of firefighting personnel standards and education on December 31, 2026, does not affect the validity of a variance described in subsection (a).

SECTION 516. IC 22-12-6-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021, SECTION 69, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. (a) The fire and building services fund is established for the purpose of defraying the personal services, other operating expense, and capital outlay of the following:

(1) The department.

(2) The education ~~board~~ **commission**.

~~(3) The commission.~~

(b) The fund shall be administered by the department. Money collected for deposit in the fund shall be deposited at least monthly with the treasurer of state.

(c) The treasurer of state shall deposit the following collected amounts in the fund:

(1) Fire insurance policy premium taxes assessed under section 5 of this chapter.

(2) Except as provided in section 6(d) of this chapter, all fees collected under this chapter.

(3) Any money not otherwise described in this subsection but collected by the department ~~commission~~, or education board and designated for distribution to the fund by statute or the executive director of the department.

(4) A fee collected by the education board for the issuance of a certification under IC 22-14-2-7.

(d) 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.

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

SECTION 517. IC 22-12-6-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021, SECTION 70, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) The statewide fire and building safety education fund is established to provide money to:

(1) local fire and building inspection departments for enrollment in education and training programs approved by the department; and



(2) the department for:

(A) enrollment in education and training programs approved by the department; and

(B) the sponsoring of training conferences.

(b) The department shall administer the fund. The department shall distribute money from the fund in accordance with the rules adopted under IC 4-22-2 by the ~~commission~~ **department**.

(c) The fund consists of:

(1) money allocated under section 6(d) of this chapter; and

(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 518. 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.

(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

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1 being performed for each fee.

2 (c) The fee schedule set for design releases issued under subsection
3 (a)(3) may not be changed more than one (1) time each year. The
4 **commission department** may include in this fee schedule a fee for the
5 review of plans and specifications and, if a political subdivision does
6 not have a program to periodically inspect the construction covered by
7 the design release, a fee for inspecting the construction.

8 (d) The fee schedule set under subsection (a) for design releases
9 may provide that a portion of the fees collected shall be deposited in
10 the statewide fire and building safety education fund established under
11 section 3 of this chapter.

12 SECTION 519. IC 22-12-6-6.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.230-2019,
13 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
14 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6.5. (a) The **commission department** may adopt
15 rules under IC 4-22-2 to set fees for a permit issued under
16 IC 22-15-5-4(c) if the acceptance inspection of the regulated lifting
17 device required by IC 22-15-5-4(c)(1)(A) is conducted by an inspector
18 who is not employed by the department.

19 (b) A fee under subsection (a) must be a lesser fee than that set
20 under section 6(a)(7) of this chapter.

21 (c) When determining a fee under subsection (a), the **commission**
22 **department** shall consider any savings the department will experience
23 as a result of a permit applicant using an inspector who is not employed
24 by the department, including savings related to department inspector
25 salaries, travel, and administrative costs.

26 SECTION 520. IC 22-12-6-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021,
27 SECTION 71, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
28 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) This section does not apply to a nonpublic
29 school (as defined in IC 20-18-2-12) or a school operated by a school
30 corporation (as defined in IC 20-18-2-16).

31 (b) The department shall charge an application fee set by rules
32 adopted by the **commission department** under IC 4-22-2 for
33 amusement and entertainment permits issued under IC 22-14-3.

34 (c) The department shall collect an inspection fee set by rules
35 adopted by the **commission department** under IC 4-22-2 whenever the
36 department conducts an inspection for a special event endorsement
37 under IC 22-14-3.

38 (d) Halls, gymnasiums, or places of assembly in which contests,
39 drills, exhibitions, plays, displays, dances, concerts, or other types of
40 amusement are held by colleges, universities, social or fraternal
41 organizations, lodges, farmers organizations, societies, labor unions,

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trade associations, or churches are exempt from the fees charged or collected under subsections (b) and (c), unless rental fees are charged or collected.

(e) The fees set for applications or inspections under this section must be sufficient to pay all the direct and indirect costs of processing an application or performing an inspection for which the fee is set. In setting the fees, the ~~commission~~ **department** may consider differences in the degree or complexity of the activity being performed for each fee.

SECTION 521. IC 22-12-6-8 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) The application fee for a fireworks manufacturer, distributor, wholesaler, or importer permit issued under IC 22-11-14-5 shall be set by rules adopted by the ~~commission~~ **department** under IC 4-22-2.

(b) The application fee for a fireworks retail stand permit issued under IC 22-11-14-7 shall be set by rules adopted by the ~~commission~~ **department** under IC 4-22-2. The rules must exempt a nonprofit corporation incorporated under IC 23-7-1.1 (before its repeal on August 1, 1991) or IC 23-17 from the fee.

(c) The fees set for applications under this section must be sufficient to pay all the direct and indirect costs of processing an application for which the fee is set. In setting the fees, the ~~commission~~ **department** may consider differences in the degree or complexity of the activity being performed for each fee.

SECTION 522. IC 22-12-6-15, AS AMENDED BY P.L.1-2025, SECTION 205, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 15. (a) As used in this section, "credit card" means a bank card, debit card, charge card, prepaid card, or other similar device used for payment.

(b) In addition to other methods of payment allowed by law, the department may accept payment by credit card for certifications, licenses, and fees, and other amounts payable to the following:

- (1) The department.
- (2) The fire prevention and building safety commission **(before its repeal)**.
- (3) The Indiana homeland security foundation (before its repeal).

(c) The department may enter into appropriate agreements with banks or other organizations authorized to do business in Indiana to enable the department to accept payment by credit card.

(d) The department may recognize net amounts remitted by the bank or other organization as payment in full of amounts due the department.

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(e) The department may pay any applicable credit card service charge or fee.

SECTION 523. IC 22-12-7-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025, SECTION 64, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. This chapter applies to ~~the commission~~, the education ~~board~~ **commission**, and every officer, employee, and agent of an office or division within the department whenever the person has authority to administer or enforce a law under IC 22-11 through IC 22-15, IC 35-47.5, or IC 36-8-10.5.

SECTION 524. IC 22-12-7-12, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025, SECTION 66, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 12. (a) This section applies to an order issued by an officer, employee, or agent of an office or division within the department.

(b) The office or division issuing an order shall give a person who:

(1) is aggrieved by the order; and

(2) requests review of the order in verbal or written form; an opportunity to informally discuss the order with the office or division. Review under this subsection does not suspend the running of the time period in which a person must petition under IC 4-21.5-3-7 to appeal the order.

(c) The office or division issuing the order may, on its own initiative or at the request of any person, modify its order or reverse the order.

(d) An order issued by an office or a division may be appealed to the ~~commission~~ **department** under IC 4-21.5-3-7. A decision to deny a request to modify or reverse an order under subsection (c) is not appealable. However, orders issued under IC 22-14-2-7, IC 22-14-2-7.5, or IC 36-8-10.5 are appealed to the education ~~board~~ **commission**.

(e) If an order is appealed, the agency that is responsible for reviewing the order under subsection (d) or its designee shall conduct all administrative proceedings under IC 4-21.5. In its proceedings, the agency conducting the proceeding may modify the order to impose any requirement authorized under this article or reverse the order.

SECTION 525. IC 22-12-7-15, AS ADDED BY P.L.160-2025, SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 15. (a) Except as provided by subsection (c), if a property is inspected by the department or plans were reviewed by the department, neither the department nor a political subdivision may require compliance with a new or different set of building, fire safety, or equipment laws than were originally enforced by the department:

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- 1 (1) before July 1, 2025; or
 2 (2) two (2) years after the earlier of the date of the:
 3 (A) initial inspection; or
 4 (B) plan review.
 5 (b) A child care home (as defined in IC 12-7-2-28.6) that was
 6 licensed to operate in a Class 2 structure by the office of the secretary
 7 of family and social services before July 1, 2025, may continue to
 8 operate in the structure notwithstanding the provisions of this article
 9 and 675 IAC 13.
 10 (c) Subsection (a) does not apply to any of the following:
 11 (1) Any:
 12 (A) fraud;
 13 (B) material misrepresentation; or
 14 (C) other act of bad faith;
 15 that results in misapplication of the appropriate requirements.
 16 (2) A change of use or occupancy of the structure or equipment.
 17 (3) A condition imposed in a variance issued by the:
 18 (A) department; or
 19 (B) ~~commission~~ **state building commissioner**.
 20 (4) Any new construction, addition, or alteration of the structure
 21 or equipment.
 22 (5) A violation that would qualify for an emergency order under
 23 section 6(a)(1) of this chapter.
 24 (6) Any maintenance requirements.
 25 SECTION 526. IC 22-13-1-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 26 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. "Building rule"
 27 means a rule that:
 28 (1) is adopted by the ~~commission~~ **department**; and
 29 (2) qualifies as a building law under IC 22-12-1-3.
 30 SECTION 527. IC 22-13-1-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 31 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. "Fire safety rule"
 32 means a rule that:
 33 (1) is adopted by the ~~commission~~ **department**; and
 34 (2) qualifies as a fire safety law under IC 22-12-1-13.
 35 SECTION 528. IC 22-13-2-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.230-2019,
 36 SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 37 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) Except as provided in section 3.5 of this
 38 chapter, the ~~commission~~ **department** shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2
 39 to adopt a statewide code of fire safety laws and building laws.
 40 (b) ~~The commission~~ **Subject to IC 22-12-2.6, the department** shall
 41 adopt the following national codes or their equivalent by rules under

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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 QE1-1 (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 529. 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 530. IC 22-13-2-2.6 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 2-6: Before January 1, 2021, the commission may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to exempt a bunkhouse from being required to be equipped with an automatic fire sprinkler system.

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SECTION 531. 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 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 532. 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 533. 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.

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SECTION 534. 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 535. 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 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

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- 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 at least
- 6 annually. A unit may submit a proposal at any time. However, the
- 7 commission 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 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 536. IC 22-13-2-7 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
- 21 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) The **commission**
- 22 **department** may review and modify or reverse any variance or other
- 23 order that:
- 24 (1) is issued by a state agency or political subdivision; and
- 25 (2) covers a subject governed by this article, IC 22-12, IC 22-14,
- 26 IC 22-15, a fire safety rule, or a building rule.
- 27 (b) The **commission department** shall review variances granted by
- 28 a political subdivision to the fire safety laws and building laws adopted
- 29 in its ordinances. The variance is not effective until it is approved by
- 30 the **commission department**.
- 31 (c) The **commission department** shall review orders under this
- 32 section that:
- 33 (1) are issued by a political subdivision; and
- 34 (2) concern a Class 2 structure;
- 35 if a person aggrieved by the order petitions for review under
- 36 IC 4-21.5-3-7 within thirty (30) days after the political subdivision has
- 37 issued the order.
- 38 (d) A copy of the petition under subsection (c) shall be delivered to
- 39 the political subdivision issuing the order.
- 40 (e) Review of an order under this section does not suspend the
- 41 running of the time period under any statute in which a person must

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1 petition a court for judicial review of the order.

2 SECTION 537. IC 22-13-2-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.93-2024,
3 SECTION 161, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
4 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) The ~~commission~~ **department**
5 shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to create equipment laws applicable
6 to regulated lifting devices.

7 (b) The ~~commission~~ **department** shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2
8 to create equipment laws applicable to regulated boilers and pressure
9 vessels.

10 (c) The ~~commission~~ **department** may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2
11 to adopt by reference all or part of the following national boiler and
12 pressure vessel codes:

13 (1) The American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and
14 Pressure Vessel Code.

15 (2) The National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors
16 Inspection Code.

17 (3) The American Petroleum Institute 510 Pressure Vessel
18 Inspection Code.

19 (4) Any subsequent editions of the codes listed in subdivisions (1)
20 through (3).

21 (d) The ~~commission~~ **department** shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2
22 to create equipment laws applicable to regulated amusement devices.

23 SECTION 538. IC 22-13-2-8.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.93-2024,
24 SECTION 162, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
25 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8.5. (a) The ~~commission~~
26 **department** shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 for outdoor event
27 equipment at outdoor performances to protect the safety of persons at
28 the outdoor performances. The ~~commission~~ **department** may:

29 (1) exempt small assemblies of outdoor event equipment, as
30 defined by the ~~commission~~ **department**, from some or all fees or
31 other requirements that otherwise would apply to outdoor event
32 equipment under a rule adopted under this section or another
33 building law; or

34 (2) establish alternative procedures, fees, or other requirements,
35 or any combination, for small assemblies of outdoor event
36 equipment, as defined by the ~~commission~~ **department**.

37 (b) Subject to this section, a city, town, or county that regulated
38 outdoor event equipment before March 15, 2012, under an ordinance
39 adopted before March 15, 2012, may, if the ordinance is in effect on
40 March 15, 2012, continue to regulate outdoor event equipment under
41 the ordinance after March 14, 2012, in the same manner that the city,

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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 539. 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 regulate lifting devices to the ~~commission~~ **department** for approval. The ordinance or other regulation is not effective until it is approved by the ~~commission~~ **department**. If any of these ordinances or regulations conflict with the ~~commission's~~ **department's** rules, the ~~commission's~~ **department's** rules supersede the local ordinance or other regulation.

(c) A unit may issue permits only to applicants who qualify under

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1 IC 22-15-5. However, the unit may specify a lesser fee than that set
2 under IC 22-12-6-6(a)(7).

3 (d) A unit must inspect regulated lifting devices with inspectors who
4 possess the qualifications necessary to be employed by the department
5 of homeland security as a regulated lifting device inspector.

6 SECTION 540. IC 22-13-2-11, AS AMENDED BY P.L.93-2024,
7 SECTION 163, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
8 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 11. (a) The department ~~or the~~
9 ~~commission~~ may grant a variance to any rule adopted by the
10 ~~commission.~~ **department.** However, ~~the commission may grant a~~
11 ~~variance under this section only if the department places the~~
12 ~~application for the variance on the commission's agenda.~~

13 (b) To qualify for a variance, an applicant must pay the fee set under
14 IC 22-12-6-6 and file an application, on a form approved by the
15 department, that contains facts demonstrating that:

16 (1) compliance with the rule will impose an undue hardship upon
17 the applicant or prevent the preservation of an architecturally
18 significant or historically significant part of a building or other
19 structure; and

20 (2) either:

21 (A) noncompliance with the rule; or

22 (B) compliance with an alternative requirement approved by the
23 body considering the variance application;

24 will not be adverse to the public health, safety, or welfare.

25 (c) A variance granted under this section is conditioned upon
26 compliance with an alternative standard approved under subsection
27 (b)(2)(B).

28 (d) A variance granted under this section takes precedence over
29 conflicting rules adopted by a state agency and conflicting ordinances
30 and other regulations adopted by a political subdivision.

31 (e) Variances granted by the boiler and pressure vessel rules board
32 and the regulated amusement device safety board prior to July 1, 2019,
33 are valid and remain in full force and effect.

34 (f) The department shall make all variance applications available for
35 review on a public portal.

36 (g) Local fire and building officials shall receive notice of variance
37 applications filed under this section within their respective
38 jurisdictions.

39 (h) A local fire official, local building official, or other interested
40 party may submit documentation regarding a variance application to
41 the department ~~or commission~~ for review and consideration prior to an

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1 initial determination being made on the application by the department.
 2 ~~or the commission.~~

3 (i) The department ~~or commission~~ shall wait at least five (5)
 4 business days after a variance application is filed before making an
 5 initial determination on the application.

6 (j) The ~~commission~~ **department** may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2
 7 to implement this section.

8 SECTION 541. IC 22-13-2-11.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.93-2024,
 9 SECTION 164, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 10 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 11.5. (a) As used in this section,
 11 "NFPA 72" refers to NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm and Signaling
 12 Code, 2010 Edition, published by the National Fire Protection
 13 Association, 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, Massachusetts 02169-7471.

14 (b) It is the intent of the general assembly that NFPA 72, as may be
 15 amended by the ~~commission~~ **department** under subsection (c), be
 16 incorporated into the Indiana Administrative Code. Not later than July
 17 1, 2014, the ~~commission~~ **department** shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2
 18 to amend 675 IAC 28-1-28 to incorporate NFPA 72 into the Indiana
 19 Administrative Code, subject to subsection (c)(1) and (c)(2).

20 (c) In adopting rules to incorporate NFPA 72 into the Indiana
 21 Administrative Code, as required by subsection (b), the ~~commission~~
 22 **department** may amend NFPA 72 as the ~~commission~~ **department**
 23 considers appropriate. However, the rules finally adopted by the
 24 ~~commission~~ **department** to comply with this section must do the
 25 following:

- 26 (1) Incorporate the definition of, and associated requirements for:
 27 (A) a managed facilities-based voice network (MFVN); and
 28 (B) a public switched telephone network (PSTN);
 29 as set forth in NFPA 72.

- 30 (2) Allow digital alarm communicator systems that make use of
 31 a managed facilities-based voice network (MFVN) to transmit
 32 signals from a fire alarm system to an offsite monitoring facility,
 33 subject to the requirements for those systems set forth in NFPA
 34 72.

35 (d) If the ~~commission~~ **department** does not comply with subsection
 36 (b), the following apply: ~~on July 1, 2014:~~

- 37 (1) The definition of, and associated requirements for:
 38 (A) a managed facilities-based voice network (MFVN); and
 39 (B) a public switched telephone network (PSTN);
 40 as set forth in NFPA 72, are considered incorporated into the
 41 Indiana Administrative Code. Any provisions of 675 IAC 28-1-28

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(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 542. 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 543. 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 544. IC 22-13-2-14, AS AMENDED BY P.L.249-2019, SECTION 26, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE

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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 545. 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 25-34~~; **IC 25-4-3**; and

(2) knowledgeable in and have experience with boiler and pressure vessels.

SECTION 546. IC 22-13-2-15 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 15. (a) This section applies to any property regulated by IC 22-12, IC 22-13, IC 22-14, IC 22-15, or a rule of the department.**

(b) The department shall authorize compliance with a more recent version of a model code than that which is currently incorporated into the building, fire safety, or equipment laws of Indiana.

(c) To make an authorization under subsection (b), the department must:

(1) specifically identify, by name and version, the model code that is being authorized;

(2) include a finding that compliance with the more recent version of the model code is not adverse to the health, safety, or welfare of the public;

(3) identify any other associated model codes that must also be complied with in lieu of the Indiana version; and

(4) file a notice in the Indiana register containing the information described in subdivisions (1) through (3).

(d) The department may impose conditions on an authorization issued under this section necessary to ensure that the following are maintained:

(1) The health, safety, or welfare of the public.

(2) The integrity of Indiana's regulatory program.

(e) The department may modify or eliminate any authorization

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made under this section by filing an updated notice in the Indiana register. The modification or elimination of an authorization may not take effect sooner than one hundred eighty (180) days after the date of posting in the Indiana register. The modification or elimination of an authorization is subject to IC 4-21.5.

(f) Compliance with an authorization made under this section is voluntary. However, if a person elects to comply with an authorization, the failure to comply with any provision of the authorization is a violation of the building, fire safety, or equipment laws of Indiana.

SECTION 547. 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 other combustible matter that does not meet the design and composition standards specified by the ~~commission~~ **department**.

(4) The keeping, storage, use, manufacture, sale, handling, transportation, or disposition of an explosive, flammable, or other combustible matter in violation of any other requirements specified by the ~~commission~~ **department**.

SECTION 548. IC 22-13-3-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021, SECTION 78, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) This section applies to the following laboratories:

(1) Analytical laboratories approved by the department under the alternative criteria established by the ~~commission~~ **department** in its rules.

(2) Laboratories that are:

(A) operated by a college, university, school, or other educational entity for the purpose of instruction or research; and

(B) approved by the department under the alternative criteria established by the ~~commission~~ **department** in the rules.

(b) The ~~commission~~ **department** may:



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(1) apply different rules to the manufacture of regulated explosives (as defined in IC 35-47.5-2-13) in a laboratory described in subsection (a) than apply to other places where regulated explosives (as defined in IC 35-47.5-2-13) are manufactured; and

(2) adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to exempt laboratories described in subsection (a) from the regulated explosive magazines permit requirement under IC 35-47.5-4.

SECTION 549. IC 22-13-3-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. The ~~commission~~ **department** shall adopt fire safety rules that prohibit the occupancy or use of Class 1 structures that do not comply with the ~~commission's~~ **department's** rules governing the number, type, location, identification, repair, and maintenance of emergency exits, smoke detection devices, and other emergency communication devices.

SECTION 550. IC 22-13-4 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. (Standards for Building Rules; Exemption From Design Release Requirement).

SECTION 551. IC 22-13-5-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021, 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



1 ~~the commission;~~ **department** shall issue the written interpretation not
 2 later than ten (10) business days after the date of receiving the request.

3 SECTION 552. IC 22-13-5-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 4 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) A written
 5 interpretation issued under section 2 of this chapter binds the interested
 6 person and the county or municipality with whom the interested person
 7 has the dispute until the written interpretation is overruled in a
 8 proceeding under IC 4-21.5.

9 (b) For purposes of IC 4-21.5, the ~~commission~~ **department** is the
 10 ultimate authority regarding a written interpretation issued under
 11 section 2 of this chapter.

12 SECTION 553. IC 22-13-5-4, AS AMENDED BY THE
 13 TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS BILL OF THE 2026 GENERAL
 14 ASSEMBLY, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 15 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) A written interpretation of a building law or
 16 fire safety law binds all counties and municipalities if the state building
 17 commissioner publishes the written interpretation of the building law
 18 or fire safety law in the Indiana Register under IC 4-22-7-7(b). For
 19 purposes of IC 4-22-7-7, a written interpretation of a building law or
 20 fire safety law published by the state building commissioner is
 21 considered adopted by an agency.

22 (b) A written interpretation of a building law or fire safety law
 23 published under subsection (a) binds all counties and municipalities
 24 until the earlier of the following:

25 (1) The general assembly enacts a statute that substantively
 26 changes the building law or fire safety law interpreted or voids the
 27 written interpretation.

28 (2) The ~~commission~~ **department** adopts a rule under IC 4-22-2 to
 29 state a different interpretation of the building law or fire safety
 30 law.

31 (3) The written interpretation is found to be an erroneous
 32 interpretation of the building law or fire safety law in a judicial
 33 proceeding.

34 (4) The state building commissioner publishes a different written
 35 interpretation of the building law or fire safety law.

36 (c) The department or the state building commissioner shall create
 37 an electronic data base for the purpose of cataloging all available
 38 variance rulings by ~~the commission or~~ the department for the purpose
 39 of making the information available to the public on the ~~internet web~~
 40 **site website** of the department or the state building commissioner.

41 SECTION 554. IC 22-14-2-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021,

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SECTION 83, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) The department shall carry out a program to provide public information concerning fire prevention and maintain data and statistics concerning fires and fire prevention activities.

(b) The department shall provide a copy of the fire safety rules adopted by the ~~commission~~ **department** to the chief of each fire department. The department may exclude, from the rules distributed under this subsection, any text that is incorporated by reference into the rules published in the Indiana Administrative Code.

SECTION 555. IC 22-14-2-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021, SECTION 84, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 6. (a) The department may establish the fire and public safety academy training system to create and conduct programs to train public safety personnel.

(b) The department may develop programs to train:

- (1) fire department personnel and volunteers;
- (2) emergency medical services personnel;
- (3) telecommunicators;
- (4) emergency management personnel; and
- (5) chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosives personnel.

(c) The department may develop training programs in cooperation with:

- (1) any accredited educational institution;
- (2) any fire fighting association;
- (3) the Indiana emergency response commission established by IC 13-25-1-1;
- (4) the Indiana ~~emergency medical services~~ **fire and EMS standards and education** commission established by ~~IC 16-31-2-1~~; **IC 16-31-2-1.5**; or
- ~~(5) the board of firefighting personnel standards and education established by IC 22-12-3-1~~; or
- ~~(6)~~ **(5)** any other public safety agency of the state or political subdivision of the state, or public safety organization or association.

The academy or the accredited educational institution under subdivision (1) may conduct the programs.

(d) The programs developed under this section must cover the areas of:

- (1) fire prevention;
- (2) enforcement of fire safety laws;

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- (3) firefighting;
- (4) emergency medical services; and
- (5) other areas of public safety.

(e) The department shall establish inspection training requirements for members of volunteer fire companies and certify individuals who meet these requirements.

(f) If the department establishes a training program under subsection (a), the academy shall collaborate with public safety boards and commissions of the state to establish criteria for certification and credentialing of public safety personnel.

(g) The academy may provide programs for research, professional development, and accreditation.

(h) The department shall provide staff and meeting facilities to the education board to carry out section 7 of this chapter.

SECTION 556. IC 22-14-2-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025, SECTION 68, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 7. (a) This section does not limit the powers, rights, duties, and other responsibilities of municipal or county governments or impose requirements affecting pension laws or any other laws.

(b) This section does not require a member of a fire department to be certified. However, under the authority provided in subsection (c), the education board may, by rule, establish a program requiring certification of fire service personnel or nonfire service personnel.

(c) The education ~~board~~ **commission** may establish a program to be administered by the department to:

- (1) certify firefighting training and education programs that meet the standards set by the education ~~board~~; **commission**;
- (2) certify fire department instructors who meet the qualifications set by the education ~~board~~; **commission**;
- (3) direct research in the field of firefighting and fire prevention and accept gifts and grants to direct this research;
- (4) recommend curricula for advanced training courses and seminars in fire science or fire engineering training to public and private postsecondary educational institutions;
- (5) certify fire service personnel and nonfire service personnel who meet the qualifications set by the education ~~board~~; **commission**;
- (6) require fire service personnel certified at any level to fulfill continuing education requirements in order to maintain certification; or

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(7) contract or cooperate with any person and adopt rules under IC 4-22-2, and as authorized under IC 36-8-10.5-7, to carry out its responsibilities under this section.

(d) The education ~~board~~ **commission** may impose a reasonable fee for the issuance of a certification described in subsection (c). The department shall deposit the fee in the fire and building services fund established by IC 22-12-6-1.

(e) The education ~~board~~ **commission** is the ultimate authority for orders issued by the department under this section.

SECTION 557. IC 22-14-2-7.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.249-2019, SECTION 31, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 7.5. (a) The department may grant a variance to a rule the education ~~board~~ **commission** has adopted.

(b) The education ~~board~~ **commission** is the ultimate authority for orders issued under this section.

SECTION 558. IC 22-14-3-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021, SECTION 93, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) The department may modify an amusement and entertainment permit with a special event endorsement that covers one (1) or more events not specified in the initial permit.

(b) To qualify for a special event endorsement, an applicant must:

(1) provide the information required by the ~~commission;~~ **department;**

(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 559. 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 560. 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

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- 1 certification attesting that:
- 2 (1) each cigarette listed in the certification has been tested as
- 3 required under section 13 or 15 of this chapter; and
- 4 (2) each cigarette listed in the certification meets the performance
- 5 standard in section 13(c) or 15 of this chapter.
- 6 (b) Each cigarette listed in the certification must include the
- 7 following information:
- 8 (1) Brand, or trade name on the package.
- 9 (2) Style, such as light or ultra light.
- 10 (3) Length in millimeters.
- 11 (4) Circumference in millimeters.
- 12 (5) Flavor, such as menthol, if applicable.
- 13 (6) Filter or nonfilter.
- 14 (7) Package description, such as soft pack or box.
- 15 (8) Marking under section 23 of this chapter.
- 16 (9) The name, address, and telephone number of the laboratory,
- 17 if different than the manufacturer that conducted the test.
- 18 (10) The date that the testing occurred.
- 19 (c) The certifications must be made available to the attorney general
- 20 for purposes consistent with this chapter and the department of state
- 21 revenue and the alcohol and tobacco commission for the purposes of
- 22 ensuring compliance with this section.
- 23 (d) Notwithstanding subsection (a), the state fire marshal may
- 24 accept as evidence of compliance with this chapter a certification
- 25 issued to:
- 26 (1) the New York State Department of State's Office of Fire
- 27 Prevention and Control; or
- 28 (2) the responsible entity of another state that has:
- 29 (A) substantially equivalent certification requirements relating
- 30 to reduced ignition propensity cigarettes; and
- 31 (B) the same test method and performance standard
- 32 requirements as provided in sections 13 and 15 of this chapter.
- 33 (e) Each cigarette listed in a certification submitted under this
- 34 section must be recertified every three (3) years.
- 35 (f) For each brand family listed in a certification submitted under
- 36 subsection (a) or (d), a manufacturer shall pay a fee to the state fire
- 37 marshal of eight hundred dollars (\$800). The state fire marshal may
- 38 adjust the fee every three (3) years to ensure that the fee defrays the
- 39 actual costs of the processing, testing, enforcement, and oversight
- 40 activities required by this chapter under rules adopted by the ~~fire~~
- 41 ~~prevention and building safety commission.~~ **department.** However, the

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1 fee for each brand family may not exceed one thousand dollars
2 (\$1,000).

3 (g) If a manufacturer has certified a cigarette under this section, and
4 after submitting the certification, makes a change to the cigarette that
5 is likely to alter the cigarette's compliance with the reduced cigarette
6 ignition propensity standards required by this chapter, that cigarette
7 may not be sold or offered for sale in Indiana until the manufacturer
8 retests the cigarette under the testing standards in section 13 or 15 of
9 this chapter and maintains records of that retesting as required by
10 section 16 of this chapter. An altered cigarette that does not meet the
11 performance standard in section 13 or 15 of this chapter may not be
12 sold in Indiana.

13 SECTION 561. IC 22-14-7-29, AS ADDED BY P.L.82-2008,
14 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
15 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 29. The ~~commission~~ **department** may adopt rules
16 under IC 4-22-2 to implement this chapter.

17 SECTION 562. IC 22-14-8-2, AS ADDED BY P.L.217-2023,
18 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
19 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "NFPA 855" refers to:

20 (1) the 2023 edition of NFPA 855, Standard for the Installation of
21 Stationary Energy Storage Systems, as adopted by the National
22 Fire Protection Association; or

23 (2) if the ~~commission~~ **department** adopts a rule under IC 4-22-2
24 to amend:

25 (A) the 2023 edition; or

26 (B) any subsequent edition;

27 of NFPA 855, the version of NFPA 855 as amended by the
28 ~~commission~~ **department**.

29 SECTION 563. IC 22-14-8-7, AS ADDED BY P.L.217-2023,
30 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
31 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. The total capacity of the batteries contained
32 within a single enclosure in:

33 (1) a utility scale battery energy storage system installation of
34 which is subject to department approval under section 4(a)(1) of
35 this chapter; or

36 (2) an installation added to an existing utility scale battery energy
37 storage system in an expansion for which department approval is
38 required under section 4(a)(2) of this chapter;

39 may not exceed ten (10) megawatt hours unless authorized under rules
40 adopted by the ~~commission~~ **department** under this chapter.

41 SECTION 564. IC 22-14-8-10, AS AMENDED BY P.L.93-2024,

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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 565. IC 22-15-1-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.22-2005,
SECTION 42, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) This section applies to a provision of this
article, **IC 22-12, IC 22-13, IC 22-14, or a rule of the department**
that requires an applicant for a **release**, certification, registration,
permit, approval, or other license to:

- (1) demonstrate that the person is in compliance with all building
laws, fire safety laws, or equipment laws; or
- (2) submit proof **or certify** that a person is acting or will act in
conformity with all building laws, fire safety laws, or equipment
laws.

(b) Compliance with **either**:

- (1) the conditions of a variance issued under IC 22-13-2-11; **or**
- (2) **an authorization made under IC 22-13-2-15;**

shall be treated under this article as compliance with the building law,
fire safety law, or equipment law from which the variance **or**
authorization is granted.

SECTION 566. IC 22-15-2-5.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021,
SECTION 96, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 5.5. (a) The governor shall appoint a state
building commissioner. The state building commissioner shall serve:

- (1) at the pleasure of the governor; and
- (2) as a full-time employee of the department of homeland



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security established by IC 10-19-2-1.

(b) The state building commissioner must be a registered or licensed design professional under IC 25-4 or ~~IC 25-3-1~~, **IC 25-4-3**, as appropriate, with at least ten (10) years of experience in the building trades industry.

SECTION 567. 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 568. 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:

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(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.

SECTION 569. IC 22-15-3-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021, SECTION 100, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. To qualify for a design release under this section, an applicant must:

(1) demonstrate, through the submission of plans and specifications for the construction covered by the application, that the construction will comply with all applicable building laws and fire safety laws;

(2) pay the fees set under IC 22-12-6-6;

(3) have the plans and specifications:

(A) prepared by a registered architect or professional engineer who is:

(i) competent to design the construction covered by the application as determined by the department; and

(ii) registered under ~~IC 25-4 or IC 25-31~~; **IC 25-4-1 or IC 25-4-3**;

(B) include on each page of all drawings and the title page of all specifications the seal of the registered architect or professional engineer described by clause (A) or the person's technical or professional staff; and

(C) filed by the registered architect or professional engineer described by clause (A) or the person's technical or professional staff; and

(4) submit a certificate prepared on a form provided by the department and sworn or affirmed under penalty of perjury by the registered architect or professional engineer described in subdivision (3)(A):

(A) providing an estimate of the cost of the construction covered by the application, its square footage, and any other information required under the rules of the ~~commission~~; **department**;

(B) stating that the plans and specifications submitted for the application were prepared either by or under the immediate supervision of the person making the statement;

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(C) stating that the plans and specifications submitted for the application provide for construction that will meet all building laws; and

(D) stating that the construction covered by the application will be subject to inspection at intervals appropriate to the stage of the construction by a registered architect or professional engineer identified in the statement for the purpose of determining in general if work is proceeding in accordance with the released plans and specifications.

SECTION 570. IC 22-15-3-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.87-2020, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) This section applies only to an application for a design release to construct:

(1) a Class 1 structure with thirty thousand (30,000) or fewer cubic feet of space;

(2) an addition to a Class 1 structure, if the addition adds thirty thousand (30,000) or fewer cubic feet of space;

(3) an alteration to a Class 1 structure, if the alteration does not involve changes affecting the structural safety of the Class 1 structure; or

(4) an installation or alteration of an automatic fire sprinkler system in a Class 1 structure by persons qualified pursuant to rules set forth by the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department**.

(b) The design release requirements under subsection (c) do not apply for any construction that is otherwise exempted under 675 IAC 12-6-4(b), even if the construction is:

(1) a part of;

(2) supplemental to; or

(3) an accessory of;

any other construction that would otherwise require a design release.

(c) To qualify for a design release under this section, an applicant must do the following:

(1) Demonstrate, through the submission of plans and specifications for the construction covered by the application, that the construction will comply with all applicable building laws and fire safety laws.

(2) Pay the fees set under IC 22-12-6-6.

SECTION 571. IC 22-15-3-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.22-2005, SECTION 47, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) This section applies to a design release for

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the fabrication of a model or other series of similar industrialized building systems or mobile structures.

(b) To qualify for a design release under this section, an applicant must:

(1) demonstrate, through the submission of plans and specifications for the construction covered by the application, that the construction will comply with all applicable building laws and fire safety laws;

(2) have the submitted plans and specifications prepared by an architect registered under IC 25-4 or a professional engineer registered under ~~IC 25-3-1~~, **IC 25-4-3**, if required under the rules adopted by the ~~commission~~; **department**; and

(3) pay the fees set under IC 22-12-6-6.

SECTION 572. IC 22-15-3-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021, SECTION 101, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) This section does not authorize a variance from any rule adopted by the ~~commission~~; **department**.

(b) The rules adopted by the ~~commission~~ **department** do not prevent the use of:

(1) materials;

(2) methods of construction; or

(3) design procedures;

if they are not specifically prohibited in the rules and if they are approved under subsection (c).

(c) The state fire marshal and the department may, in the review of an application for a design release, consider as evidence of compliance with the rules adopted by the ~~commission~~ **department** any evaluation report that:

(1) contains limitations, conditions, or standards for alternative materials, methods of construction, or design procedures; and

(2) is published by an independent, nationally recognized testing laboratory or other organization that is approved under the rules adopted by the ~~commission~~; **department**.

SECTION 573. IC 22-15-3-7 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) This section does not apply to construction that is exempted from this section in the rules adopted by the ~~commission~~ under ~~IC 22-13-4~~; **department**.

(b) This section applies to the following:

(1) Each person who engages in the construction.

(2) Each person who has control over the construction.



(3) Each person who has control over the Class 1 structure industrialized building system or mobile home that is constructed.

(c) A person described in subsection (b) commits a Class C 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 574. IC 22-15-3.2-3, AS ADDED BY P.L.218-2014, SECTION 14, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "design professional" means:

(1) an architect registered under IC 25-4-1; or

(2) a professional engineer registered under ~~IC 25-3-1~~ **IC 25-4-3**.

SECTION 575. IC 22-15-3.2-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025, SECTION 70, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 7. (a) A design release shall be issued to an applicant without a plan review if:

(1) the applicant submits a complete application and ~~(2)~~ the department does not select the application for a plan review under this section; **or**

(2) the applicant self-certifies as provided in IC 22-15-3.5.

(b) The department may select any application for design release to be subject to a plan review. The department has complete discretion in the criteria used by the department to select a design release application for a plan review. A criterion used by the department may be whether the design professional has received disciplinary sanctions under IC 25-1-11-12 within the preceding five (5) years.

(c) The following types of plans qualify for a release without a plan review:

(1) Plans approved by the department or another governmental jurisdiction.

(2) Plans for a structure that is not traditionally occupied or is classified as a storage building.

(3) Plans for an open-air pavilion.

(4) Plans for a remodel, renovation, or repair of a structure

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1 **that is not undergoing a change of use.**

2 ~~(c)~~ **(d)** Not later than July 1, ~~2025~~, **2026**, the department shall
3 identify and publish a **complete** list of ~~projects~~ **the types of plans** that
4 qualify under subsection ~~(a)(2)~~ **(a)(1)** for release without a plan review.

5 SECTION 576. IC 22-15-3.2-11, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021,
6 SECTION 109, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
7 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 11. (a) This section applies if the
8 results of a plan review reveal that a design professional knowingly or
9 recklessly submitted plans or specifications containing one (1) or more
10 violations of the rules of the ~~commission~~ **department** that are
11 determined by the department ~~and the commission~~ to pose a wanton
12 and willful disregard for the public health, safety, or welfare.

13 (b) The provisions regarding the time limitations for review and
14 notice under this chapter do not apply, and the department is not
15 required to issue a design release and confirmation number for
16 providing notice. The department shall send written notice of its
17 determination to:

18 (1) the design professional's licensing or registration authority
19 under IC 25-4-1 or ~~IC 25-3-1~~, **IC 25-4-3**, as appropriate, for the
20 purpose of conducting a hearing under IC 4-21.5 to determine if
21 action under IC 4-21.5-3-8 is appropriate;

22 (2) the design professional; and

23 (3) the project owner or general contractor on whose behalf the
24 application was submitted.

25 (c) An applicant that receives notice under subsection (b) may
26 withdraw the application and submit a new application and plans to the
27 department that are prepared by a different design professional.
28 Withdrawal of an application does not affect any disciplinary action
29 against the professional of record that prepared the plans described in
30 subsection (a).

31 SECTION 577. IC 22-15-3.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
32 CODE AS A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS
33 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]:

34 **Chapter 3.5. Self Certification by Design Professional**

35 **Sec. 1. The definitions in IC 22-15-3.2 apply throughout this**
36 **chapter.**

37 **Sec. 2. (a) Notwithstanding any other law, an applicant for a**
38 **construction project requiring a design release for a Class 1**
39 **structure under IC 22-12-3 may satisfy the design release**
40 **requirement through self-certification.**

41 **(b) Self-certification may be used only for projects that are**
42 **required to be signed and sealed by an Indiana registered design**



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1 professional. The department may exclude projects from
 2 self-certification that involve high-hazard occupancies, essential
 3 facilities, or other structures determined to pose an elevated risk
 4 to life safety.

5 Sec. 3. To self-certify a project, an applicant for a design release
 6 must:

- 7 (1) be an Indiana registered design professional in good
- 8 standing with the applicable registration board;
- 9 (2) be a registered design professional for at least two (2)
- 10 years;
- 11 (3) have completed at least five (5) projects in Indiana as the
- 12 registered design professional of record or as the registered
- 13 design professional responsible for the production of the
- 14 construction documents; and
- 15 (4) maintain professional liability insurance of at least five
- 16 hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) per claim and one
- 17 million dollars (\$1,000,000) aggregate.

18 Sec. 4. The department shall develop an electronic application
 19 form for self-certifying applicants.

20 Sec. 5. The certifying design professional shall:

- 21 (1) perform a comprehensive review of the construction
- 22 documents; and
- 23 (2) submit to the department a signed certification, under
- 24 penalty of perjury, affirming that the plans comply with all
- 25 applicable state building codes and rules.

26 Sec. 6. Upon receipt of a complete certification and required
 27 documentation, the department shall, not later than the next
 28 business day, provide to the applicant:

- 29 (1) a copy of the design release; or
- 30 (2) a confirmation number that serves as a temporary design
- 31 release until the applicant receives a copy of the design
- 32 release;

33 without conducting a technical plan review.

34 Sec. 7. The department may:

- 35 (1) audit self-certified projects;
- 36 (2) require corrective action for non-compliance;
- 37 (3) revoke or suspend a professional's authority to provide
- 38 certifications; and
- 39 (4) refer violations to the appropriate licensing board or
- 40 impose civil penalties as authorized by law.

41 Sec. 8. The department may collect plan review fees for projects
 42 that are released without a plan review.

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1 **Sec. 9. Nothing in this section limits the authority of state or**
 2 **local inspection officials to conduct inspections or enforce**
 3 **compliance during construction.**

4 **Sec. 10. An applicant who is qualified to self-certify may apply**
 5 **for a design release under:**

6 (1) this chapter; or

7 (2) IC 22-15-3.

8 **Sec. 11. Participation in the self-certification program is**
 9 **voluntary. Nothing in this section prohibits the department from**
 10 **reviewing or not reviewing an application in accordance with**
 11 **IC 22-15-3.**

12 SECTION 578. IC 22-15-4-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021,
 13 SECTION 112, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 14 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. (a) The department shall certify
 15 an industrialized building system for use in Indiana to an applicant who
 16 qualifies under this section. If an applicant qualifies for certification
 17 under this section, the department shall provide the applicant with a
 18 seal for the certified industrial building system.

19 (b) To qualify for a certification under this section, an applicant
 20 must:

21 (1) submit proof that the department has issued a design release
 22 under IC 22-15-3 for the model or series of industrialized building
 23 systems being constructed;

24 (2) demonstrate, in an in-plant inspection, that the industrialized
 25 building system covered by the application has been constructed
 26 in conformity with all applicable building laws and fire safety
 27 laws; and

28 (3) pay the fee set by the ~~commission~~ **department** under
 29 IC 22-12-6-6.

30 (c) The exemption under IC 22-13-4-2 applies to an industrialized
 31 building system certified under this section.

32 SECTION 579. IC 22-15-4-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021,
 33 SECTION 113, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 34 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) The department shall certify
 35 a mobile structure for sale and use in Indiana for an applicant who
 36 qualifies under this section. If an applicant qualifies for certification
 37 under this section, the department shall provide the applicant with a
 38 seal for the certified mobile structure.

39 (b) To qualify for certification under this section, an applicant must:

40 (1) submit proof that the department has issued a design release
 41 under IC 22-15-3 for the model or series of mobile structures
 42 being constructed;

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(2) demonstrate, in an in-plant inspection, that the mobile structure covered by the application has been constructed in conformity with all applicable building laws and fire safety laws; (3) certify in an affidavit that a seal provided by the department will not be attached to a mobile structure that does not conform to the requirements adopted by the ~~commission~~ **department** in its rules; and

(4) pay the fee set by the ~~commission~~ **department** under IC 22-12-6-6.

(c) The exemption under IC 22-13-4-2 applies to a mobile structure certified under this chapter.

SECTION 580. IC 22-15-4-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. The ~~commission~~ **department** may authorize any qualified person to conduct inspections and issue certifications under this chapter.

SECTION 581. IC 22-15-4-5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. A person who offers to sell or sells for money or other consideration a mobile structure that:

(1) is manufactured after:

(A) January 1, 1972, if the mobile structure is designed to be a dwelling; or

(B) June 30, 1987, if the mobile structure is not designed to be a dwelling; and

(2) is kept or transported without:

(A) a seal issued under IC 9-8-1.5 (before its repeal on July 1, 1987) or section 2 or 4 of this chapter; and

(B) an affidavit from the manufacturer (if the mobile structure was manufactured in Indiana or the mobile structure was manufactured outside Indiana and has not been used by its owner) or a dealer who has sold at least three (3) mobile structures in the previous twelve (12) month period (if the mobile structure was manufactured outside Indiana and the mobile structure has been used by its owner) that states that the mobile structure meets or exceeds the applicable requirements adopted by the ~~commission~~ **department** in its rules or an agreement under IC 22-13-2-12;

commits a Class C infraction.

SECTION 582. IC 22-15-4-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021, SECTION 114, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. A person who offers to sell or sells a mobile structure that:

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(1) was certified under IC 9-8-1.5 (before its repeal on July 1, 1987) or certified by the department under section 2 or 4 of this chapter; and

(2) has been altered or converted in violation of a rule adopted by the ~~commission~~; **department**;
commits a Class C infraction.

SECTION 583. IC 22-15-5-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021, SECTION 115, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. (a) The department shall issue a regulated lifting device installation or alteration permit to an applicant who qualifies under this section.

(b) To qualify for a permit under this section, an applicant must meet the following requirements:

(1) Demonstrate through the submission of complete plans, including:

(A) copies of specifications and accurately scaled and fully dimensioned plans showing the location of the installation in relation to the plans and elevation of the building;

(B) plans showing the location of the machine room and the equipment to be installed, relocated, or altered;

(C) plans showing the structural supporting members, including foundations; and

(D) a specification of all materials employed and loads to be supported or conveyed;

that the installation or alteration covered by the application will comply with all applicable equipment laws. All plans and specifications must be sufficiently complete to illustrate all details of construction and design.

(2) Pay the fee set under IC 22-12-6-6(a)(7).

(3) Be the holder of a current elevator contractor license, if applicable, as set forth under IC 22-15-5-7.

(c) A copy of the permit shall be kept at the construction site at all times while the work is in progress.

(d) The regulated lifting device must be installed or altered in compliance with:

(1) applicable codes; and

(2) the details of the application, plans, specifications, and conditions of the permit.

(e) The regulated lifting device must be installed or altered under the direction and control of a licensed contractor. The elevator contractor does not have to be present at the site.

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(f) The responsibilities of the department under this section may be carried out by a political subdivision that is approved by the ~~commission~~ **department** under IC 22-13-2-10.

SECTION 584. 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 585. 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 shall issue an initial operating certificate for a regulated lifting device if:

(1) the applicant demonstrates:

(A) through an acceptance inspection made by an elevator inspector licensed under section 11 of this chapter that the regulated lifting device covered by the application complies with the laws governing its construction, repair, maintenance, and operation; and

(B) that the applicant has paid the fee set under IC 22-12-6-6(a)(7); and

(2) the department verifies, through an inspection, that the regulated lifting device complies with the laws governing the construction, repair, maintenance, and operation of the regulated

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lifting device.

(d) The department shall issue a renewal operating certificate if the applicant:

(1) demonstrates through the completion of applicable safety tests that the regulated lifting device complies with the laws governing the construction, repair, maintenance, and operation of the regulated lifting device;

(2) submits results of all applicable safety tests, including failed safety tests for the regulated lifting device; and

(3) has paid the fee set under IC 22-12-6(a)(7).

(e) The department may issue a temporary operating permit to an applicant under this section who does not comply with subsection (c)(1)(A) for a new or altered regulated lifting device or subsection (d)(1) for an existing unaltered regulated lifting device. The applicant must pay the fee set under IC 22-12-6(a)(7) to qualify for the temporary operating permit. Except as provided in subsection (f), the permit, including all renewal periods, is limited to sixty (60) days.

(f) The department may renew a temporary operating permit issued under subsection (e) for thirty (30) day periods during the construction of a building if the regulated lifting device is used for the transportation of construction personnel, tools, and materials.

(g) The responsibilities of the department under this section may be carried out by a political subdivision that is approved by the ~~commission~~ **department** under IC 22-13-2-10.

(h) A copy of the operating certificate shall be displayed in or on each regulated lifting device or in an associated machine room. In 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 586. 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



1 includes an individual commonly known as an elevator helper
 2 while working under the direct supervision of a licensed elevator
 3 mechanic.

4 (3) "Elevator contractor" means a person who alone or with other
 5 persons, constructs, repairs, alters, remodels, adds to, subtracts
 6 from, or improves a regulated lifting device and who is
 7 responsible for substantially all the regulated lifting devices
 8 within the entire project, or who fabricates elevator lifting devices
 9 substantially completed and ready for installation.

10 (4) "Elevator inspector" means an individual who conducts the
 11 acceptance inspection of a regulated lifting device required by
 12 section 4(c)(1)(A) of this chapter.

13 (5) "Elevator mechanic" means an individual who engages in the
 14 construction, reconstruction, alteration, maintenance, mechanical,
 15 or electrical work or adjustments of a regulated lifting device.

16 (6) "License" means a certificate issued by the department that
 17 confers upon the holder the privilege to act as an elevator
 18 contractor, elevator inspector, or elevator mechanic.

19 (7) "Licensing program" means the program for licensing elevator
 20 contractors, elevator inspectors, and elevator mechanics
 21 established under this section and sections 7 through 16 of this
 22 chapter.

23 (8) "Municipality" has the meaning set forth in IC 36-1-2-11.

24 (9) "Person" means:

25 (A) a natural person;

26 (B) the partners or members of a partnership or a limited
 27 partnership;

28 (C) a state educational institution; or

29 (D) a corporation or the officers, directors, and employees of
 30 the corporation.

31 (10) "Practitioner" means a person that holds:

32 (A) an unlimited license;

33 (B) a limited or probationary license;

34 (C) a temporary license;

35 (D) an emergency license; or

36 (E) an inactive license.

37 (b) The ~~commission and the~~ department shall establish a program
 38 to license elevator contractors, elevator mechanics, and elevator
 39 inspectors.

40 (c) The department shall issue a license as an elevator contractor, an
 41 elevator mechanic, or an elevator inspector to a person who qualifies



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1 and complies with the provisions of the licensing program. A person
 2 who receives a license under this chapter is subject to the supervision
 3 and control of the department.

4 (d) The department may contract with public and private
 5 institutions, agencies, businesses, and organizations to implement all
 6 or part of its duties established under this chapter.

7 (e) The ~~commission~~ **department** may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2
 8 to implement the licensing program.

9 SECTION 587. IC 22-15-5-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.230-2019,
 10 SECTION 6, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 11 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) An individual may not act as an elevator
 12 contractor unless the individual:

13 (1) holds an elevator contractor license issued under this chapter;
 14 or

15 (2) is an employee of a partnership, a limited partnership, a
 16 corporation, or a state educational institution that holds an
 17 elevator contractor license issued under this chapter.

18 (b) A partnership, a limited partnership, a corporation, or a state
 19 educational institution may not act as an elevator contractor unless it
 20 holds an elevator contractor license issued under this chapter.

21 (c) An individual who is an applicant for an elevator contractor
 22 license shall:

23 (1) hold a valid elevator contractor license issued by another state
 24 that has a licensing program that, as determined by the
 25 department, ~~or the commission~~, is equivalent to the elevator
 26 contractor licensing program established under this chapter; or
 27 (2) except as otherwise provided, satisfy both of the following
 28 requirements:

29 (A) Have at least five (5) years of documented work experience
 30 in the elevator industry in construction, maintenance, and
 31 service or repair in Indiana.

32 (B) Successfully complete a written competency examination
 33 approved by the ~~commission~~ **department**.

34 (d) A corporation or a state educational institution that is an
 35 applicant for an elevator contractor license must have at least one (1)
 36 officer or employee of the corporation or a state educational institution
 37 that holds a valid elevator contractor license issued under this chapter.
 38 A license granted to a corporation or a state educational institution to
 39 act as an elevator contractor under this chapter becomes invalid when
 40 an officer or employee of the corporation or state educational
 41 institution no longer holds a valid elevator contractor license issued



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1 under this chapter.

2 (e) A partnership or limited partnership that is an applicant for an
3 elevator contractor license must have at least one (1) partner or general
4 partner that holds a valid elevator contractor license issued under this
5 chapter. A license granted to a partnership or limited partnership to act
6 as an elevator contractor under this chapter becomes invalid when the
7 partner of a partnership or general partner of a limited partnership
8 named in the application no longer holds a valid elevator contractor
9 license as provided by this chapter.

10 SECTION 588. IC 22-15-5-11, AS AMENDED BY P.L.230-2019,
11 SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
12 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 11. (a) An individual may not act as an elevator
13 inspector unless the individual holds an elevator inspector license
14 issued under this chapter.

15 (b) An individual who is an applicant for an elevator inspector
16 license shall meet the standards set forth in American Society of
17 Mechanical Engineers (ASME) American National Standard QEI-1
18 (Standard for the Qualification of Elevator Inspectors) or other
19 nationally accepted standard qualifying authority that the ~~commission~~
20 **department** has determined has equivalent requirements as ASME
21 QEI-1 for obtaining and retaining certification.

22 (c) An applicant for an initial elevator inspector license must do the
23 following:

24 (1) Submit to the department an application provided by the
25 department that contains the following information:

26 (A) The name, address, telephone number, and electronic mail
27 address of the applicant.

28 (B) Any other information the department requires.

29 (2) Submit to the department any proof of eligibility the
30 department requires.

31 (3) Demonstrate proof of insurance as required by section 14 of
32 this chapter.

33 (4) Pay the license fee established under IC 22-12-6-6. The
34 license fee is nonrefundable and must be paid each time an
35 applicant submits an application.

36 (5) Affirm under penalty of perjury that all information provided
37 to the department is true to the best of the applicant's knowledge
38 and belief.

39 (d) An applicant for a renewal elevator inspector license shall:

40 (1) Submit to the department an application provided by the
41 department that contains the following information:

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- 1 (A) The name, address, telephone number, and electronic mail
- 2 address of the applicant.
- 3 (B) Any other information the department requires.
- 4 (2) Submit proof of completion of the continuing education
- 5 required by section 15 of this chapter.
- 6 (3) Demonstrate proof of insurance as required by section 14 of
- 7 this chapter.
- 8 (4) Pay the license fee established under IC 22-12-6-6. The
- 9 license fee is nonrefundable and must be paid each time an
- 10 applicant submits an application.
- 11 (5) Affirm under penalty of perjury that all information provided
- 12 to the department is true to the best of the applicant's knowledge
- 13 and belief.
- 14 (e) An initial elevator inspector license issued under this chapter
- 15 expires on December 31 of the second year after the license was issued.
- 16 (f) A renewal of an elevator inspector license is valid for two (2)
- 17 years.
- 18 (g) An individual who engages in the business of an elevator
- 19 inspector shall carry the individual's license and present the license for
- 20 inspection by a representative of the department upon request.
- 21 (h) If the QEI-1 certification or other certification standard approved
- 22 by the ~~commission~~ **department** that made the individual eligible for an
- 23 inspector license under subsection (b):
- 24 (1) is terminated;
- 25 (2) expires; or
- 26 (3) becomes invalid for any other reason;
- 27 the elevator inspector's license immediately becomes invalid.
- 28 SECTION 589. IC 22-15-5-12, AS AMENDED BY P.L.230-2019,
- 29 SECTION 8, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 30 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 12. (a) An individual may not act as an elevator
- 31 mechanic unless the individual holds an elevator mechanic license
- 32 issued under this chapter. A license is not required for an elevator
- 33 apprentice.
- 34 (b) An individual who is an applicant for an elevator mechanic
- 35 license must meet one (1) of the following eligibility criteria:
- 36 (1) Hold an active elevator mechanic license issued by a state that
- 37 the ~~commission~~ **department** has determined has a licensing
- 38 program that is at least equivalent to the elevator mechanic
- 39 licensing program established under this chapter.
- 40 (2) Satisfy both of the following:
- 41 (A) Have at least one (1) of the following types of work

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- 1 experience or training:
- 2 (i) Have at least three (3) years of documented work
- 3 experience in the elevator industry in construction,
- 4 maintenance, and service or repair.
- 5 (ii) Have at least eighteen (18) months experience in the
- 6 elevator industry in construction, maintenance, and service or
- 7 repair and have at least three (3) years experience in a related
- 8 field that is certified by a licensed elevator contractor.
- 9 (iii) Complete an apprenticeship program that is registered
- 10 with the Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training of the United
- 11 States Department of Labor or a state apprenticeship program
- 12 and that the ~~commission~~ **department** determines is at least
- 13 equivalent to three (3) years of work experience in the
- 14 elevator industry in construction, maintenance, and service or
- 15 repair.
- 16 (B) Successfully complete a written competency examination
- 17 approved by the ~~commission~~ **department**.
- 18 (3) Successfully complete an elevator mechanic's program that
- 19 consists of a combination of extensive training and a
- 20 comprehensive examination that the ~~commission~~ **department** has
- 21 determined is at least equivalent to both the work experience
- 22 required under subdivision (2)(A)(i) and the competency
- 23 examination established under subdivision (2)(B).
- 24 (c) An applicant for an initial elevator mechanic license must do the
- 25 following:
- 26 (1) Submit to the department an application provided by the
- 27 department that contains the following information:
- 28 (A) The name, business address, telephone number, and
- 29 electronic mail address of the applicant.
- 30 (B) Any other information the department requires.
- 31 (2) Submit to the department any proof of eligibility the
- 32 department requires.
- 33 (3) Pay the nonrefundable and nontransferable license fee
- 34 established under IC 22-12-6-6.
- 35 (4) Affirm under penalty of perjury that all information provided
- 36 to the department is true to the best of the applicant's knowledge
- 37 and belief.
- 38 (d) An applicant for a renewal elevator mechanic license must do
- 39 the following:
- 40 (1) Submit to the department an application provided by the
- 41 department that contains the following information:

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- 1 (A) The name, business address, telephone number, and
 2 electronic mail address of the applicant.
 3 (B) Any other information the department requires.
 4 (2) Submit proof of completion of the continuing education
 5 required by section 15 of this chapter.
 6 (3) Pay the nonrefundable and nontransferable license fee
 7 established under IC 22-12-6-6.
 8 (4) Affirm under penalty of perjury that all information provided
 9 to the department is true to the best of the applicant's knowledge
 10 and belief.
 11 (e) An initial elevator mechanic license issued under this chapter
 12 expires on December 31 of the second year after the license was issued.
 13 (f) A renewal of an elevator mechanic license is valid for two (2)
 14 years.
 15 (g) An individual engaged in the business of an elevator mechanic
 16 shall carry the individual's license and present the license for inspection
 17 by a representative of the department upon request.
 18 SECTION 590. IC 22-15-5-15 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 19 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 15. (a) This section
 20 does not apply to a licensed elevator contractor that is not an
 21 individual.
 22 (b) To renew a license issued under this licensing program, the
 23 license holder must satisfy the continuing education requirement and
 24 submit a proof of completion of training to the department.
 25 (c) The continuing education requirement is at least eight (8) hours
 26 of instruction that must be attended and completed within one (1) year
 27 before a license renewal.
 28 (d) The continuing education courses designed to ensure the
 29 continuing education of an individual holding a license regarding new
 30 and existing provisions of the rules of the ~~commission~~ **department**
 31 may include:
 32 (1) programs sponsored by the ~~commission~~; **department**;
 33 (2) trade association seminars;
 34 (3) labor training programs; or
 35 (4) joint labor management apprenticeship and journeyman
 36 upgrade training programs.
 37 For an individual's completion of a continuing education course to
 38 satisfy the individual's continuing education requirement under this
 39 chapter, the continuing education provider, instructor and the
 40 curriculum must have been approved by the department.
 41 (e) All instructors of continuing education courses must be approved

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by the department. If an instructor is approved by the department, has worked as an instructor teaching a curriculum approved by the department at any time within the year preceding the expiration date of the license, and submits proof of this work to the department, the instructor is exempt from the requirements of subsection (c).

(f) Continuing education providers shall keep uniform records of attendance at approved continuing education courses for at least ten (10) years on forms designed and distributed by the department.

(g) A license holder who is unable to complete the continuing education required under this chapter before the expiration of the individual's license due to temporary physical or mental disability may apply for a waiver from the department in accordance with the following:

(1) A waiver application must be submitted to the department on a form established by the department.

(2) A waiver application must be signed and accompanied by an affidavit signed by the physician of the applicant attesting to the applicant's temporary disability.

(h) After the cessation of the temporary disability, the applicant must submit to the department a certification from the same physician, if the physician is still the treating physician of the applicant, or from a subsequent treating physician attesting to the termination of the temporary disability.

(i) Upon the submission of the certification under subsection (h), the department shall issue a temporary waiver of the continuing education requirement. A temporary waiver is valid for ninety (90) days after the date of issue and allows the individual to work as an elevator contractor, elevator inspector, or elevator mechanic without the completion of the continuing education requirement for ninety (90) days.

(j) A temporary waiver of the continuing education requirement may not be renewed.

SECTION 591. IC 22-15-5-16, AS AMENDED BY P.L.186-2025, SECTION 123, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 16. (a) A practitioner shall comply with the standards established under this licensing program. A practitioner is subject to the exercise of the disciplinary sanctions under IC 22-12-7-7 if the department finds that a practitioner has:

(1) engaged in or knowingly cooperated in fraud or material deception in order to obtain a license to practice, including cheating on a licensing examination;



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(2) engaged in fraud or material deception in the course of professional services or activities;

(3) advertised services or goods in a false or misleading manner;

(4) falsified or knowingly allowed another person to falsify attendance records or certificates of completion of continuing education courses provided under this chapter;

(5) been convicted of a crime that has a direct bearing on the practitioner's ability to continue to practice competently;

(6) knowingly violated a state statute or rule or federal statute or regulation regulating the profession for which the practitioner is licensed;

(7) continued to practice although the practitioner has become unfit to practice due to:

(A) professional incompetence;

(B) failure to keep abreast of current professional theory or practice;

(C) physical or mental disability; or

(D) addiction to, abuse of, or severe dependency on alcohol or other drugs that endanger the public by impairing a practitioner's ability to practice safely;

(8) engaged in a course of lewd or immoral conduct in connection with the delivery of services to the public;

(9) allowed the practitioner's name or a license issued under this chapter to be used in connection with an individual or business who renders services beyond the scope of that individual's or business's training, experience, or competence;

(10) had disciplinary action taken against the practitioner or the practitioner's license to practice in another state or jurisdiction on grounds similar to those under this chapter;

(11) assisted another person in committing an act that would constitute a ground for disciplinary sanction under this chapter; or

(12) allowed a license issued by the department to be:

(A) used by another person; or

(B) displayed to the public when the license has expired, is inactive, is invalid, or has been revoked or suspended.

For purposes of subdivision (10), a certified copy of a record of disciplinary action constitutes prima facie evidence of a disciplinary action in another jurisdiction.

(b) If an applicant or a practitioner has engaged in or knowingly cooperated in fraud or material deception to obtain a license to

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1 practice, including cheating on the licensing examination, the
 2 department may rescind the license if it has been granted, void the
 3 examination or other fraudulent or deceptive material, and prohibit the
 4 applicant from reapplying for the license for a length of time
 5 established by the department.

6 (c) The department may deny licensure to an applicant who has had
 7 disciplinary action taken against the applicant or the applicant's license
 8 to practice in another state or jurisdiction or who has practiced without
 9 a license in violation of the law. A certified copy of the record of
 10 disciplinary action is conclusive evidence of the other jurisdiction's
 11 disciplinary action.

12 (d) The department may order a practitioner to submit to a
 13 reasonable physical or mental examination if the practitioner's physical
 14 or mental capacity to practice safely and competently is at issue in a
 15 disciplinary proceeding. Failure to comply with a department order to
 16 submit to a physical or mental examination makes a practitioner liable
 17 to temporary suspension under subsection (h).

18 (e) Except as provided under subsection (f) or (g), a license may not
 19 be denied, revoked, or suspended because the applicant or holder has
 20 been convicted of an offense. The acts from which the applicant's or
 21 holder's conviction resulted may, however, be considered as to whether
 22 the applicant or holder should be entrusted to serve the public in a
 23 specific capacity.

24 (f) The department may deny, suspend, or revoke a license issued
 25 under this chapter if the individual who holds the license is convicted
 26 of any of the following:

- 27 (1) Possession of cocaine or a narcotic drug under IC 35-48-4-6.
- 28 (2) Possession of methamphetamine under IC 35-48-4-6.1.
- 29 (3) Possession of a controlled substance under IC 35-48-4-7(a).
- 30 (4) Fraudulently obtaining a controlled substance under
- 31 IC 35-48-4-7(b) (for a crime committed before July 1, 2014) or
- 32 IC 35-48-4-7(c) (for a crime committed after June 30, 2014).
- 33 (5) Manufacture of paraphernalia as a Class D felony (for a crime
- 34 committed before July 1, 2014) or a Level 6 felony (for a crime
- 35 committed after June 30, 2014) under IC 35-48-4-8.1(c).
- 36 (6) Dealing in paraphernalia as a Class D felony (for a crime
- 37 committed before July 1, 2014) or a Level 6 felony (for a crime
- 38 committed after June 30, 2014) under IC 35-48-4-8.5(b).
- 39 (7) Possession of paraphernalia as a Class D felony (for a crime
- 40 committed before July 1, 2014) or a Level 6 felony (for a crime
- 41 committed after June 30, 2014) under IC 35-48-4-8.3(b) (before

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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 controlled substance.

(11) An offense relating to registration, labeling, and prescription forms under IC 35-48-4-14.

(g) The department shall deny, revoke, or suspend a license issued under this chapter if the individual who holds the license is convicted of any of the following:

(1) Dealing in a controlled substance resulting in death under IC 35-42-1-1.5.

(2) Dealing in cocaine or a narcotic drug under IC 35-48-4-1.

(3) Dealing in methamphetamine under IC 35-48-4-1.1.

(4) Manufacturing methamphetamine under IC 35-48-4-1.2.

(5) Dealing in a schedule I, II, or III controlled substance under IC 35-48-4-2.

(6) Dealing in a schedule IV controlled substance under IC 35-48-4-3.

(7) Dealing in a schedule V controlled substance under IC 35-48-4-4.

(8) Dealing in a substance represented to be a controlled substance under IC 35-48-4-4.5 (repealed).

(9) Knowingly or intentionally manufacturing, advertising, distributing, or possessing with intent to manufacture, advertise, or distribute a substance represented to be a controlled substance under IC 35-48-4-4.6.

(10) Dealing in a counterfeit substance under IC 35-48-4-5.

(11) Dealing in marijuana, hash oil, hashish, or salvia as a felony

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1 under IC 35-48-4-10.

2 (12) An offense under IC 35-48-4 involving the manufacture or
3 sale of a synthetic drug (as defined in IC 35-31.5-2-321), a
4 synthetic drug lookalike substance (as defined in
5 IC 35-31.5-2-321.5 (before its repeal on July 1, 2019)) under
6 IC 35-48-4-10.5 (before its repeal on July 1, 2019), a controlled
7 substance analog (as defined in IC 35-48-1.1-8), or a substance
8 represented to be a controlled substance (as described in
9 IC 35-48-4-4.6).

10 (13) A violation of any federal or state drug law or rule related to
11 wholesale legend drug distributors licensed under IC 25-26-14.

12 (h) The department may temporarily suspend a practitioner's license
13 under IC 4-21.5-4 before a final adjudication or during the appeals
14 process if the department finds that a practitioner represents a clear and
15 immediate danger to the public's health, safety, or property if the
16 practitioner is allowed to continue to practice.

17 (i) On receipt of a complaint or an information alleging that a person
18 licensed under this chapter has engaged in or is engaging in a practice
19 that jeopardizes the public health, safety, or welfare, the department
20 shall initiate an investigation against the person.

21 (j) Any complaint filed with the office of the attorney general
22 alleging a violation of this licensing program shall be referred to the
23 department for summary review and for its general information and any
24 authorized action at the time of the filing.

25 (k) The department shall conduct a fact finding investigation as the
26 department considers proper in relation to the complaint.

27 (l) A practitioner may petition the department to accept the
28 surrender of the practitioner's license. The practitioner may not
29 surrender the practitioner's license without the written approval of the
30 department, and the department may impose any conditions appropriate
31 to the surrender or reinstatement of a surrendered license.

32 (m) A practitioner who has been subjected to disciplinary sanctions
33 may be required by the ~~commission~~ department to pay the costs of the
34 proceeding. The practitioner's ability to pay shall be considered when
35 costs are assessed. If the practitioner fails to pay the costs, a suspension
36 may not be imposed solely upon the practitioner's inability to pay the
37 amount assessed. The costs are limited to costs for the following:

- 38 (1) Court reporters.
- 39 (2) Transcripts.
- 40 (3) Certification of documents.
- 41 (4) Photo duplication.

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(5) Witness attendance and mileage fees.

(6) Postage.

(7) Expert witnesses.

(8) Depositions.

(9) Notarizations.

SECTION 592. IC 22-15-6-0.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.249-2019, SECTION 32, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 0.5. This chapter applies to a regulated boiler and pressure vessel as set forth in rules adopted by the ~~commission~~ **department** under IC 4-22-2.

SECTION 593. IC 22-15-6-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.249-2019, SECTION 33, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. Sections 2 through 3 of this chapter do not apply to any regulated boiler or pressure vessel exempted by a rule adopted by the ~~commission~~ **department** under IC 4-22-2.

SECTION 594. IC 22-15-6-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.93-2024, SECTION 167, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) The department may conduct a program of inspections of regulated boilers and pressure vessels.

(b) The department shall do the following:

(1) Issue a regulated boiler and pressure vessel operating permit to an applicant who qualifies under this section.

(2) Perform an operating permit inspection of a boiler or pressure vessel owned by the state.

(3) Conduct a program to audit boiler and pressure vessel inspectors licensed under section 5 of this chapter.

(4) Conduct a program to audit inspections completed by a boiler and pressure vessel inspector licensed under section 5 of this chapter.

(c) Except as provided in subsection (e), an operating permit issued under this section expires one (1) year after it is issued.

(d) To qualify for an operating permit or to renew an operating permit under this section, an applicant must do the following:

(1) Apply for an operating permit on a form approved by the department.

(2) Demonstrate through an inspection, performed by an inspector licensed under section 5 of this chapter, that the regulated boiler or pressure vessel covered by the application complies with the rules adopted by the ~~commission~~ **department**.

(3) Submit a report of the inspection conducted under subdivision (2) to the department.



(4) Pay the fee set under IC 22-12-6-6(a)(8).

(e) The ~~commission~~ **department** may, by rule adopted under IC 4-22-2, specify:

- (1) a period between inspections of more than one (1) year; and
- (2) an expiration date for an operating permit longer than one (1) year from the date of issuance.

However, the ~~commission~~ **department** may not set an inspection period of greater than five (5) years or issue an operating permit valid for a period of more than five (5) years for regulated pressure vessels or steam generating equipment that is an integral part of a continuous processing unit.

(f) For any inspection conducted by the department under this section, the department may designate an inspector licensed under section 5 of this chapter to act as the department's agent for purposes of the inspection.

(g) The ~~commission~~ **department** may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to implement this chapter.

SECTION 595. IC 22-15-6-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021, SECTION 120, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) The department shall issue a boiler and pressure vessel inspector license to an applicant who qualifies under this section.

(b) To qualify for a license under this section an applicant must:

- (1) meet the qualifications set by the ~~commission~~ **department** in its rules;
- (2) pass an examination approved by the ~~commission~~ **department** and conducted, supervised, and graded as prescribed by the ~~commission~~; **department**; and
- (3) pay the fee set under IC 22-12-6-6(a)(9).

(c) The ~~commission~~ **department** may exempt an applicant from any part of the examination required by subsection (b) if the applicant has:

- (1) a boiler and pressure vessel inspector's license issued by another state with qualifications substantially equal to the qualifications for a license under this section; or
- (2) a commission as a boiler and pressure vessel inspector issued by the National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors.

(d) The ~~commission~~ **department** may sanction a boiler and pressure vessel inspector under IC 22-12-7 if the boiler and pressure vessel inspector violates this chapter or rules adopted by the ~~commission~~; **department**.

SECTION 596. IC 22-15-7-0.6, AS ADDED BY P.L.80-2024,

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SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 0.6. (a) Except as provided in subsection (c), the department shall not inspect, and operating permits are not required for, the following regulated amusement devices:

(1) A barrel train pulled by a garden tractor or a rubber tired farm tractor propelled by a motor of not more than forty (40) horsepower.

(2) A regulated amusement device exempt from the operating permit and inspection requirements by a rule of the ~~commission~~ **department**.

(b) A regulated amusement device covered by this section shall comply with all other requirements applicable to regulated amusement devices under this chapter.

(c) The department may perform an inspection of a regulated amusement device covered by this section only if a valid complaint or incident is reported to the department concerning the regulated amusement device.

SECTION 597. IC 22-15-7-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021, SECTION 122, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) The department shall issue a regulated amusement device operating permit to an applicant who qualifies under this section. If an applicant qualifies for a permit under this section, an inspector shall place an inspection seal on the device that is covered by the permit.

(b) A permit issued under this section:

(1) expires one (1) year from the date the permit was issued; and

(2) may be renewed if the applicant continues to qualify for a permit under this section.

(c) To qualify for a permit under this section, an applicant or an authorized officer of the applicant shall pay the inspection fee set under IC 22-12-6-6 and execute an application form affirming under penalties for perjury the following:

(1) That all information provided in the application is true to the best of the applicant's or officer's knowledge and belief after reasonable investigation.

(2) That all personnel employed by the applicant having maintenance responsibility for the amusement devices have or will have sufficient background, knowledge, skills, and training to adequately maintain the amusement devices under the rules of the ~~commission~~ **department**.

(3) That all persons employed by the applicant having operational

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responsibility for the amusement devices have or will have sufficient background, knowledge, skills, and training to adequately operate the amusement devices under the rules of the ~~commission~~ **department**.

(4) That adequate training will be provided or otherwise made available on an ongoing basis to maintenance and operational personnel to ensure the continuous compliance of the personnel with the standards set forth in subdivisions (2) and (3).

(5) That all maintenance and operational personnel will be trained to recognize and report any condition that would prohibit the safe 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 598. 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:



- 1 (A) ASTM F 698 (1994 edition) ("Specification for Physical
 2 Information to be Provided to Amusement Rides and Devices");
 3 (B) ASTM F 770 (1993 edition) ("Practice for Operation
 4 Procedures for Amusement Rides and Devices");
 5 (C) ASTM F 846 (1992 edition) ("Guide for Testing
 6 Performance of Amusement Rides and Devices");
 7 (D) ASTM F 853 (1993 edition) ("Practice for Maintenance
 8 Procedures for Amusement Rides and Devices");
 9 (E) ASTM F 893 (1987 edition) ("Guide for Inspection of
 10 Amusement Rides and Devices");
 11 (F) ASTM F 1305 (1994 edition) ("Standard Guides for the
 12 Classification of Amusement Ride and Device Related Injuries
 13 and Illnesses"); or
 14 (G) any subsequent published editions of the ASTM standards
 15 described in clauses (A) through (F).
 16 (2) A requirement that inspectors employed or contracted by the
 17 department:
 18 (A) have and maintain at least:
 19 (i) a Level 1 certification from the National Association of
 20 Amusement Ride Safety Officials or an equivalent
 21 organization approved by the ~~commission~~; **department**; or
 22 (ii) an equivalent certification under a process or system
 23 approved by the ~~commission~~; **department**; and
 24 (B) conduct inspections that conform to the rules of the
 25 ~~commission~~; **department**.
 26 (3) A requirement that regulated amusement devices be operated
 27 and maintained in accordance with the rules of the ~~commission~~;
 28 **department**.
 29 (4) The ~~commission's~~ **department's** chief inspector or supervisor
 30 of regulated amusement device inspectors must have and
 31 maintain a Level I certification.
 32 SECTION 599. IC 22-15-7-7 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 33 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. In addition to a
 34 regularly scheduled inspection of a regulated amusement device, the
 35 ~~commission~~ **department** may, upon demand by the ~~commission~~;
 36 **department**, inspect a regulated amusement device at any time
 37 following:
 38 (1) the report of an accident involving the regulated amusement
 39 device; or
 40 (2) a complaint concerning the regulated amusement device.
 41 SECTION 600. IC 23-1.5-1-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.57-2013,

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SECTION 22, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 3. "Architectural or engineering professional" means an individual who is registered as:

- (1) an architect under IC 25-4-1;
- (2) a landscape architect under IC 25-4-2;
- (3) a professional engineer under ~~IC 25-31-1~~; **IC 25-4-3**; or
- (4) a professional surveyor under IC 25-21.5.

SECTION 601. IC 23-1.5-1-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.48-2022, SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 9. "Licensing authority" means the following:

- (1) In the case of an accounting professional, the Indiana state board of public accountancy.
- (2) In the case of an architectural professional, the ~~board of registration for architects and landscape architects~~; **Indiana board of registration for design professionals**.
- (3) In the case of an engineering professional, the state board of registration for professional engineers.
- (4) In the case of an attorney, the Indiana supreme court.
- (5) In the case of a health care professional, the board (as defined in IC 25-1-9-1) that issues the individual's license, certification, or registration.
- (6) In the case of a veterinarian, the Indiana board of veterinary medicine.
- (7) In the case of a professional surveyor, the state board of registration for professional surveyors.
- (8) In the case of a real estate professional, the Indiana real estate commission.

SECTION 602. IC 24-5-0.5-12, AS AMENDED BY P.L.48-2022, SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 12. (a) It is an incurable deceptive act for an individual, while soliciting or performing a consumer transaction, to claim, either orally or in writing, to possess a doctorate degree or use a title, a word, letters, an insignia, or an abbreviation associated with a doctorate degree, unless the individual:

- (1) has been awarded a doctorate degree from an institution that is:
 - (A) accredited by a regional or professional accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education or the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation;
 - (B) a religious seminary, institute, college, or university whose



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certificates, diplomas, or degrees clearly identify the religious character of the educational program; or
 (C) operated and supported by a governmental agency; or
 (2) meets the requirements approved by one (1) of the following boards:

- (A) Medical licensing board of Indiana.
- (B) State board of dental examiners.
- (C) Indiana optometry board.
- ~~(D) Board of podiatric medicine.~~
- ~~(E) (D)~~ State psychology board.
- ~~(F) (E)~~ Board of chiropractic examiners.
- ~~(G) (F)~~ Indiana board of veterinary medicine.
- ~~(H) (G)~~ Indiana board of pharmacy.
- ~~(I) (H)~~ Indiana state board of nursing.

(b) It is an incurable deceptive act for an individual, while soliciting or performing a consumer transaction, to claim to be a:

- (1) physician unless the individual holds an unlimited license to practice medicine under IC 25-22.5;
- (2) chiropractic physician unless the individual holds a license as a chiropractor under IC 25-10-1; or
- (3) podiatric physician unless the individual holds a license as a podiatrist under IC 25-29.

(c) The attorney general shall enforce this section in the same manner as any other incurable deceptive act under this chapter.

SECTION 603. IC 25-0.5-3-5, AS ADDED BY P.L.3-2014, SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 5. IC 25-1-2-6(b) applies to the ~~board of registration for architects and landscape architects.~~ **Indiana board of registration for design professionals.**

SECTION 604. IC 25-0.5-3-18 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 18. IC 25-1-2-6(b) applies to the board of podiatric medicine.~~

SECTION 605. IC 25-0.5-3-20 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 20. IC 25-1-2-6(b) applies to the state board of registration for professional engineers.~~

SECTION 606. IC 25-0.5-3-26, AS ADDED BY P.L.3-2014, SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 26. IC 25-1-2-6(b) applies to the ~~mining board.~~ **bureau of mines and mine safety.**

SECTION 607. IC 25-0.5-3-41 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 41. IC 25-1-2-6(b) applies to the midwifery~~

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1 committee:

2 SECTION 608. IC 25-0.5-4-3, AS ADDED BY P.L.3-2014,
3 SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
4 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 3. The ~~board of registration for architects~~
5 ~~and landscape architects~~ **Indiana board of registration for design**
6 **professionals** (IC 25-4-1-2) is a board under IC 25-1-4.

7 SECTION 609. IC 25-0.5-4-10 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
8 JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 10: The state board of registration for~~
9 ~~professional engineers (IC 25-31-1-3) is a board under IC 25-1-4.~~

10 SECTION 610. IC 25-0.5-4-25 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
11 JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 25: The board of podiatric medicine~~
12 ~~(IC 25-29-2-1) is a board under IC 25-1-4.~~

13 SECTION 611. IC 25-0.5-5-9, AS ADDED BY P.L.3-2014,
14 SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
15 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 9. The Indiana professional licensing agency
16 shall perform administrative functions, duties, and responsibilities ~~for~~
17 ~~the board of podiatric medicine (IC 25-29-2-1) under IC 25-1-5-3(a)~~
18 **for the medical licensing board of Indiana in the performance of its**
19 **duties under IC 25-29.**

20 SECTION 612. IC 25-0.5-5-21 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
21 JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 21: The Indiana professional licensing~~
22 ~~agency shall perform administrative functions, duties, and~~
23 ~~responsibilities for the midwifery committee (IC 25-23.4-2-1) under~~
24 ~~IC 25-1-5-3(a).~~

25 SECTION 613. IC 25-0.5-6-9, AS ADDED BY P.L.3-2014,
26 SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
27 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 9. An individual licensed, certified,
28 registered, or permitted by the ~~board of podiatric medicine~~
29 ~~(IC 25-29-2-1)~~ **medical licensing board of Indiana under IC 25-29**
30 is a provider under IC 25-1-5-10.

31 SECTION 614. IC 25-0.5-6-20, AS ADDED BY P.L.3-2014,
32 SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
33 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 20. An individual licensed, certified,
34 registered, or permitted ~~by the midwifery committee (IC 25-23.4-2-1)~~
35 **under IC 25-23.4** is a provider under IC 25-1-5-10.

36 SECTION 615. IC 25-0.5-7-3, AS ADDED BY P.L.3-2014,
37 SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
38 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 3. The Indiana professional licensing agency
39 shall perform administrative functions, duties, and responsibilities for
40 the ~~board of registration for architects and landscape architects~~ **Indiana**
41 **board of registration for design professionals** (IC 25-4-1-2) under

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1 IC 25-1-6-3(a).

2 SECTION 616. IC 25-0.5-7-7 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
3 JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 7: The Indiana professional licensing agency~~
4 ~~shall perform administrative functions, duties, and responsibilities for~~
5 ~~the state board of registration for professional engineers (IC 25-31-1-3)~~
6 ~~under IC 25-1-6-3(a).~~

7 SECTION 617. IC 25-0.5-8-3, AS ADDED BY P.L.3-2014,
8 SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
9 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 3. An occupation for which a person is
10 licensed, certified, or registered by the ~~board of registration for~~
11 ~~architects and landscape architects~~ **Indiana board of registration for**
12 **design professionals** (IC 25-4-1-2) is a regulated occupation under
13 IC 25-1-7.

14 SECTION 618. IC 25-0.5-8-9 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
15 JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 9: An occupation for which a person is~~
16 ~~licensed, certified, or registered by the state board of registration for~~
17 ~~professional engineers (IC 25-31-1-3) is a regulated occupation under~~
18 ~~IC 25-1-7.~~

19 SECTION 619. IC 25-0.5-8-16, AS ADDED BY P.L.3-2014,
20 SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
21 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 16. An occupation for which a person is
22 licensed, certified, or registered by the ~~board of podiatric medicine~~
23 ~~(IC 25-29-2-1)~~ **medical licensing board of Indiana under IC 25-29**
24 is a regulated occupation under IC 25-1-7.

25 SECTION 620. IC 25-0.5-8-36, AS ADDED BY P.L.3-2014,
26 SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
27 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 36. An occupation for which a person is
28 licensed, certified, or registered by the ~~midwifery committee~~
29 ~~(IC 25-23-4-2-1)~~ **under IC 25-23.4** is a regulated occupation under
30 IC 25-1-7.

31 SECTION 621. IC 25-0.5-9-3, AS ADDED BY P.L.3-2014,
32 SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
33 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 3. The ~~board of registration for architects~~
34 ~~and landscape architects~~ **Indiana board of registration for design**
35 **professionals** (IC 25-4-1-2) is a board under IC 25-1-8.

36 SECTION 622. IC 25-0.5-9-9 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
37 JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 9: The state board of registration for~~
38 ~~professional engineers (IC 25-31-1-3) is a board under IC 25-1-8.~~

39 SECTION 623. IC 25-0.5-9-12 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
40 JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 12: The mining board (IC 22-10-1.5-2) is a~~
41 ~~board under IC 25-1-8.~~

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1 SECTION 624. IC 25-0.5-9-31 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
2 JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 31: The board of podiatric medicine~~
3 ~~(IC 25-29-2-1) is a board under IC 25-1-8.~~

4 SECTION 625. IC 25-0.5-10-3, AS ADDED BY P.L.3-2014,
5 SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
6 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 3. ~~The board of registration for architects~~
7 ~~and landscape architects~~ **Indiana board of registration for design**
8 **professionals** (IC 25-4-1-2) is a board under IC 25-1-8-6.

9 SECTION 626. IC 25-0.5-10-10 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
10 JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 10: The state board of registration for~~
11 ~~professional engineers (IC 25-31-1-3) is a board under IC 25-1-8-6.~~

12 SECTION 627. IC 25-0.5-10-25 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
13 JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 25: The board of podiatric medicine~~
14 ~~(IC 25-29-2-1) is a board under IC 25-1-8-6.~~

15 SECTION 628. IC 25-0.5-11-9 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
16 JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 9: The board of podiatric medicine~~
17 ~~(IC 25-29-2-1) is a board under IC 25-1-9.~~

18 SECTION 629. IC 25-0.5-12-3, AS ADDED BY P.L.3-2014,
19 SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
20 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 3. ~~The board of registration for architects~~
21 ~~and landscape architects~~ **Indiana board of registration for design**
22 **professionals** (IC 25-4-1-2) is a board under IC 25-1-11.

23 SECTION 630. IC 25-0.5-12-8 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
24 JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 8: The state board of registration for~~
25 ~~professional engineers (IC 25-31-1-3) is a board under IC 25-1-11.~~

26 SECTION 631. IC 25-1-2-7 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
27 JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 7: Section 6 of this chapter applies to the~~
28 ~~mining board (IC 22-10-1.5-2).~~

29 SECTION 632. IC 25-1-5-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.249-2023,
30 SECTION 79, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
31 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) The agency shall employ necessary staff,
32 including specialists and professionals, to carry out the administrative
33 duties and functions of the boards, including but not limited to:

- 34 (1) notice of board meetings and other communication services;
- 35 (2) recordkeeping of board meetings, proceedings, and actions;
- 36 (3) recordkeeping of all persons licensed, regulated, or certified
- 37 by a board;
- 38 (4) administration of examinations; and
- 39 (5) administration of license or certificate issuance or renewal.

40 (b) In addition, the agency:

- 41 (1) shall prepare a consolidated statement of the budget requests

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of all the boards described in IC 25-0.5-5;

(2) may coordinate licensing or certification renewal cycles, examination schedules, or other routine activities to efficiently utilize agency staff, facilities, and transportation resources, and to improve accessibility of board functions to the public;

(3) may consolidate, where feasible, office space, recordkeeping, and data processing services;

(4) shall operate and maintain the electronic registry of professions established under IC 25-1-5.5;

(5) shall post each board's public meeting agenda on the applicable board's website not less than seventy-two (72) hours before a board's public meeting;

(6) shall post each board's public meeting minutes on the applicable board's website not more than fourteen (14) calendar days after adoption of the minutes by the board;

(7) shall post any vacancy on a board on the applicable board's website within fourteen (14) calendar days of the vacancy;

(8) notwithstanding any other law:

(A) shall prescribe the application form and manner for each board; and

(B) shall make any new application form publicly available on the applicable board's website for sixty (60) calendar days before being adopted by the agency; ~~and~~

(9) shall send notification of incomplete items in an application to the applicant every fourteen (14) calendar days after the applicant initiates the application until the earlier of the following:

(A) The date the application is completed.

(B) One (1) calendar year after the applicant initiates the application; ~~and~~

(10) may adopt and enforce procedural rules under IC 25-1-6-3.

(c) In administering the renewal of licenses or certificates under this chapter, the agency shall send a notice of the upcoming expiration of a license or certificate to each holder of a license or certificate at least 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

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- 1 within forty-five (45) days after receipt of the notice.
- 2 (d) In administering an examination for licensure or certification,
- 3 the agency shall make the appropriate application forms available at
- 4 least thirty (30) days before the deadline for submitting an application
- 5 to all persons wishing to take the examination.
- 6 (e) The agency may require an applicant for license renewal to
- 7 submit evidence proving that:
- 8 (1) the applicant continues to meet the minimum requirements for
- 9 licensure; and
- 10 (2) the applicant is not in violation of:
- 11 (A) the statute regulating the applicant's profession; or
- 12 (B) rules adopted by the board regulating the applicant's
- 13 profession.
- 14 (f) The agency shall process an application for renewal of a license
- 15 or certificate:
- 16 (1) not later than ten (10) days after the agency receives all
- 17 required forms and evidence; or
- 18 (2) within twenty-four (24) hours after the time that an applicant
- 19 for renewal appears in person at the agency with all required
- 20 forms and evidence.
- 21 This subsection does not require the agency to issue a renewal license
- 22 or certificate to an applicant if subsection (g) applies.
- 23 (g) The agency may delay issuing a license renewal for up to one
- 24 hundred twenty (120) days after the renewal date for the purpose of
- 25 permitting the board to investigate information received by the agency
- 26 that the applicant for renewal may have committed an act for which the
- 27 applicant may be disciplined. If the agency delays issuing a license
- 28 renewal, the agency shall notify the applicant that the applicant is being
- 29 investigated. Except as provided in subsection (h), before the end of the
- 30 one hundred twenty (120) day period, the board shall do one (1) of the
- 31 following:
- 32 (1) Deny the license renewal following a personal appearance by
- 33 the applicant before the board.
- 34 (2) Issue the license renewal upon satisfaction of all other
- 35 conditions for renewal.
- 36 (3) Issue the license renewal and file a complaint under IC 25-1-7.
- 37 (4) Upon agreement of the applicant and the board and following
- 38 a personal appearance by the applicant before the board, renew
- 39 the license and place the applicant on probation status under
- 40 IC 25-1-9-9.
- 41 (h) If an individual fails to appear before the board under subsection

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(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 633. 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 practice**, which remains with each board. **The licensing agency may adopt and enforce procedural rules in accordance with IC 4-22-2 for the administration of a board if the rule:**

(1) will affect multiple boards; and

(2) is not inconsistent with any rule adopted by the affected board.

SECTION 634. IC 25-1-11-6 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 6. A practitioner

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1 registered as an architect or a landscape architect is subject to the
 2 disciplinary sanctions under section 12 of this chapter if, after a
 3 hearing, the board finds that the practitioner has:

- 4 (1) permitted the practitioner's seal to be affixed to plans,
 5 specifications, or drawings that were not prepared by the
 6 practitioner or under the practitioner's personal supervision by the
 7 practitioner's regularly employed subordinates; or
 8 (2) used the title "engineer" or advertised to practice engineering
 9 and is not registered under ~~IC 25-31-1~~. **IC 25-4-3.**

10 SECTION 635. IC 25-4-0.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
 11 AS A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 12 JANUARY 1, 2027]:

13 **Chapter 0.5. Definitions**

14 **Sec. 1. The definitions in this chapter apply throughout this**
 15 **article.**

16 **Sec. 2. "Approved engineering curriculum" means an**
 17 **engineering curriculum of four (4) years or more that has been**
 18 **approved by the board. In approving the engineering curriculum,**
 19 **the board may take into consideration the standards of**
 20 **accreditation adopted by the Engineering Accreditation**
 21 **Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and**
 22 **Technology.**

23 **Sec. 3. "Board" refers to the Indiana board of registration for**
 24 **design professionals established by IC 25-4-1-2.**

25 **Sec. 4. "Engineering intern" means an individual who:**

- 26 (1) is a graduate from an approved engineering curriculum of
 27 four (4) years or more or who has acquired, through
 28 engineering education and experience in engineering work,
 29 knowledge and skill approximating that obtained by
 30 graduation in an approved engineering curriculum of four (4)
 31 years or more;
- 32 (2) has successfully passed an examination as prescribed in
 33 IC 25-4-3-5; and
- 34 (3) has been issued by the board an appropriate certificate of
 35 enrollment as an engineering intern.

36 **Sec. 5. "Landscape architecture" means the practice of**
 37 **professional services such as consultation, investigation,**
 38 **reconnaissance, research, planning, design, or responsible**
 39 **supervision to develop land areas for the dominant purpose of**
 40 **preserving, enhancing, or determining:**

- 41 (1) proper land uses;
- 42 (2) natural land features;

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- (3) ground cover and planting;
- (4) naturalistic and aesthetic values;
- (5) the settings and approaches to structures or other improvements;
- (6) the natural environment of a facility, an individual building, or other structure;
- (7) site specific natural surface and subsoil drainage systems;
- (8) landscape grading, swales, curbs, and walkways; and
- (9) any inherent problems of the land relating to erosion, overuse, blight, or other hazards.

The term includes the location and arrangement of the proposed tangible objects and features that are incidental and necessary to accomplish the purposes of landscape architecture.

Sec. 6. "Licensing agency" means the Indiana professional licensing agency established by IC 25-1-5-3.

Sec. 7. "Practice of engineering" means any service or creative work that the adequate performance of requires engineering education, training, and experience in the application of special knowledge of the mathematical, physical, and engineering sciences to services or creative work that includes the following:

- (1) Consultation.
- (2) Investigation.
- (3) Evaluation.
- (4) Planning, including planning the use of land and water.
- (5) The design of or the supervision of the design of engineering works and systems.
- (6) Engineering surveys and studies or the supervision of engineering surveys and studies, including all surveying activities required to support the sound conception, planning, design, construction, maintenance, and operation of engineered projects, but not including the surveying of real property for the establishment of land boundaries, subdivisions, rights-of-way, easements, and the dependent or independent surveys or resurveys of the public land survey system.
- (7) Evaluation of construction for the purpose of assuring compliance with specifications, plans, and designs, in connection with any public or private utilities, structures, buildings, machines, equipment, processes, work systems, or projects.

The term "practice of engineering" does not include the work ordinarily performed by persons who operate or maintain

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machinery or equipment.

Sec. 8. "Practice or offer to practice engineering" means the act of an individual or a business who by verbal claim, sign, advertisement, letterhead, card, telephone listing, or in any other way represents the individual or the business to be a professional engineer or who performs, or offers to perform, any acts or work involving the practice of engineering.

Sec. 9. "Practitioner" means an individual registered as a landscape architect under this article.

Sec. 10. "Professional engineer" means an individual who, by reason of that individual's special knowledge of the mathematical and physical sciences and the principles and methods of engineering analysis and design which are acquired by education and practical experience, is qualified to engage in the practice of engineering as attested by that individual's registration as a professional engineer.

SECTION 636. IC 25-4-1-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.249-2019, SECTION 50, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 2. (a) There is hereby created and established a board of registration for architects and landscape architects, which shall consist of five (5) members, who shall be appointed by the governor. The Indiana board of registration for design professionals is established.

(b) All appointments:

(1) before July 1, 2019, shall be made for terms of three (3) years, ending on December 31, serving the term for which the member shall have been appointed and until the member's successor shall have been appointed and shall have qualified; and

(2) after June 30, 2019, shall be made according to IC 25-1-6.5.

The board consists of nine (9) members, appointed by the governor as follows:

(1) Four (4) registered professional engineers.

(2) Three (3) registered architects under this article.

(3) One (1) registered landscape architect under this article.

(4) One (1) member of the public who:

(A) is a resident of Indiana; and

(B) has never been associated with the engineering, architecture, or landscape architecture professions in any way other than as a consumer.

(c) A member of the board may be removed under IC 25-1-6.5-4.

All appointments, terms, and removals are governed by IC 25-1-6.5.

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(d) Each member of the board shall be entitled to receive as compensation for the member's services a salary per diem for each and every day the member may be engaged in attending the meetings or transacting the business of the board; in addition thereto each member shall be entitled to receive as reimbursement all traveling and other necessary expenses incurred in the performance of the member's duties as a member of the board in accordance with travel policies and procedures established by the department of administration and the state budget agency.

(e) ~~Subject to 25-1-6.5-3~~, Each member of the board **described in subsection (a)(1) through (a)(2)** shall:

(1) be a citizen of the United States of America;

(2) ~~and have been~~ a resident of the state of Indiana **for at least five (5) years immediately before appointment**;

(3) **hold an active registration in the member's respective profession; and**

(4) **have at least ten (10) years of active professional practice, including at least five (5) years in charge of professional work or professional teaching.**

(f) ~~Three (3) of the members must be registered architects under this chapter. Preferably these members would have at least ten (10) years of active architectural practice preceding the member's appointment.~~ **To the extent possible, the governor shall appoint members who serve or have served in diverse areas of professional practice.**

(g) ~~One (1) member of the board must be registered as a landscape architect under this chapter. Preferably this member would have at least ten (10) years of active landscape architectural practice preceding the member's appointment.~~ **Each member shall receive a certificate of appointment from the governor and, before beginning the member's term, shall file with the board secretary a written oath or affirmation for the faithful discharge of official duties.**

(h) ~~One (1) member of the board, to represent the general public, shall be a resident of this state who has never been associated with the architecture or landscape architecture profession in any way other than as a consumer.~~

SECTION 637. IC 25-4-1-3.3, AS ADDED BY P.L.220-2011, SECTION 406, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 3.3. The rules adopted by the board of registration for architects before July 1, 2000, are considered, after June 30, 2000, to be rules of the board. ~~of registration for architects and landscape architects.~~

SECTION 638. IC 25-4-1-11 IS AMENDED TO READ AS



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FOLLOWS: Sec. 11. Any person licensed to practice architecture in this state, or registered as an architect under this chapter, shall be exempt from the provisions of any and all statutes in force in this state regulating the practice of engineering: provided further, that no provision of this chapter shall apply to or affect any individual, firm, limited liability company, or corporation registered as a professional engineer under provisions of ~~IC 25-31-1~~. **IC 25-4-3.** An engineer, however, who is registered under the laws of this state, and exempted from the provisions of this chapter, shall not use the designation "architect" in any form or manner unless and until he shall be registered under the provisions of this chapter.

SECTION 639. IC 25-4-1-18 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 18. Nothing contained in this chapter shall prevent the draftsmen, students, clerks of works, superintendents, and other employees of those lawfully practicing as registered architects, under the provisions of this chapter, from acting under the instruction, control, or supervision of their employers, or to prevent the employment of superintendents of the construction, enlargement, or alteration of buildings, or any parts thereof, or prevent such superintendents from acting under the immediate personal supervision of the registered architect by whom the plans and specifications of any building, enlargement, or alteration were prepared. Nor shall anything contained in this chapter apply to the making of plans or specifications or the supervision of construction, enlargement or alteration of buildings or any parts thereof 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.

SECTION 640. IC 25-4-1-22 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 22: Except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning, the following terms, as used in this chapter, shall be construed to have the meaning hereinafter indicated:~~

~~The term "board" shall be construed to mean the board of registration for architects and landscape architects.~~

SECTION 641. IC 25-4-1-28 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 28: This chapter shall be known and cited as "The Indiana Architectural and Landscape Architectural Act".~~

SECTION 642. IC 25-4-1-29 IS AMENDED TO READ AS

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1 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 29. (a) Except as
 2 hereinafter otherwise provided, the state of Indiana, nor any board,
 3 department or agency thereof, nor any county, city, town, township,
 4 school corporations, or other political subdivision of this state shall
 5 engage in the construction, alteration, or maintenance of any public
 6 building or public work involving the practice of architecture for which
 7 plans, specifications and estimates have not been prepared, certified,
 8 and sealed by, and the construction, alteration, or maintenance
 9 executed under the direct supervision of an architect, which architect
 10 shall be the holder in good standing of a certificate of registration from
 11 the ~~board of registration for architects and landscape architects~~ **Indiana**
 12 **board of registration for design professionals** entitling him to
 13 practice architecture in this state.

14 (b) No official of this state, nor of any city, town, county, township,
 15 or school corporation thereof, charged with the enforcement of any law,
 16 ordinance, or rule relating to the construction or alteration of buildings
 17 or structures, shall use or accept or approve any plans or specifications
 18 that have not been prepared by, or under the supervision of, and
 19 certified by a registered architect. This subsection shall not apply if
 20 such plans or specifications have been prepared by, or under the
 21 supervision of and certified by a professional engineer who is
 22 registered under the laws of the state of Indiana. This subsection shall
 23 not apply to the construction or alteration of any building or structures
 24 specifically exempted from the rules of the ~~fire prevention and building~~
 25 ~~safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** or specifically
 26 exempted from the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~
 27 **department of homeland security** requirements for preparation of
 28 such plans and specifications by registered architects or registered
 29 engineers. This section shall not be construed as to abridge, or
 30 otherwise affect, the powers of the ~~fire prevention and building safety~~
 31 ~~commission,~~ **department of homeland security**, or any other state
 32 board or department, to issue rules governing the safety of buildings or
 33 structures.

34 SECTION 643. IC 25-4-1-30 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 35 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 30. The board of
 36 ~~registration of architects~~ must grant an extension for a total time of not
 37 less than eight (8) years for an applicant to complete any section or
 38 division of a reexamination given under section 9 of this chapter if the
 39 applicant was unable to meet the original final date established by the
 40 board to take reexaminations due to a disability or medical condition
 41 that substantially interferes with the applicant's ability to take the

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1 examination.

2 SECTION 644. IC 25-4-2-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.57-2013,
3 SECTION 31, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
4 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 1. (a) As used in this chapter, "board" means
5 the board of registration for architects and landscape architects as
6 established under IC 25-4-1-2.

7 (b) As used in this chapter, "landscape architecture" means the
8 practice of professional services such as consultation; investigation;
9 reconnaissance; research; planning; design; or responsible supervision
10 to develop land areas for the dominant purpose of preserving;
11 enhancing; or determining:

- 12 (1) proper land uses;
- 13 (2) natural land features;
- 14 (3) ground cover and planting;
- 15 (4) naturalistic and aesthetic values;
- 16 (5) the settings and approaches to structures or other
17 improvements;
- 18 (6) the natural environment of a facility; an individual building;
19 or other structure;
- 20 (7) site specific natural surface and subsoil drainage systems;
- 21 (8) landscape grading; swales; curbs; and walkways; and
- 22 (9) any inherent problems of the land relating to erosion; overuse;
23 blight; or other hazards.

24 The term includes the location and arrangement of the proposed
25 tangible objects and features that are incidental and necessary to
26 accomplish the purposes of landscape architecture.

27 (c) As used in this chapter, "practitioner" means an individual
28 registered as a landscape architect under this chapter.

29 (d) (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), IC 25-4-0.5-5, this
30 chapter does not authorize a practitioner to:

- 31 (1) engage in the design of mechanical lift stations, sewage
32 treatment facilities, sanitary and combined sewers, storm water
33 management projects, public, semi-public, and private utilities, or
34 other structures or facilities with separate and self-contained
35 purposes, if the design work is ordinarily included in the practice
36 of architecture or engineering;
- 37 (2) engage in the design of highways or traffic control devices;
- 38 (3) engage in the scientific analysis of hazardous material
39 contamination;
- 40 (4) engage in topographic mapping or the certification of land
41 surveys or final land plats for official approval or recording;



(5) otherwise engage in the practice of architecture (as defined in IC 25-4-1);

(6) otherwise engage in the practice of ~~professional~~ engineering (as defined in ~~IC 25-3-1~~; **IC 25-4-0.5-7**);

(7) engage in the practice of surveying (as defined in IC 25-21.5); or

(8) engage in the practice of professional geology (as defined in IC 25-17.6).

~~(c)~~ **(b)** This chapter, except section 10(a)(1) and 10(a)(2) of this chapter, does not apply to:

(1) the practice of landscape architecture by any person who acts under the supervision of a practitioner or by an employee of a person lawfully engaged in the practice of landscape architecture and who, in either event, does not assume responsible charge of design or supervision;

(2) the practice of architecture or land planning and proper land usage by a duly registered professional architect or the doing of landscape architectural work by a registered architect or by an employee under the supervision of a registered architect;

(3) the practice of engineering or land planning and proper land usage by a duly registered professional engineer and the doing of landscape architectural work by a registered professional engineer or by an employee under supervision of a registered professional engineer;

(4) the practice of surveying or land planning and proper land usage by a professional surveyor and the doing of landscape architectural work by a professional surveyor or by an employee under supervision of a professional surveyor;

(5) the practice of landscape architecture by employees of the United States government while engaged within this state in the practice of landscape architecture for the United States government;

(6) the practice of planning as is customarily done by regional, park, or urban planners;

(7) the practice of arborists, foresters, gardeners, turf managers, home builders, horticulturists, farmers, and other similar persons;

(8) the practice of any nurseryman or general or landscape contractor, including design, planning, location, planting and arrangements of plantings or other ornamental features; or

(9) the practice of natural resource professionals, including biologists, geologists, or soil scientists.

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SECTION 645. IC 25-4-3 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
AS A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
JANUARY 1, 2027]:

Chapter 3. Regulation of Engineers

Sec. 1. The board shall enforce and administer the provisions of this chapter, and adopt rules, not inconsistent with the Constitution and laws of this state, as may be reasonably necessary for the proper performance of its duties and the regulations of the proceedings before it. The board shall adopt rules establishing standards for the competent practice of engineering and for the administration of the registered professional engineers and registered engineering interns investigative fund established by section 20 of this chapter. Any rulemaking by the board shall be in accordance with IC 4-22-2.

Sec. 2. (a) Except as provided in IC 25-31-1-35 and subsection (b), the licensing agency shall receive and account for all money collected under the provisions of this chapter and shall deposit the money with the treasurer of state to be deposited by the treasurer of state in the general fund of the state.

(b) In addition to the registration fee established under section 13(c) of this chapter, the board shall establish a fee of not more than twenty dollars (\$20) for registered professional engineers and registered engineering interns to be paid at the time of:

- (1) issuance of a certificate of registration; and**
- (2) renewal of a certificate of registration;**

under this chapter to provide funds for administering and enforcing this chapter, including investigating and taking action against persons violating this chapter. All funds collected under this subsection shall be deposited into the registered professional engineers and registered engineering interns investigative fund established by section 20 of this chapter.

Sec. 3. (a) The following under either subdivision (1) or (2) shall be considered as minimum evidence that the applicant is qualified for registration as a professional engineer:

- (1) All of the following:**

- (A) Graduation in an approved engineering curriculum of four (4) years or more.**
- (B) A specific record of four (4) years or more of progressive experience on engineering projects of sufficient quality acquired subsequent to graduation, which experience indicates that the applicant is qualified to be placed in responsible charge of engineering work requiring**

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the exercise of judgment in the application of engineering sciences to the sound solution of engineering problems.

(C) The successful passing of an examination as provided for in section 5 of this chapter.

(2) All of the following:

(A) A specific record of eight (8) years or more of engineering education and experience in engineering work, which indicates that the applicant has acquired knowledge and skill and practical experience in engineering work approximating that required for registration as a professional engineer under subdivision (1).

(B) The successful passing of an examination as provided for in section 5 of this chapter.

(b) The following under either subdivision (1) or (2) shall be considered as minimum evidence that the applicant is qualified for certification as an engineering intern:

(1) All of the following:

(A) Graduation in an approved engineering curriculum of four (4) years or more.

(B) The successful passing of an engineering intern examination as provided in section 5 of this chapter.

(2) All of the following:

(A) A specific record of four (4) years or more of engineering education and experience in engineering work indicating that the applicant has acquired knowledge and skill approximating that acquired through graduation in an approved engineering curriculum of four (4) years or more.

(B) The successful passing of an engineering intern examination as provided in section 5 of this chapter.

(c) The board may waive the examination under section 5 of this chapter to any applicant who has been granted a certificate of registration under section 13 of this chapter.

(d) An individual is not eligible for registration as a professional engineer or certification as an engineering intern if the individual has been convicted of:

(1) an act which would constitute grounds for disciplinary sanction under IC 25-1-11; or

(2) a felony that has a direct bearing on the individual's ability to practice competently.

(e) In considering the qualifications of applicants, responsible charge of engineering teaching shall be construed as responsible charge of engineering work. An applicant who holds a degree of



1 master of science of engineering or the equivalent thereof from a
 2 curriculum in engineering approved by the board may be given a
 3 maximum credit of one (1) year of experience in addition to the
 4 credit of four (4) years of education. An applicant who holds a
 5 degree of doctor of philosophy or the equivalent thereof from a
 6 curriculum in engineering approved by the board may be given a
 7 maximum of credit of two (2) years of experience in addition to a
 8 credit of four (4) years of education. Graduation in a course other
 9 than engineering from a college or university acceptable to the
 10 board may be considered as equivalent to two (2) years engineering
 11 experience and education. The mere execution, as a contractor of
 12 work designed by a professional engineer, or the supervision of the
 13 construction of such work as a foreman or superintendent shall not
 14 be deemed to be engineering experience.

15 (f) Any person having the necessary qualifications to be
 16 registered under this chapter is eligible for registration although
 17 the individual may not be engaged in the practice of engineering at
 18 the time the application is made.

19 Sec. 4. (a) An individual applying for registration as a
 20 professional engineer or for certification as an engineering intern
 21 shall apply for registration or certification on a form prescribed
 22 and provided by the board. Each application for registration shall
 23 contain statements showing the education and qualifications of the
 24 applicant and a detailed summary of the technical work performed
 25 by the applicant. An application for registration as a professional
 26 engineer shall be accompanied by the names of five (5) persons to
 27 be used as references, at least three (3) of whom are professional
 28 engineers who have a personal knowledge of the experience of the
 29 applicant. Each application for a certification as an engineering
 30 intern must contain statements showing the education of the
 31 applicant, and except for an application for an examination to be
 32 given during the applicant's senior year, the application shall be
 33 accompanied by the names of three (3) persons to be used as
 34 references. All applications shall be certified to by the applicant as
 35 to the correctness of the statements contained in the application.

36 (b) A person who knowingly makes a false statement in the
 37 application commits a Class A misdemeanor.

38 (c) The amount of registration fees for a professional engineer
 39 and for an engineering intern shall be fixed and determined by the
 40 board under IC 25-1-8-2. The board shall also in its rules prescribe
 41 the manner and the time for the paying of registration fees.

42 (d) In the event the board refuses to issue a certificate of

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1 registration to any person who has made proper application for
 2 registration as a professional engineer, any initial fee prescribed by
 3 the board and deposited with the board by an applicant shall be
 4 retained by the board as an application fee.

5 (e) In the event the board refuses to issue a certificate to any
 6 person who has made proper application for certification as an
 7 engineering intern, the fee prescribed by the board and deposited
 8 by the applicant with the board shall be retained as an application
 9 fee.

10 Sec. 5. (a) The examination required of all applicants for
 11 registration as a professional engineer shall be a written or
 12 computer based examination which shall be divided into the
 13 following two (2) parts:

14 (1) Engineering fundamentals.

15 (2) Principles and practice of engineering.

16 The board may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 establishing additional
 17 examination requirements.

18 (b) The engineering fundamentals portion of the examination
 19 shall be designed to test the applicant's knowledge of mathematics
 20 and the physical and engineering sciences. The standards of
 21 proficiency required shall approximate that attained by graduation
 22 in an approved four (4) year engineering curriculum.

23 (c) The principles and practice of the engineering portion of the
 24 examination shall be designed primarily to test the applicant's
 25 understanding of, and judgment and ability to apply correctly, the
 26 principles of:

27 (1) mathematics;

28 (2) the physical sciences;

29 (3) the engineering sciences; and

30 (4) engineering design analysis and synthesis;

31 to the practice of professional engineering. A part of the
 32 examination may be designed to test the applicant's knowledge and
 33 understanding of the ethical, economic, and legal principles
 34 relating to the practices of professional engineering.

35 (d) An applicant for registration as a professional engineer who
 36 holds an engineering intern certificate issued in Indiana or in any
 37 other state or territory having equivalent standards may be
 38 exempted from the engineering fundamentals portion of the
 39 examination.

40 (e) An applicant must successfully pass the engineering
 41 fundamentals portion of the examination before taking the
 42 principles and practice portion of the examination.

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(f) Examinations shall be held at times and places as determined by the board at least two (2) times each year. Examinations for certification as an engineering intern may be held separately from the examinations for registration as a professional engineer.

(g) An applicant for registration as a professional engineer who is presently registered in another state or territory may be assigned a written or computer based examination as the board deems necessary to meet the requirements of this chapter.

(h) An applicant shall have three (3) attempts to pass each part of the examination within a time period established by the board by rule. The board may specify by rule the time required between examinations and the opportunity for future examination attempts for an applicant who fails to appear at an examination. The amount of the fee to be paid for each examination shall be determined by the board under IC 25-1-8-2.

(i) If an applicant who has failed a part of the examination three (3) times reappplies and submits evidence of acquiring additional knowledge for the examination, the board may give the applicant approval to take subsequent examinations or partial examinations.

Sec. 6. (a) The board shall issue a certificate of registration, upon the payment of the fee prescribed by the board under IC 25-1-8-2 and the fee established by section 2(b) of this chapter, to any applicant who, in the opinion of the board, has satisfactorily met all requirements of this chapter. In the case of a professional engineer, the certificate shall authorize the practice of "professional engineering". The certificate of registration shall:

- (1) show the full name of the registrant;
- (2) bear a serial number and date; and
- (3) be signed by a designee of the board.

The issuance of any certificate of registration by the board under this chapter is evidence that the individual named on the certificate is entitled to all the rights and privileges of a registered professional engineer from the date on the certificate until it expires or is revoked.

(b) The board shall issue a certificate of enrollment upon the payment of the certificate fee prescribed by the board under IC 25-1-8-2 to any applicant who, in the opinion of the board, has satisfactorily met all of the requirements of this chapter. In the case of an engineering intern, the certificate shall state that the applicant has successfully passed the examination in engineering fundamentals and has been enrolled as an engineering intern. The certificate of enrollment shall:

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- (1) show the full name of the enrollee;
- (2) bear a serial number and date; and
- (3) be signed by the director of the licensing agency.

The issuance of a certificate of enrollment by the board is evidence that the individual named on the certificate is entitled to all the rights and privileges of an engineering intern while the certificate remains unrevoked or until it expires.

Sec. 7. (a) The granting of registration extends to the registrant the authority to use a seal of a design approved by the board bearing the registrant's name, registration number, and the legend "professional engineer".

(b) During the period of time that a registrant's certificate is valid, the registrant is authorized to apply the registrant's seal to plans, specifications, studies, drawings, and reports. Applying the registrant's seal attests that:

- (1) the work embodies the engineering work of the registrant;
- (2) the registrant or an employed subordinate supervised by the registrant prepared the documents, and in the context of engineered plans "prepared" refers to the registrant's control and direction of the engineering work and design process;
- (3) the registrant assumes full professional responsibility for the documents; and
- (4) the work meets standards of acceptable engineering practice.

(c) It is unlawful for any person to stamp or seal any document with a seal after the certificate of the registrant named on the seal has expired or has been revoked.

Sec. 8. (a) Subject to IC 25-1-2-6(e), unless renewed, a certificate issued under this chapter expires on a date specified by the licensing agency under IC 25-1-6-4 and expires biennially after the initial expiration date. An applicant for renewal shall submit an application in the manner prescribed by the board and pay the renewal fee established by the board under IC 25-1-8-2 on or before the renewal date specified by the licensing agency.

(b) Subject to IC 25-1-2-6(e), if the holder of a certificate does not renew the certificate by the date specified by the licensing agency, the certificate expires and becomes invalid without the board taking any action.

(c) The failure on the part of a registrant to renew a certificate does not deprive the registrant of the right of renewal.

(d) If a certificate has been expired for not more than three (3) years, the certificate may be reinstated by the board if the holder

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1 of the certificate meets the requirements for reinstatement under
2 IC 25-1-8-6(c).

3 (e) If a certificate has been expired for more than three (3)
4 years, the certificate may be reinstated by the board if the holder
5 of the certificate meets the requirements for reinstatement under
6 IC 25-1-8-6(d).

7 Sec. 9. (a) The board may adopt rules requiring a professional
8 engineer to obtain continuing education for renewal of a certificate
9 under section 8 of this chapter.

10 (b) If the board adopts rules under this section, the rules must
11 do the following:

12 (1) Establish an inactive certificate of registration that:

13 (A) does not require the holder of an inactive certificate to
14 obtain continuing education; and

15 (B) prohibits the holder of an inactive certificate from
16 practicing engineering.

17 (2) Establish requirements for reactivation of an inactive
18 certificate.

19 Sec. 10. (a) A registration certificate for a professional engineer
20 may be issued only to a natural person.

21 (b) A business, including a proprietorship, partnership, or
22 corporation, doing business in Indiana may not practice or offer to
23 practice engineering unless that practice is carried on under the
24 responsible direction and supervision of a registered professional
25 engineer who is a full-time employee of the business. All plans,
26 sheets of designs, specifications, reports, studies, or other
27 engineering documents that require certification and are prepared
28 by the personnel of a business must carry the signature and seal of
29 the registered professional engineer who is in responsible charge
30 of the professional engineering work.

31 Sec. 11. (a) A county, city, town, township, school corporation,
32 or other political subdivision of this state may not engage in the
33 construction or maintenance of any public work involving the
34 practice of engineering for which plans, specifications, and
35 estimates have not been prepared, certified, and sealed by, and the
36 construction and maintenance executed under the direct
37 supervision of, a professional engineer. Any contract executed in
38 violation of this section is void.

39 (b) An official of this state, or of any city, town, county,
40 township, or school corporation, charged with the enforcement of
41 any law, ordinance, or rule relating to the design, construction, or
42 alteration of buildings or structures may not use or accept or



1 approve any plans or specifications that have not been prepared
 2 by, or under the supervision of and certified by, a registered
 3 professional engineer. This subsection does not apply:

4 (1) to plans or specifications prepared by, or under the
 5 supervision of and certified by, an architect who is registered
 6 under IC 25-4-1;

7 (2) to structures and construction listed in IC 22-15-3-3(a); or

8 (3) to plans or specifications contained in a registration,
 9 license, or permit application, including an application for an
 10 initial permit, the renewal of a permit, the modification of a
 11 permit, or a variance from a permit submitted to the
 12 commissioner of the department of environmental
 13 management under IC 13, unless the permit is for the
 14 approval of plans or specifications for construction for which
 15 a professional engineer's seal is required by operation of
 16 either state or federal law, rule, or regulation. This subsection
 17 does not require a professional engineer's seal for an
 18 application for an air quality construction permit under 326
 19 IAC 2-1-3.

20 This section shall not be construed as to abridge or otherwise affect
 21 the powers of any state board or department to issue rules
 22 governing the safety of buildings or structures.

23 (c) All maps required to show the underground workings of any
 24 mine in Indiana must be prepared, certified, and sealed by a
 25 professional engineer or professional surveyor.

26 Sec. 12. (a) An employee or a subordinate of any person who
 27 holds a certificate of registration under the provisions of this
 28 chapter is exempt from the provisions of this chapter if the practice
 29 of the employee or subordinate does not include responsible charge
 30 of design or supervision.

31 (b) This chapter does not require registration for the purpose of
 32 practicing engineering by an individual or a business:

33 (1) on property owned or leased by that individual or business
 34 unless the engineering practice involves the public health or
 35 safety, or the health or safety of the employees of that
 36 individual or business;

37 (2) for the performance of engineering which relates solely to
 38 the design or fabrication of manufactured products; or

39 (3) that is registered as a landscape architect under IC 25-4-2
 40 and while the individual or business is engaged in the practice
 41 of landscape architecture planning the use of land or water.

42 Sec. 13. The board may, upon application and payment of a fee

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established by the board in the board's rules, issue a certificate of registration as a professional engineer to an individual who holds a valid certificate of registration as a professional engineer, issued to the applicant by the proper authority of any state or territory or possession of the United States if the requirements for registration of professional engineers that the certificate of registration was issued under do not conflict with the provisions of this chapter. In determining the qualifications of an applicant, the board may accept the verified professional record of the applicant that is certified by the National Council of Examiners for Engineers and Surveyors. However, an applicant meets the experience requirement under section 3 of this chapter if the applicant:

- (1) has at least three (3) years of engineering work experience after the applicant graduates from an approved engineering curriculum but before the applicant successfully passes an examination required under section 5 of this chapter; and
- (2) has been registered or licensed as a professional engineer in another state for at least ten (10) years.

Sec. 14. A certificate of registration, or a certification as an engineering intern to replace a certificate which has been lost, destroyed, or mutilated, may be issued subject to the rules of the board and the fee established under IC 25-1-8-2.

Sec. 15. A person who:

- (1) practices or offers to practice engineering without being registered or exempted under the laws of this state;
- (2) presents as the person's own the certificate of registration or the seal of another;
- (3) gives any false or forged evidence of any kind to the board or to any member of the board in obtaining a certificate of registration;
- (4) impersonates any other registrant;
- (5) uses an expired, suspended, or revoked certificate of registration; or
- (6) otherwise violates this chapter;

commits a Class B misdemeanor.

Sec. 16. (a) It is the duty of all law enforcement officers of this state, or any political subdivision, to enforce the provisions of this chapter and to apprehend and prosecute any person who violates any of the provisions of this chapter.

(b) The attorney general shall act as the legal advisor of the board and render any legal assistance as may be necessary in carrying out the provisions of this chapter.

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(c) The attorney general and the licensing agency may use the registered professional engineers and registered engineering interns investigative fund established by section 20 of this chapter to hire investigators and other employees to enforce the provisions of this chapter and to investigate and prosecute violations of this chapter.

Sec. 17. (a) The attorney general, the prosecuting attorney of any county, the board, or a citizen of any county where a person who is not exempted engages in the practice of engineering without first having obtained a certificate of registration or without first having renewed an expired certificate of registration may, in accordance with the provisions of the laws of this state governing injunctions, file an action in the name of the state of Indiana to enjoin that person from engaging in the practice of engineering until a certificate of registration is secured or renewed.

(b) Any person who has been enjoined and violates an injunction shall be punished for contempt of court. An injunction does not relieve a person engaged in the practice of engineering without a certificate of registration or without first having renewed an expired certificate of registration from a criminal prosecution.

(c) The remedy by injunction is in addition to any remedy provided for herein for the criminal prosecution of the offender. In charging any person in a complaint for violation of the provisions of this chapter by engaging in the practice of engineering without a certificate of registration or without having renewed an expired certificate of registration, it is sufficient to charge that the offender:

- (1) on a certain day in a certain county practiced or offered to practice engineering; and
- (2) was not registered or exempted under this chapter.

Sec. 18. (a) Except as provided in IC 25-4-1-11, a person registered as a professional engineer under this chapter is exempt from the provisions of any and all statutes in force in this state regulating the practice of architecture.

(b) This chapter does not apply to an individual registered as an architect under IC 25-4-1. An architect, however, who is registered under IC 25-4-1 and exempted from this chapter may not use the designation "engineer" in any form or manner unless the architect is registered under this chapter.

Sec. 19. (a) This section does not apply to a job position filled by the department of environmental management.

(b) Unless a job position is filled by a professional engineer, the



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1 state or a political subdivision (as defined in IC 36-1-2-13) may not
2 use the word "engineer" in the position's job title.

3 **Sec. 20. (a)** The registered professional engineers and registered
4 engineering interns investigative fund is established to provide
5 funds for administering and enforcing the provisions of this
6 chapter, including investigating and taking enforcement action
7 against violators of this chapter. The fund shall be administered by
8 the attorney general and the licensing agency.

9 (b) The expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from
10 the money in the fund. The fund consists of money from the fee
11 imposed upon registered professional engineers and registered
12 engineering interns under section 9(b) of this chapter.

13 (c) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not
14 currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same
15 manner as other public money may be invested.

16 (d) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not
17 revert to the state general fund. If the total amount in the fund
18 exceeds five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) at the end of a
19 state fiscal year after payment of all claims and expenses, the
20 amount that exceeds five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000)
21 reverts to the state general fund.

22 (e) Money in the fund is continually appropriated for use by the
23 attorney general and the licensing agency to administer and
24 enforce the provisions of this chapter and to conduct investigations
25 and take enforcement action against persons violating the
26 provisions of this chapter.

27 **Sec. 21.** The board shall send written notice to the department
28 of homeland security established by IC 10-19-2-1 of the
29 determination of the board in a disciplinary action against an
30 engineer under IC 25-1-11. The board shall send the notice not
31 later than three (3) business days after the date of the board's
32 determination.

33 **SECTION 646.** IC 25-17.6-7-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
34 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 1. The following
35 persons are exempt from the requirements of licensure under this
36 article:

- 37 (1) An officer or employee of the United States government, state
38 government, or local government while engaged in providing
39 geological services for the officer's or employee's employers.
- 40 (2) A person engaged solely in geological research or the
41 instruction of geology.
- 42 (3) A person not engaged in the public practice of geology.

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(4) A professional engineer registered under ~~IC 25-31~~ **IC 25-4-3** who applies geology to the practice of engineering.

(5) A soil scientist who is certified as a soil classifier or soil scientist by the American Registry of Certified Professionals in Agronomy, Crops and Soils (ARCPACS) and the Indiana Association of Professional Soil Classifiers (IAPSC) and who applies geology in the practice of soil science.

SECTION 647. IC 25-20-1-1.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.249-2019, SECTION 87, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1.5. (a) Subject to IC 25-1-6.5-3, there is established the committee of hearing aid dealer examiners which consists of ~~five (5)~~ **four (4)** members all appointed by the governor to a term under IC 25-1-6.5. Three (3) members must be hearing aid dealers licensed under this chapter, who are residents of this state and who have been practicing as hearing aid dealers for at least one (1) year prior to their appointment. ~~One (1) member must be an otolaryngologist in this state, who is a resident of this state and who has been engaged in the practice of otolaryngology for at least one (1) year prior to appointment to the committee.~~ One (1) member must be a resident of this state who is in no way associated with the business of hearing aid dealers, audiology, or speech-language pathology other than as a consumer. Whenever a vacancy occurs on the committee, the governor shall appoint a successor under IC 25-1-6.5.

(b) Three (3) members present constitute a quorum. **The chairperson of the committee is not allowed to cast a vote on any matter before the committee unless the chairperson's vote is necessary to break a tie.**

(c) The members serve without compensation, except that each member is entitled to the salary per diem as provided by IC 4-10-11-2.1 and to reimbursement for travel, lodging, meals, and other expenses as provided in the state travel policies and procedures established by the department of administration and approved by the state budget agency.

(d) A member may be removed under IC 25-1-6.5-4.

SECTION 648. IC 25-20.2-1-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.127-2012, SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 1. (a) This article applies to an individual who conducts home inspections for compensation.

(b) This article does not apply to the following:

(1) An individual who is acting within the scope of the individual's employment as:

(A) a code enforcement official for the state or a political



- 1 subdivision of the state; or
 2 (B) a representative of a state or local housing agency or
 3 authority acting under the authority of the United States
 4 Department of Housing and Urban Development.
 5 (2) An individual who is:
 6 (A) either:
 7 (i) registered as an architect under IC 25-4;
 8 (ii) registered as a professional engineer under ~~IC 25-31;~~
 9 **IC 25-4-3;** or
 10 (iii) licensed as a plumbing contractor or journeyman
 11 plumber under IC 25-28.5; and
 12 (B) acting within the scope of the individual's registration or
 13 license.
 14 (3) An individual who is licensed under IC 25-34.1 as a real estate
 15 broker and is acting within the scope of the individual's license.
 16 (4) An individual who is licensed or certified under IC 25-34.1 as
 17 a real estate appraiser and is acting within the scope of the
 18 individual's license or certificate.
 19 (5) An individual who holds a certificate of authority under
 20 IC 27-1-27-2 as a public adjuster and is acting within the scope of
 21 the individual's certificate.
 22 (6) An individual who holds a permit, certificate, or license to:
 23 (A) use and apply pesticides; or
 24 (B) make diagnostic inspections and reports for wood
 25 destroying pests;
 26 under IC 15-16-5 and is acting within the scope of the individual's
 27 certificate or license.
 28 (7) An individual who holds a license from a political subdivision
 29 as a tradesperson or home builder and is acting within the scope
 30 of the individual's license.
 31 SECTION 649. IC 25-20.7-2-3, AS ADDED BY P.L.177-2009,
 32 SECTION 37, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 33 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 3. This article does not apply to a person
 34 who:
 35 (1) does not profess to be a registered interior designer; and
 36 (2) is:
 37 (A) an architect registered under IC 25-4; or
 38 (B) a professional engineer registered under ~~IC 25-31;~~
 39 **IC 25-4-3.**
 40 SECTION 650. IC 25-21.5-2-13 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 41 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 13. The state shall

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1 provide the board suitable office quarters in Indianapolis. The office
 2 may be shared with the ~~state board of registration for professional~~
 3 ~~engineers.~~ **Indiana board of registration for design professionals.**

4 SECTION 651. IC 25-21.5-3-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 5 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 3. The licensing
 6 agency may assign joint personnel to work for both the board and the
 7 ~~state board of registration for professional engineers.~~ **Indiana board**
 8 **of registration for design professionals.**

9 SECTION 652. IC 25-22.5-1-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.128-2022,
 10 SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 11 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 2. (a) This article, as it relates to the
 12 unlawful or unauthorized practice of medicine or osteopathic medicine,
 13 does not apply to any of the following:

14 (1) A student in training in a medical school approved by the
 15 board, or while performing duties as an intern or a resident in a
 16 hospital under the supervision of the hospital's staff or in a
 17 program approved by the medical school.

18 (2) A person who renders service in case of emergency where no
 19 fee or other consideration is contemplated, charged, or received.

20 (3) A paramedic (as defined in IC 16-18-2-266), an advanced
 21 emergency medical technician (as defined in IC 16-18-2-6.5), an
 22 emergency medical technician (as defined in IC 16-18-2-112), or
 23 a person with equivalent certification from another state who
 24 renders advanced life support (as defined in IC 16-18-2-7), or
 25 basic life support (as defined in IC 16-18-2-33.5):

26 (A) during a disaster emergency declared by the governor under
 27 IC 10-14-3-12 in response to an act that the governor in good
 28 faith believes to be an act of terrorism (as defined in
 29 IC 35-31.5-2-329); and

30 (B) in accordance with the rules adopted by the Indiana
 31 ~~emergency medical services~~ **fire and EMS standards and**
 32 **education** commission or the disaster emergency declaration of
 33 the governor.

34 (4) Commissioned medical officers or medical service officers of
 35 the armed forces of the United States, the United States Public
 36 Health Service, and medical officers of the United States
 37 Department of Veterans Affairs in the discharge of their official
 38 duties in Indiana.

39 (5) An individual who is not a licensee who resides in another
 40 state or country and is authorized to practice medicine or
 41 osteopathic medicine there, who is called in for consultation by an



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- 1 individual licensed to practice medicine or osteopathic medicine
- 2 in Indiana.
- 3 (6) A person administering a domestic or family remedy to a
- 4 member of the person's family.
- 5 (7) A member of a church practicing the religious tenets of the
- 6 church if the member does not make a medical diagnosis,
- 7 prescribe or administer drugs or medicines, perform surgical or
- 8 physical operations, or assume the title of or profess to be a
- 9 physician.
- 10 (8) A school corporation and a school employee who acts under
- 11 IC 34-30-14 (or IC 34-4-16.5-3.5 before its repeal).
- 12 (9) A chiropractor practicing the chiropractor's profession under
- 13 IC 25-10 or to an employee of a chiropractor acting under the
- 14 direction and supervision of the chiropractor under IC 25-10-1-13.
- 15 (10) A dental hygienist practicing the dental hygienist's profession
- 16 under IC 25-13.
- 17 (11) A dentist practicing the dentist's profession under IC 25-14.
- 18 (12) A hearing aid dealer practicing the hearing aid dealer's
- 19 profession under IC 25-20.
- 20 (13) A nurse practicing the nurse's profession under IC 25-23.
- 21 However, a certified registered nurse anesthetist (as defined in
- 22 IC 25-23-1-1.4) may administer anesthesia if the certified
- 23 registered nurse anesthetist acts under the direction of and in the
- 24 immediate presence of a physician.
- 25 (14) An optometrist practicing the optometrist's profession under
- 26 IC 25-24.
- 27 (15) A pharmacist practicing the pharmacist's profession under
- 28 IC 25-26.
- 29 (16) A physical therapist practicing the physical therapist's
- 30 profession under IC 25-27.
- 31 (17) A podiatrist practicing the podiatrist's profession under
- 32 IC 25-29.
- 33 (18) A psychologist practicing the psychologist's profession under
- 34 IC 25-33.
- 35 (19) A speech-language pathologist or audiologist practicing the
- 36 pathologist's or audiologist's profession under IC 25-35.6.
- 37 (20) An employee of a physician or group of physicians who
- 38 performs an act, a duty, or a function that is customarily within
- 39 the specific area of practice of the employing physician or group
- 40 of physicians, if the act, duty, or function is performed under the
- 41 direction and supervision of the employing physician or a

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1 physician of the employing group within whose area of practice
 2 the act, duty, or function falls. An employee may not make a
 3 diagnosis or prescribe a treatment and must report the results of
 4 an examination of a patient conducted by the employee to the
 5 employing physician or the physician of the employing group
 6 under whose supervision the employee is working. An employee
 7 may not administer medication without the specific order of the
 8 employing physician or a physician of the employing group.
 9 Unless an employee is licensed or registered to independently
 10 practice in a profession described in subdivisions (9) through
 11 (18), nothing in this subsection grants the employee independent
 12 practitioner status or the authority to perform patient services in
 13 an independent practice in a profession.

14 (21) A hospital licensed under IC 16-21 or IC 12-25.

15 (22) A health care organization whose members, shareholders, or
 16 partners are individuals, partnerships, corporations, facilities, or
 17 institutions licensed or legally authorized by this state to provide
 18 health care or professional services as:

19 (A) a physician;

20 (B) a psychiatric hospital;

21 (C) a hospital;

22 (D) a health maintenance organization or limited service health
 23 maintenance organization;

24 (E) a health facility;

25 (F) a dentist;

26 (G) a registered or licensed practical nurse;

27 (H) a certified nurse midwife or a certified direct entry midwife;

28 (I) an optometrist;

29 (J) a podiatrist;

30 (K) a chiropractor;

31 (L) a physical therapist; or

32 (M) a psychologist.

33 (23) A physician assistant practicing the physician assistant
 34 profession under IC 25-27.5.

35 (24) A physician providing medical treatment under section 2.1
 36 of this chapter.

37 (25) An attendant who provides attendant care services (as
 38 defined in IC 16-18-2-28.5).

39 (26) A personal services attendant providing authorized attendant
 40 care services under IC 12-10-17.1.

41 (27) A respiratory care practitioner practicing the practitioner's

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profession under IC 25-34.5.

(b) A person described in subsection (a)(9) through (a)(18) is not excluded from the application of this article if:

(1) the person performs an act that an Indiana statute does not authorize the person to perform; and

(2) the act qualifies in whole or in part as the practice of medicine or osteopathic medicine.

(c) An employment or other contractual relationship between an entity described in subsection (a)(21) through (a)(22) and a licensed physician does not constitute the unlawful practice of medicine or osteopathic medicine under this article if the entity does not direct or control independent medical acts, decisions, or judgment of the licensed physician. However, if the direction or control is done by the entity under IC 34-30-15 (or IC 34-4-12.6 before its repeal), the entity is excluded from the application of this article as it relates to the unlawful practice of medicine or osteopathic medicine.

(d) This subsection does not apply to a prescription or drug order for a legend drug that is filled or refilled in a pharmacy owned or operated by a hospital licensed under IC 16-21. A physician licensed in Indiana who permits or authorizes a person to fill or refill a prescription or drug order for a legend drug except as authorized in IC 16-42-19-11 through IC 16-42-19-19 is subject to disciplinary action under IC 25-1-9. A person who violates this subsection commits the unlawful practice of medicine or osteopathic medicine under this chapter.

(e) A person described in subsection (a)(8) shall not be authorized to dispense contraceptives or birth control devices.

(f) Nothing in this section allows a person to use words or abbreviations that indicate or induce an individual to believe that the person is engaged in the practice of medicine or osteopathic medicine.

SECTION 653. IC 25-22.5-2-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.249-2019, SECTION 97, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. (a) The medical licensing board of Indiana is created. ~~It shall consist~~

(b) Before January 1, 2027, the board consists of seven (7) members, not more than four (4) of whom shall be members of the same political party. The members shall be appointed by the governor, and all vacancies occurring on the board shall be filled by the governor. Subject to IC 25-1-6.5-3, the membership of the board ~~shall consist~~ **consists** of the following:

(1) Five (5) reputable physicians who:

(A) are graduates of a medical school;



- 1 (B) hold the degree of doctor of medicine or its equivalent; and
 2 (C) hold valid unlimited licenses to practice medicine in
 3 Indiana.
 4 (2) One (1) reputable osteopathic physician who:
 5 (A) is a graduate of an accredited osteopathic medical school;
 6 (B) holds the degree of doctor of osteopathy or its equivalent;
 7 and
 8 (C) holds a valid unlimited license to practice osteopathic
 9 medicine in Indiana.
 10 (3) One (1) member who:
 11 (A) will represent the general public;
 12 (B) is a resident of this state; and
 13 (C) is in no way associated with the medical profession other
 14 than as a consumer.
 15 **(c) After December 31, 2026, the board consists of nine (9)**
 16 **members, not more than five (5) of whom may be members of the**
 17 **same political party. The members are appointed by the governor,**
 18 **and all vacancies occurring on the board must be filled by the**
 19 **governor. Subject to IC 25-1-6.5-3, the membership of the board**
 20 **consists of the following:**
 21 **(1) Three (3) reputable physicians who:**
 22 **(A) are graduates of a medical school;**
 23 **(B) hold the degree of doctor of medicine or its equivalent;**
 24 **(C) hold valid unlimited licenses to practice medicine in**
 25 **Indiana;**
 26 **(D) have been practicing physicians for at least five (5)**
 27 **years; and**
 28 **(E) are residents of Indiana.**
 29 **(2) One (1) reputable osteopathic physician who:**
 30 **(A) is a graduate of an accredited osteopathic medical**
 31 **school;**
 32 **(B) holds the degree of doctor of osteopathy or its**
 33 **equivalent;**
 34 **(C) holds a valid unlimited license to practice osteopathic**
 35 **medicine in Indiana;**
 36 **(D) have been practicing osteopathic physicians for at least**
 37 **five (5) years; and**
 38 **(E) are residents of Indiana.**
 39 **(3) Three (3) members must be licensed podiatrists who**
 40 **actively practice podiatric medicine and meet the following**
 41 **conditions:**
 42 **(A) Be licensed in Indiana as a podiatrist under IC 25-29.**



1 (B) Be a resident of Indiana.

2 (C) Have practiced podiatric medicine for at least five (5)
3 years.

4 (4) Two (2) members who are certified direct entry midwives
5 who:

6 (A) have been practicing certified direct entry midwives for
7 at least five (5) years; and

8 (B) are residents of Indiana.

9 ~~(b)~~ (d) Members are appointed under IC 25-1-6.5.

10 ~~(c)~~ (e) A member of the board may be removed under IC 25-1-6.5-4.

11 SECTION 654. IC 25-22.5-13-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.129-2018,
12 SECTION 27, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
13 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) Before March 1, 2016, the:

14 (1) board, concerning physician assistants;

15 (2) board of podiatric medicine, concerning podiatrists;

16 (3) state board of dentistry, concerning dentists; and

17 (4) Indiana state board of nursing, concerning advanced practice
18 registered nurses;

19 shall adopt rules necessary to complement the rules for prescribing
20 opioid controlled substances for pain management treatment adopted
21 by the board under sections 1 and 2 of this chapter.

22 (b) Before December 31, 2015, each board specified in subsection

23 (a) shall provide a report in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6 to the
24 legislative council providing a status report on efforts to adopt the rules
25 required by subsection (a). The status report must include:

26 (1) a copy of the board's rulemaking docket required by
27 IC 4-22-2-22.5; and

28 (2) a reasonable estimate of the timetable for action required
29 under IC 4-22-2-22.5(d)(8).

30 (c) This section expires December 31, 2026.

31 SECTION 655. IC 25-23-1-7.2, AS ADDED BY P.L.148-2023,
32 SECTION 13, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
33 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 7.2. (a) As used in this section, "nursing
34 education program" means a nursing education program that is required
35 to be authorized by the board for proprietary education (established by
36 ~~IC 21-18.5-5-1~~): commission for higher education established by
37 IC 21-18-2-1.

38 (b) The board may not prohibit a nursing education program from
39 submitting an application for accreditation to the board before being
40 authorized by the board for proprietary education (established by
41 ~~IC 21-18.5-5-1~~): commission for higher education established by
42 IC 21-18-2-1.



(c) The board shall review and approve or deny a nursing education program's application for accreditation within ninety (90) days of being authorized by the ~~board for proprietary education (established by IC 21-18.5-5-1)~~ **commission for higher education established by IC 21-18-2-1** unless the nursing education program, after receiving authorization from the ~~board of proprietary education~~, **commission for higher education**, requests additional time from the board before the board's review of the application.

SECTION 656. IC 25-23.4-1-5 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 5. "Committee" refers to the midwifery committee established by IC 25-23.4-2.~~

SECTION 657. IC 25-23.4-2-8 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 658. IC 25-23.4-2.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]:

Chapter 2.5. Duties of the Medical Licensing Board of Indiana

Sec. 1. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), the enactment of this chapter must be construed as a recodification of prior law that does not result in a substantive change to the powers and duties of the board under this article.

(b) The board is released from any obligation to consult with the midwifery committee established under IC 25-23.4-2 (before its expiration) in carrying out its duties under this article.

Sec. 2. (a) The board shall do the following:

(1) Establish as a requirement for certification as a certified direct entry midwife the Certified Professional Midwife credentials developed by the North American Registry of Midwives or a successor organization.

(2) Subject to IC 25-1-8-2, establish fees to administer this article.

(3) Establish annual continuing education requirements to renew a certified direct entry midwife's certificate, which must include continuing education in pharmacology. The requirements established under this subdivision must provide for at least fifteen (15) hours of continuing education every twelve (12) months.

(4) Develop a peer review procedure, using as guidelines the peer review procedures established by:

(A) the Indiana Midwives Association or a successor

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organization; and

(B) the North American Registry of Midwives or a successor organization.

(b) The board shall do the following:

(1) In addition to the requirements under IC 25-23.4-5, adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to provide for adequate collaboration between a certified direct entry midwife and a collaborating physician.

(2) Adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 that define the competent practice for certified direct entry midwives. Rules adopted under this subdivision must limit the practice of certified direct entry midwives to nonhospital settings.

(3) Adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 that establish standards for an emergency plan of care, including that a plan must allow for the timely provision of emergency care at a hospital.

(4) In addition to the requirements under IC 25-23.4-4-1(a)(6), adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to set standards for determining the geographic area close enough to the planned location of the delivery to make the collaborating physician a reasonable choice to provide backup care.

(5) In addition to the requirements under IC 25-23.4-5-1(b), adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to establish standards or conditions that require additional review of a certified direct entry midwife's client encounters by the collaborating physician.

(6) Adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to determine the number of certified direct entry midwives with whom a physician may collaborate.

(7) In addition to the requirements under IC 25-23.4-6-1(b), establish the conditions that require a certified direct entry midwife to refer a client for an examination by a physician.

(8) Adopt rules under IC 4-22-2, establishing the health conditions that require a referral to a physician under IC 25-23.4-6-1(c).

(c) The board may not adopt rules to grant a certified direct entry midwife prescriptive authority other than the authority specified in IC 25-23.4-4-5.

Sec. 3. The board shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to administer this article.

SECTION 659. IC 25-23.4-3-2, AS ADDED BY P.L.232-2013, SECTION 20, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 2. The board shall ~~after receiving~~



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1 ~~recommendations from the committee~~; do the following:

2 (1) Determine the education that satisfies the requirements in
3 section 1 of this chapter.

4 (2) Establish formal education requirements in addition to those
5 required in section 1 of this chapter. The requirements must
6 include course material on:

7 (A) emergency life support procedures;

8 (B) identification of high risk births for mothers;

9 (C) identification of potential complications during labor; and

10 (D) other material the board specifies.

11 SECTION 660. IC 25-26-24-2 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
12 JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 2: As used in this chapter, "committee"~~
13 ~~refers to the INSPECT oversight committee established by section 24~~
14 ~~of this chapter.~~

15 SECTION 661. IC 25-26-24-17, AS AMENDED BY P.L.17-2021,
16 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
17 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 17. (a) The board shall provide for an
18 ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, and controlled substance prescription
19 monitoring program that includes the following components:

20 (1) Each time ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or a controlled
21 substance designated by the board under IC 35-48-2-5 through
22 IC 35-48-2-10 is dispensed, the dispenser shall transmit to the
23 INSPECT program the following information:

24 (A) The ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or controlled substance
25 recipient's name.

26 (B) The ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or controlled substance
27 recipient's or the recipient representative's identification
28 number or the identification number or phrase designated by
29 the INSPECT program.

30 (C) The ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or controlled substance
31 recipient's date of birth.

32 (D) The national drug code number of the ephedrine,
33 pseudoephedrine, or controlled substance dispensed.

34 (E) The date the ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or controlled
35 substance is dispensed.

36 (F) The quantity of the ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or
37 controlled substance dispensed.

38 (G) The number of days of supply dispensed.

39 (H) The dispenser's United States Drug Enforcement Agency
40 registration number.

41 (I) The prescriber's United States Drug Enforcement Agency

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- 1 registration number.
- 2 (J) An indication as to whether the prescription was transmitted
- 3 to the pharmacist orally or in writing.
- 4 (K) Other data required by the board.
- 5 (2) The information required to be transmitted under this section
- 6 must be transmitted not more than twenty-four (24) hours after the
- 7 date on which ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or a controlled
- 8 substance is dispensed. However, if the dispenser's pharmacy is
- 9 closed the day following the dispensing, the information must be
- 10 transmitted by the end of the next business day. A dispenser who
- 11 is also authorized to prescribe is required only to report actual
- 12 dispensations within twenty-four (24) hours of the dispensation.
- 13 (3) A dispenser shall transmit the information required under this
- 14 section by:
- 15 (A) uploading to the INSPECT Internet web site; or
- 16 (B) another electronic method that meets specifications
- 17 prescribed by the board.
- 18 (4) The board may require that prescriptions for ephedrine,
- 19 pseudoephedrine, or controlled substances be written on a one (1)
- 20 part form that cannot be duplicated. However, the board may not
- 21 apply such a requirement to prescriptions filled at a pharmacy
- 22 with a Category II permit (as described in IC 25-26-13-17) and
- 23 operated by a hospital licensed under IC 16-21, or prescriptions
- 24 ordered for and dispensed to bona fide enrolled patients in
- 25 facilities licensed under IC 16-28. The board may not require
- 26 multiple copy prescription forms for any prescriptions written.
- 27 The board may not require different prescription forms for any
- 28 individual drug or group of drugs. Prescription forms required
- 29 under this subdivision must be approved by the Indiana board of
- 30 pharmacy created by IC 25-26-13-3.
- 31 (5) The costs of the program.
- 32 (6) As part of the information to be completed in the data base
- 33 and, if available, an entry where a dispenser indicates that a
- 34 patient is participating in a pain management contract with a
- 35 designated practitioner.
- 36 **Beginning January 1, 2027, the board is responsible for**
- 37 **implementing policies and standards that promote the effective**
- 38 **operation of the program.**
- 39 ~~(b) The board shall consider the recommendations of the committee~~
- 40 ~~concerning the INSPECT program.~~
- 41 ~~(c)~~ **(b)** This subsection applies only to a retail pharmacy. A
- 42 pharmacist, pharmacy technician, or person authorized by a pharmacist

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1 to dispense ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or a controlled substance may
 2 not dispense ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or a controlled substance to
 3 a person who is not personally known to the pharmacist, pharmacy
 4 technician, or person authorized by a pharmacist to dispense a
 5 controlled substance unless the person taking possession of the
 6 ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or controlled substance provides
 7 documented proof of the person's identification to the pharmacist,
 8 pharmacy technician, or person authorized by a pharmacist to dispense
 9 ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or a controlled substance.

10 SECTION 662. IC 25-26-24-18, AS ADDED BY P.L.51-2019,
 11 SECTION 8, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 12 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 18. (a) The INSPECT program must do the
 13 following:

14 (1) Create a data base for information required to be transmitted
 15 under section 17 of this chapter in the form required under rules
 16 adopted by the board, including search capability for the
 17 following:

18 (A) An ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or a controlled substance
 19 recipient's name.

20 (B) An ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or a controlled substance
 21 recipient's or recipient representative's identification number.

22 (C) An ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or a controlled substance
 23 recipient's date of birth.

24 (D) The national drug code number of ephedrine,
 25 pseudoephedrine, or a controlled substance dispensed.

26 (E) The dates ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or a controlled
 27 substance are dispensed.

28 (F) The quantities of ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or controlled
 29 substance dispensed.

30 (G) The number of days of supply dispensed.

31 (H) A dispenser's United States Drug Enforcement Agency
 32 registration number.

33 (I) A prescriber's United States Drug Enforcement Agency
 34 registration number.

35 (J) Whether a prescription was transmitted to the pharmacist
 36 orally or in writing.

37 (K) An ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or a controlled substance
 38 recipient's method of payment for the ephedrine,
 39 pseudoephedrine, or controlled substance dispensed.

40 To the extent considered appropriate by the board, the data base
 41 must be interoperable with other similar registries operated by

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1 federal and state governments.

2 (2) Provide the board with continuing twenty-four (24) hour a day
3 online access to the data base.

4 (3) Secure the information collected and the data base maintained
5 against access by unauthorized persons.

6 ~~(b) The board may not execute a contract with a vendor designated~~
7 ~~by the board to perform any function associated with the administration~~
8 ~~of the INSPECT program; unless the contract has been approved by the~~
9 ~~committee.~~

10 ~~(c)~~ (b) The INSPECT program may gather prescription data from
11 the Medicaid retrospective and prospective drug utilization review
12 (DUR) program established under IC 12-15-35.

13 ~~(d)~~ (c) The board may accept and designate grants, public and
14 private financial assistance, and licensure fees to provide funding for
15 the INSPECT program.

16 SECTION 663. IC 25-26-24-24 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
17 JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 24: (a) The INSPECT oversight committee
18 is established:

19 (b) The committee consists of the following members:

20 (1) The president of the board or the president's designee, who
21 shall serve as the chairperson of the committee:

22 (2) The commissioner of the Indiana department of health or the
23 commissioner's designee:

24 (3) The superintendent of the state police department or the
25 superintendent's designee:

26 (4) The attorney general or the attorney general's designee:

27 (5) Two (2) lay members who are authorized users of the
28 INSPECT program appointed by the president pro tempore of the
29 senate; not more than one (1) of whom may be affiliated with the
30 same political party:

31 (6) Two (2) lay members who are authorized users of the
32 INSPECT program appointed by the speaker of the house of
33 representatives; not more than one (1) of whom may be affiliated
34 with the same political party:

35 (c) The committee shall provide recommendations to the board
36 concerning the implementation of policies, standards, and rules that
37 promote the effective operation of the program:

38 (d) The committee shall meet:

39 (1) at least once each calendar year; and

40 (2) at the call of the chairperson:

41 (e) The term of a member of the committee appointed under this



1 section is four (4) years. The term of a member of the committee
 2 expires July 1, but a member may continue to serve on the committee
 3 until a successor is appointed.

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

9 (1) official action taken; and

10 (2) actionable items considered;

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

12 SECTION 664. IC 25-28.5-1-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.1-2006,
 13 SECTION 469, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 14 [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 2. As used in this chapter:

15 (1) "Plumbing" means the practice of and the materials and fixtures
 16 used in the installation, maintenance, extension, and alteration of all
 17 piping, fixtures, appliances, and appurtenances in connection with any
 18 of the following:

19 (A) Sanitary drainage or storm drainage facilities, the venting
 20 system, and the public or private water supply systems, within or
 21 adjacent to any building or structure.

22 (B) The practice and materials used in the installation,
 23 maintenance, extension, or alteration of the stormwater, liquid
 24 waste, or sewerage, and water supply systems of any premises to
 25 the private property line or to their connection with any point of
 26 public disposal or other acceptable terminal.

27 The term does not include the planning, designing, and installation of
 28 sanitation and water systems in vehicles commonly known as mobile
 29 homes, the drilling of wells, the installation of pumps, pressure tanks,
 30 and piping incidental to the drilling or repair of a well system, the sale
 31 or installation of water softening equipment and apparatuses and
 32 services of the same, or the business of manufacturing or selling
 33 plumbing fixtures; appliances, equipment, or hardware; the installation
 34 of automatic sprinklers, the overhead or underground water supplies or
 35 standpipes when connected to an automatic sprinkler system or to their
 36 related devices or appurtenances connecting thereto; nor does the term
 37 include the work referred to in section 32(i) of this chapter; nor does
 38 the term include the planning or design of water supply or sewage
 39 systems which would ordinarily be performed as "the practice of
 40 engineering", as defined in IC 25-31-1, IC 25-4-0.5-7, or the "practice
 41 of architecture", as defined in IC 25-4-1.

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(2) "Plumbing contractor" means any person who, for compensation, undertakes to, or submits a bid to, or does himself or herself or by others, construct, repair, alter, remodel, add to, subtract from, or improve plumbing and who is responsible for substantially all the plumbing within the entire project, or one who fabricates units or plumbing substantially completed and ready for installation.

(3) "Journeyman plumber" means a person who engages or offers to engage in, as an occupation or trade, the construction, installation, alteration, maintenance, repair, remodeling, or removal and replacement of plumbing under the supervision, direction, and responsibility of a licensed plumbing contractor.

(4) "Maintenance man" means a person who is employed on a permanent basis to keep the premises of a business establishment in good repair.

(5) "Contracting" means, except as exempted in this chapter, engaging in a business as a contractor.

(6) "Person" means a natural person, except in the case of a plumbing contractor, in which case it may mean the partners or members of a partnership, limited partnership, or any form of unincorporated enterprise, owned by two (2) or more persons, and as applied to "corporation" in addition to the corporate entity means the officers or directors and employees thereof.

(7) "Commission" means the Indiana plumbing commission created by this chapter.

(8) "License" means a certificate issued by the commission established by this chapter which confers upon the holder the privilege to act as a plumbing contractor or a journeyman plumber as defined in this chapter.

(9) "Farmstead" means a farm dwelling together with other buildings, structures, equipment, piping, and other plumbing materials and supplies, located upon a parcel of real estate used primarily for agricultural purposes located outside the corporate limits of a municipality and not connected to a public water supply.

(10) "Licensing agency" means the Indiana professional licensing agency established under IC 25-1-5-3.

(11) "Apprentice plumber" means an individual who:

(A) is learning the plumbing trade; and

(B) is under the direction and immediate supervision of a licensed plumbing contractor or a licensed journeyman plumber.

(12) "Registration" means the granting of a certificate by the commission that authorizes an individual to act as an apprentice

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1 plumber.

2 SECTION 665. IC 25-29-1-10 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
3 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 10. "Board" refers
4 to the board of podiatric medicine established by IC 25-29-2-1.
5 **medical licensing board of Indiana established by IC 25-22.5-2-1.**

6 SECTION 666. IC 25-29-2-1 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
7 JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 1: The board of podiatric medicine is
8 established.

9 SECTION 667. IC 25-29-2-2 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
10 JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 2: (a) The board consists of five (5) members
11 appointed by the governor.

12 (b) Subject to IC 25-1-6.5-3, four (4) members must be licensed
13 podiatrists who actively practice podiatric medicine and who meet the
14 following conditions:

15 (1) Be licensed in Indiana as a podiatrist under this article.

16 (2) Be a resident of Indiana.

17 (3) Have practiced podiatric medicine for at least five (5) years.

18 (c) Subject to IC 25-1-6.5-3, one (1) member of the board must meet
19 the following conditions:

20 (1) Be a resident of Indiana.

21 (2) Not be associated with the practice of podiatry other than as
22 a consumer.

23 SECTION 668. IC 25-29-2-3 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
24 JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 3: A member of the board serves a term:

25 (1) if appointed before July 1, 2019, of three (3) years and until
26 the member's successor is appointed and qualified; and

27 (2) if appointed after June 30, 2019, a term under IC 25-1-6.5.

28 SECTION 669. IC 25-29-2-4 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
29 JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 4: The governor may remove a member of
30 the board under IC 25-1-6.5-4.

31 SECTION 670. IC 25-29-2-5 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
32 JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 5: A quorum of the board consists of a
33 majority of the appointed members. At least three (3) votes are
34 necessary for the board to take official action.

35 SECTION 671. IC 25-29-2-6 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
36 JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 6: (a) The board shall hold at least one (1)
37 meeting each year. The board may hold additional meetings that the
38 board considers necessary.

39 (b) A meeting may be called by the chairman or by a majority of the
40 members of the board.

41 SECTION 672. IC 25-29-2-7 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE



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JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 7: Each year the board shall elect a chairman and any other officers from its members that the board considers necessary.

SECTION 673. IC 25-29-2-8 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. Sec. 8: Each member of the board is entitled to receive the minimum salary per diem provided by IC 4-10-11-2.1(b). The member is also entitled to reimbursement for traveling and 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 prepared by the Indiana department of administration and approved by the budget agency.

SECTION 674. IC 25-30-1-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.141-2021, SECTION 11, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 5. This chapter does not require any of the following persons to be a licensee:

(1) A law enforcement officer of the United States, a state, or a political subdivision of a state to the extent that the officer or employee is engaged in the performance of the officer's or employee's official duties.

(2) Any person to the extent that the person is engaged in the business of furnishing and obtaining information concerning the financial rating of other persons.

(3) A collection agency licensed by the secretary of state or its employee acting within the scope of the employee's employment, to the extent that the person is making an investigation incidental to the business of the agency, including an investigation of the location of a debtor or a debtor's assets in a property that the client has an interest in or a lien upon.

(4) An attorney or employee of an attorney to the extent that the person is engaged in investigative matters incident to the delivery of professional services that constitute the practice of law.

(5) An insurance adjuster to the extent that the adjuster is employed in the investigation and settlement of claims made against insurance companies or persons insured by insurance companies if the adjuster is a regular employee of the insurance company and the insurance company is authorized to do business in Indiana and is complying with the laws regulating insurance companies in Indiana.

(6) A person primarily engaged in the business of furnishing information for:

(A) business decisions and transactions in connection with

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- 1 credit, employment, or marketing; or
 2 (B) insurance underwriting purposes;
 3 including a consumer reporting agency as defined by the Fair
 4 Credit Reporting Act (15 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.).
 5 (7) A retail merchant or an employee of the retail merchant to the
 6 extent that the person is hiring a private investigator for the
 7 purposes of loss prevention investigations for the retail merchant's
 8 retail establishment.
 9 (8) A professional engineer registered under ~~IC 25-31~~ **IC 25-4-3**
 10 or a person acting under a registered professional engineer's
 11 supervision, to the extent the professional engineer is engaged in
 12 an investigation incident to the practice of engineering.
 13 (9) An architect with a certificate of registration under IC 25-4, to
 14 the extent the architect is engaged in an investigation incident to
 15 the practice of architecture.
 16 (10) A professional surveyor with a certificate of registration
 17 under IC 25-21.5, to the extent the professional surveyor is
 18 engaged in an investigation incident to the practice of surveying.
 19 (11) A certified public accountant with a certificate under
 20 IC 25-2.1-3, to the extent that the person is engaged in an
 21 investigation incident to the practice of accountancy.
 22 (12) An independent consultant employed by the attorney general
 23 under IC 32-34-1.5-60, to the extent that the independent
 24 consultant is engaged in providing services for the attorney
 25 general.
 26 SECTION 675. IC 25-31 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY
 27 1, 2027]. (Professional Engineers).
 28 SECTION 676. IC 25-31.5-1-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 29 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 1. This article
 30 does not apply to the following individuals:
 31 (1) An officer or employee of:
 32 (A) the federal government;
 33 (B) state government; or
 34 (C) local government;
 35 while providing soil science services for the officer's or
 36 employee's employer.
 37 (2) An individual engaged solely in soil science research or the
 38 instruction of soil science.
 39 (3) An individual not engaged in the public practice of soil
 40 science.
 41 (4) A professional engineer registered under ~~IC 25-31~~ **IC 25-4-3**

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1 who applies soil science to the practice of engineering.

2 (5) A professional geologist certified under IC 25-17.6 who
3 applies soil science to the practice of geology.

4 (6) A person who is a certified professional erosion and sediment
5 control specialist (CPESC) or soil conservationist who uses soil
6 science in making land use decisions for the conservation of soil
7 and water resources.

8 (7) A professional wetlands specialist who applies soil science to
9 make wetland delineations or determinations.

10 SECTION 677. IC 25-31.5-1-12, AS AMENDED BY P.L.2-2008,
11 SECTION 65, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
12 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 12. "State chemist" refers to the state chemist
13 appointed under ~~IC 15-16-2-24~~ **IC 15-11-4.5-2**.

14 SECTION 678. IC 25-31.5-3-9 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
15 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. (a) The soil scientist
16 registration fund is established as a separate fund in the ~~Purdue~~
17 ~~University treasury~~ **Indiana state department of agriculture**
18 **established by IC 15-11-2-1** to carry out the purposes of this article.
19 The fund is administered by the board.

20 (b) The sources of money for the fund are the:

21 (1) registration fees paid under IC 25-31.5-4-10; and

22 (2) renewal fees paid under IC 25-31.5-6-3.

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

25 (d) The state chemist shall collect all money paid under this article
26 and deposit the money in the fund.

27 (e) If required by the board, the state chemist shall obtain a surety
28 bond conditioned upon the faithful performance of the state chemist's
29 duties for the board in an amount determined by the board. The bond
30 must be issued by a surety company authorized to transact business in
31 Indiana. All costs of the surety bond shall be paid from money in the
32 fund.

33 (f) The ~~Purdue University~~ **treasurer of state** shall invest the money
34 in the fund not currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in
35 the same manner as other public funds may be invested. Interest that
36 accrues from these investments must be deposited in the fund.

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

39 SECTION 679. IC 25-35.6-2-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.249-2019,
40 SECTION 135, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
41 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. (a) There is established the

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speech-language pathology and audiology board.

(b) The board shall be comprised of ~~five (5)~~ **four (4)** members, who shall be appointed by the governor. Subject to IC 25-1-6.5-3, four (4) board members shall have been residents of this state for at least one (1) year immediately preceding their appointment and shall have been engaged in rendering services to the public, teaching, or research in speech-language pathology or audiology for at least five (5) years immediately preceding their appointment. At least two (2) board members shall be speech-language pathologists and at least two (2) shall be audiologists. ~~Subject to IC 25-1-6.5-3, the fifth member of the board, to represent the general public, shall be a resident of this state who has never been associated with speech-language pathology or audiology in any way other than as a consumer. Except for the member representing the general public,~~ All board members shall at all times be holders of active and valid licenses for the practice of speech-language pathology or audiology in this state.

(c) A member may be removed under IC 25-1-6.5-4.

(d) Appointments shall be:

(1) for members appointed before July 1, 2019, for a three year term; and

(2) for members appointed after June 30, 2019, for a term under IC 25-1-6.5.

(e) The governor may consider, but shall not be bound to accept, recommendations for board membership made by a statewide association for speech-language and hearing. A statewide association for speech-language and hearing may submit to the governor its recommendations for board membership not less than sixty (60) days after a vacancy. In the event of a mid-term vacancy, such association may make recommendations for filling such vacancy.

(f) At the first meeting of the board each year, members shall elect a chairperson for the subsequent twelve (12) month period. Further meetings may be convened at the call of the chairperson or the written request of any two (2) board members. All meetings of the board shall be open to the public, except that the board may hold closed sessions to prepare, approve, grade, or administer examinations or, upon request of an applicant who fails an examination, to prepare a response indicating any reason for the applicant's failure. All meetings of the board must be held in Indiana.

(g) A quorum of the board consists of a majority of the appointed members. A majority of the quorum may transact business. **The chairperson of the board is not allowed to cast a vote on any matter**

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before the board unless the chairperson's vote is necessary to break a tie.

SECTION 680. IC 27-1-15.7-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.158-2024, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 4. (a) The commissioner shall approve and disapprove continuing education courses. ~~after considering recommendations made by the insurance producer education and continuing education commission established under section 6.5 of this chapter.~~

(b) The commissioner may not approve a course under this section if the course:

- (1) is designed to prepare an individual to receive an initial license under this chapter;
- (2) concerns only routine, basic office skills, including filing, 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.

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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 681. 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 commission;~~
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:

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- 1 (i) ethical practices in the marketing and selling of insurance;
 - 2 (ii) requirements of the insurance laws and administrative
 - 3 rules of Indiana;
 - 4 (iii) principles of life insurance; and
 - 5 (iv) principles of health insurance.
- 6 (D) For property and casualty insurance producers, not less than
- 7 forty (40) hours of instruction in a structured setting or
- 8 comparable self-study on:
- 9 (i) ethical practices in the marketing and selling of insurance;
 - 10 (ii) requirements of the insurance laws and administrative
 - 11 rules of Indiana;
 - 12 (iii) principles of property insurance; and
 - 13 (iv) principles of liability insurance.
- 14 (E) For personal lines producers, a minimum of twenty (20)
- 15 hours of instruction in a structured setting or comparable
- 16 self-study on:
- 17 (i) ethical practices in the marketing and selling of insurance;
 - 18 (ii) requirements of the insurance laws and administrative
 - 19 rules of Indiana; and
 - 20 (iii) principles of property and liability insurance applicable
 - 21 to coverages sold to individuals and families for primarily
 - 22 noncommercial purposes.
- 23 (F) For title insurance producers, not less than ten (10) hours of
- 24 instruction in a structured setting or comparable self-study on:
- 25 (i) ethical practices in the marketing and selling of title
 - 26 insurance;
 - 27 (ii) requirements of the insurance laws and administrative
 - 28 rules of Indiana;
 - 29 (iii) principles of title insurance, including underwriting and
 - 30 escrow issues; and
 - 31 (iv) principles of the federal Real Estate Settlement
 - 32 Procedures Act (12 U.S.C. 2608).
- 33 (G) For annuity product producers, not less than four (4) hours
- 34 of instruction in a structured setting or comparable self-study
- 35 on:
- 36 (i) types and classifications of annuities;
 - 37 (ii) identification of the parties to an annuity;
 - 38 (iii) the manner in which fixed, variable, and indexed annuity
 - 39 contract provisions affect consumers;
 - 40 (iv) income taxation of qualified and non-qualified annuities;
 - 41 (v) primary uses of annuities; and

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- 1 (vi) appropriate sales practices, replacement, and disclosure
 2 requirements.
- 3 (3) Instruction provided in a structured setting must be provided
 4 only by individuals who meet the qualifications established by the
 5 commissioner under subsection (b).
- 6 (b) The commissioner ~~after consulting with the insurance producer~~
 7 ~~education and continuing education commission~~, shall adopt rules
 8 under IC 4-22-2 prescribing the criteria that a person must meet to
 9 render instruction in a certified preclicensing course of study.
- 10 (c) The commissioner shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 prescribing
 11 the subject matter that an insurance producer program of study must
 12 cover to qualify for certification as a certified preclicensing course of
 13 study under this section.
- 14 (d) The commissioner may make recommendations that the
 15 commissioner considers necessary for improvements in course
 16 materials.
- 17 (e) The commissioner shall designate a program of study that meets
 18 the requirements of this section as a certified preclicensing course of
 19 study for purposes of IC 27-1-15.6-6.
- 20 (f) For each person that provides one (1) or more certified
 21 preclicensing courses of study, the commissioner shall annually
 22 determine, of all individuals who received classroom instruction in the
 23 certified preclicensing courses of study provided by the person, the
 24 percentage who passed the examination required by IC 27-1-15.6-5.
 25 The commissioner shall determine only one (1) passing percentage
 26 under this subsection for all lines of insurance described in
 27 IC 27-1-15.6-7(a) for which the person provides classroom instruction
 28 in certified preclicensing courses of study.
- 29 (g) The commissioner may, after notice and opportunity for a
 30 hearing, do the following:
- 31 (1) Withdraw the certification of a course of study that does not
 32 maintain reasonable standards, as determined by the
 33 commissioner for the protection of the public.
- 34 (2) Disqualify a person that is currently qualified under
 35 subsection (b) to render instruction in a certified preclicensing
 36 course of study from rendering the instruction if the passing
 37 percentage calculated under subsection (f) is less than forty-five
 38 percent (45%).
- 39 (h) Current course materials for a preclicensing course of study that
 40 is certified under this section must be submitted to the commissioner
 41 upon request, but not less frequently than once every three (3) years.

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SECTION 682. IC 27-1-15.7-6.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.158-2024, SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6.5. (a) As used in this section, "commission" refers to the insurance producer education and continuing education commission established by subsection (b).

(b) The insurance producer education and continuing education commission is established within the department. The commissioner shall appoint the following seven (7) individuals:

(1) One (1) individual nominated by the Professional Insurance Agents of Indiana or its successor organization.

(2) One (1) individual nominated by the Independent Insurance Agents of Indiana or its successor organization.

(3) One (1) individual nominated by the Indiana Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors or its successor organization.

(4) One (1) individual nominated by the Indiana State Association of Health Underwriters or its successor organization.

(5) One (1) individual nominated by the Association of Life Insurance Companies or its successor organization.

(6) One (1) individual nominated by the Insurance Institute of Indiana or its successor organization.

(7) One (1) individual nominated by the Indiana Land Title Association or its successor organization.

The commissioner shall solicit nominations from the entities set forth in this subsection. The commissioner may deny to make the appointment of an individual nominated under this subsection only if the commissioner determines that the individual is not in good standing with the department or is not qualified. If the commissioner denies the appointment of an individual nominated under this subsection, the commissioner shall provide the nominating entity with the reason for the denial and allow the nominating entity to submit an alternative nomination.

(c) A member of the commission serves for a term of three (3) years that expires June 30, 2027, and every third year thereafter. A member may not serve more than two (2) consecutive terms.

(d) The commissioner shall appoint a member of the commission to serve as chairperson, who serves at the will of the commissioner. The commission shall meet:

(1) at the call of the chairperson; and

(2) at least semiannually.

The department shall staff the commission. Four (4) members constitute a quorum of the commission.

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(e) The commissioner shall fill a vacancy on the commission with 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 683. 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~~

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1 ~~expires under subsection (a)(1) through (a)(3):~~ **December 31,**
 2 **2026.**

3 SECTION 684. IC 27-1-44.5-0.4, AS ADDED BY P.L.195-2021,
 4 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 5 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 0.4. (a) As used in this chapter, "advisory board"
 6 means the all payer claims data base advisory board established under
 7 IC 27-1-44.6-5.

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

9 SECTION 685. IC 27-1-44.6-13 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
 10 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 11 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 13. This chapter expires**
 12 **December 31, 2026.**

13 SECTION 686. IC 27-8-6-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.236-2025,
 14 SECTION 11, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 15 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 8. (a) As used in this section, "emergency
 16 medical services" has the meaning set forth in IC 16-18-2-110.

17 (b) As used in this section, "emergency medical services provider
 18 organization" means a provider of emergency medical services that is
 19 certified by the Indiana ~~emergency medical services~~ **fire and EMS**
 20 **standards and education** commission as an advanced life support
 21 provider organization under rules adopted under IC 16-31-3.

22 (c) As used in this section, "policy of accident and sickness
 23 insurance" has the meaning set forth in IC 27-8-5-1. However, for
 24 purposes of this section, the term does not include the following:

- 25 (1) Accident only, credit, dental, vision, Medicare supplement,
- 26 long term care, or disability income insurance.
- 27 (2) Coverage issued as a supplement to liability insurance.
- 28 (3) Automobile medical payment insurance.
- 29 (4) A specified disease policy.
- 30 (5) A policy that provides a stipulated daily, weekly, or monthly
- 31 payment to an insured without regard to the actual expense of the
- 32 confinement.
- 33 (6) A short term insurance plan (as defined in IC 27-8-5.9-3).

34 (d) A policy of accident and sickness insurance that provides
 35 coverage for emergency medical services must provide reimbursement
 36 for emergency medical services that are:

- 37 (1) rendered by an emergency medical services provider
- 38 organization;
- 39 (2) within the emergency medical services provider organization's
- 40 scope of practice;
- 41 (3) performed or provided as advanced life support services; and



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(4) performed or provided:

(A) during a response initiated through the 911 system; or

(B) as part of a mobile integrated healthcare program described in IC 16-31-12;

regardless of whether the patient is transported.

(e) Reimbursement for basic and advanced life support services through a policy to which this section applies must be provided on an equal basis regardless of whether the services involve transportation of the patient by ambulance.

(f) If multiple emergency medical services provider organizations qualify and submit a claim for reimbursement under this section for an encounter, the insurer:

(1) may reimburse under this section only for one (1) claim per patient encounter; and

(2) shall reimburse the claim submitted by the emergency medical services provider organization that performed or provided the majority of advanced life support services for the patient.

(g) The department may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to implement this section.

(h) This section does not require a policy of accident and sickness insurance to provide coverage for emergency medical services.

SECTION 687. IC 27-8-38-5, AS ADDED BY P.L.170-2022, SECTION 38, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 5. As used in this chapter, "emergency medical services provider organization" means a provider of emergency medical services that is certified by the Indiana ~~emergency medical services~~ **fire and EMS standards and education** commission under the rules adopted under IC 16-31-3 to provide advanced life support.

SECTION 688. IC 27-13-7-27, AS AMENDED BY P.L.236-2025, SECTION 13, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 27. (a) This section applies to each of the following:

(1) An individual contract.

(2) A group contract.

(b) As used in this section, "emergency medical services" has the meaning set forth in IC 16-18-2-110.

(c) As used in this section, "emergency medical services provider organization" means a provider of emergency medical services that is certified by the Indiana ~~emergency medical services~~ **fire and EMS standards and education** commission as an advanced life support provider organization under rules adopted under IC 16-31-3.

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(d) An individual contract and a group contract that provide coverage for emergency medical services must provide reimbursement for emergency medical services that are:

(1) rendered by an emergency medical services provider organization;

(2) within the emergency medical services provider organization's scope of practice;

(3) performed or provided as advanced life support services; and

(4) performed or provided:

(A) during a response initiated through the 911 system; or

(B) as part of a mobile integrated healthcare program described in IC 16-31-12;

regardless of whether the patient is transported.

(e) Reimbursement for basic and advanced life support services through a contract to which this section applies must be provided on an equal basis regardless of whether the services involve transportation of the patient by ambulance.

(f) If multiple emergency medical services provider organizations qualify and submit a claim for reimbursement under this section, the health maintenance organization:

(1) may reimburse under this section only for one (1) claim per patient encounter; and

(2) shall reimburse the claim submitted by the emergency medical services provider organization that performed or provided the majority of advanced life support services.

(g) The department may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to implement this section.

(h) This section does not require an individual contract or a group contract to provide coverage for emergency medical services.

SECTION 689. IC 31-9-2-10.6, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006, SECTION 175, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 10.6. ~~(a)~~ "Board", for purposes of IC 31-25-4, has the meaning set forth in IC 31-25-4-34(a).

~~(b) "Board", for purposes of IC 31-26-4, has the meaning set forth in IC 31-26-4-2.~~

SECTION 690. IC 31-9-2-21.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 21.5. "Commission", for purposes of IC 31-26-4, has the meaning set forth in IC 31-26-4-2.1.**

SECTION 691. IC 31-26-4-2, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006, SECTION 272, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS

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[EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) As used in this chapter, "board" refers to the Indiana kids first trust fund board established by section 5 of this chapter.

(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 692. IC 31-26-4-2.1 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2.1. As used in this chapter, "commission" refers to the commission on improving the status of children in Indiana established by IC 2-5-36-3.

SECTION 693. IC 31-26-4-2.3, AS ADDED BY P.L.220-2011, SECTION 506, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2.3. (a) After June 30, 2003, and before January 1, 2027, any reference in a statute or rule referring to the Indiana children's trust fund board is considered a reference to the board.

(b) This subsection does not apply after December 31, 2026. On 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 694. 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.

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(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 695. 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 budget must contain priorities for expenditures from the fund to accomplish the projects that have been approved under this chapter. The commission shall submit a budget to the department and the budget committee before January 1, 2028, and each year thereafter.

(c) The commission may employ staff necessary to carry out the duties of the board.

(d) The commission may establish a nonprofit subsidiary corporation under section 17 of this chapter.

SECTION 696. IC 31-26-4-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.56-2023, SECTION 298, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 6. (a) The board consists of the following ten (10) members:**

(1) Two (2) individuals who are not members of the general assembly, appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate with advice from the minority leader of the senate.

(2) Two (2) individuals who are not members of the general assembly, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives with advice from the minority leader of the house of representatives.

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

(4) Four (4) individuals appointed by the governor as follows:

(A) One (1) individual who represents the general public.

(B) Two (2) individuals who represent child advocacy organizations.

(C) One (1) individual who represents the medical community.

(5) The commissioner of the Indiana department of health or the

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commissioner's designee. An individual designated by the commissioner under this subdivision must have knowledge of or experience in issues relating to:

(A) the prevention of child abuse and neglect; and

(B) the reduction of infant mortality.

(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 697. IC 31-26-4-7, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006, SECTION 272, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) The members shall annually choose a chairperson and vice chairperson from among the members of the board under this section.

(b) The director of the department or the director's designee may not 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 698. 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 699. 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.

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(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 700. 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 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 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) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 701. IC 31-26-4-11, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006, SECTION 272, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 11. The ~~board~~ **commission** shall adopt and make available to the public:

- (1) a strategic plan to implement the purposes of this chapter; and
- (2) a method for proposing projects and requesting funds from the Indiana kids first trust fund.

SECTION 702. IC 31-26-4-12, AS AMENDED BY P.L.93-2021, SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 12. (a) The Indiana kids first trust fund is established to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

(b) The fund consists of the following:

- (1) Appropriations made by the general assembly.
- (2) Interest as provided in subsection (e).
- (3) Fees from kids first trust license plates issued under IC 9-18-30 (before its expiration) or IC 9-18.5-14.

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(4) Money donated to the fund, including donations from a nonprofit subsidiary corporation established under section 17 of this chapter.

(5) Money transferred to the fund from other funds.

(c) The treasurer of state shall administer the fund.

(d) The expenses of administering the fund and this chapter shall be paid from the fund.

(e) 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 trust funds are invested. Interest that accrues from these investments shall be deposited in the fund.

(f) An appropriation made by the general assembly to the fund shall be allotted and allocated at the beginning of the fiscal period for which the appropriation was made.

(g) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not revert to the state general fund or any other fund.

(h) Subject to this chapter, there is annually appropriated to the department all money in the fund for the purposes of this chapter. However, the department may not request the allotment of money from the appropriation for a project that has not been approved and recommended by the ~~board~~ **commission**.

SECTION 703. IC 31-26-4-14, AS AMENDED BY P.L.156-2011, SECTION 40, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 14. (a) The infant mortality account is established within the fund for the purpose of providing money for education and programs approved by the ~~board~~ **commission** under section ~~5(b)~~ **5.5(a)** of this chapter to reduce infant mortality in Indiana. The account shall be administered by the treasurer of state.

(b) Expenses of administering the account shall be paid from money in the account. The account consists of the following:

(1) Appropriations to the account.

(2) Money donated to the account.

(c) 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.

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

SECTION 704. IC 31-26-4-15, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006, SECTION 272, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 15. **(a) This subsection applies to**



a calendar year ending before January 1, 2027. Before October 1 of each year, the board shall prepare a report concerning the program established by this chapter for the public and the general assembly. A report prepared under this section for the general assembly must be in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.

(b) This subsection applies to a calendar year beginning after December 31, 2026. Before October 1 of each year, the commission shall prepare a report concerning the program established by this chapter for the public and the general assembly. The commission shall submit the report to the general assembly in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.

SECTION 705. IC 31-26-4-17, AS ADDED BY P.L.93-2021, SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 17. (a) The board may establish a nonprofit subsidiary corporation that is exempt from federal income taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code to solicit and accept private funding, gifts, donations, bequests, devises, and contributions.

(b) The board shall study the topic of establishing a nonprofit subsidiary corporation described in subsection (a). Not later than December 31, 2021, the board shall submit a report to the general assembly in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6 addressing the board's findings and determinations under this subsection. If the board determines to establish a nonprofit subsidiary corporation as described in subsection (a), the report must also include an implementation plan and estimated budget for the establishment of the nonprofit subsidiary corporation.

(c) A subsidiary corporation established under this section is governed by a board of directors comprised of members appointed by the Indiana kids first trust fund board. Employees of the Indiana kids first trust fund board may serve on the board of directors of the subsidiary corporation. A subsidiary corporation established under this section:

- (1) shall use money received under subsection (a) to carry out, in any manner, the purposes and programs of the board;
- (2) shall report to the budget committee each year concerning:
 - (A) the use of money received; and
 - (B) the balances in any accounts or funds established by the subsidiary corporation;
- (3) may donate money received to the Indiana kids first trust fund; and
- (4) may deposit money received in an account or fund that is:

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(A) administered by the subsidiary corporation; and

(B) not part of the state treasury.

(d) The board of directors of a subsidiary corporation established under this section shall post the minutes of a meeting on the subsidiary corporation's Internet web site not later than ten (10) days after the minutes are approved by the board of directors.

(e) Employees of the Indiana kids first trust fund board shall provide administrative support for a subsidiary corporation established under this section. Employees of the board directly involved in the subsidiary corporation may engage in fundraising activities on behalf of the subsidiary corporation.

(f) The state board of accounts shall annually audit a subsidiary corporation established under this section.

(g) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 706. IC 31-27-2-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.56-2023, SECTION 300, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. The department 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, division of family resources, the state police department, and ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~, **department of homeland security**, shall upon request supply necessary information to the department.

(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:

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(A) For a child caring institution or group home license, a fee not to exceed three dollars (\$3) for each licensed bed based on total licensed bed capacity not to exceed a maximum fee of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150).

(B) For a child placing agency license, a fee not to exceed fifty dollars (\$50).

(8) Exercise any other regulatory and administrative powers necessary to carry out the functions of the department.

SECTION 707. 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

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1 reporting requirements.

2 SECTION 708. IC 31-27-2-7, AS ADDED BY P.L.145-2006,
3 SECTION 273, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
4 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) Except as provided in
5 subsections (b) and (c), the department shall exempt from licensure a
6 child caring institution and a group home operated by a church or
7 religious ministry that is a religious organization exempt from federal
8 income taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code
9 (as defined in IC 6-3-1-11) and that does not:

10 (1) accept for care:

11 (A) a child who is a delinquent child under IC 31-37-1-1 or
12 IC 31-37-2-1; or

13 (B) a child who is a child in need of services under
14 IC 31-34-1-1 through IC 31-34-1-9; or

15 (2) operate a residential facility that provides child care on a
16 twenty-four (24) hour basis for profit.

17 (b) The department shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to govern the
18 inspection of a child caring institution and a group home operated by
19 a church or religious ministry with regard to sanitation.

20 (c) ~~The fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department**
21 **of homeland security** shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to govern the
22 inspection of a child caring institution and a group home operated by
23 a church or religious ministry under this section. The rules must
24 provide standards for fire alarms and fire drills.

25 (d) A child caring institution and a group home operated by a
26 church or religious ministry under this section shall comply with the
27 rules established by the department and the ~~fire prevention and~~
28 ~~building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** under
29 this section.

30 SECTION 709. IC 31-27-2-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.183-2017,
31 SECTION 13, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
32 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) Except as provided in subsection (f), the
33 department may grant a variance or waiver of a rule governing child
34 caring institutions, foster family homes, group homes, or child placing
35 agencies. A variance or waiver granted under this section must promote
36 statewide practices and must protect the rights of persons affected by
37 this article.

38 (b) The department may grant a variance to a rule if an applicant for
39 a license or a licensee under this article does the following:

40 (1) Submits to the department a written request for the variance
41 in the form and manner specified by the department.



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(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 710. 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.

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(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~~ **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 711. 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 712. 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 713. 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

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1 county recorder in a form that is not electronic.

2 (b) On or before July 1, 2022, a county recorder shall receive for
3 recording, indexing, storage, archiving, access to, searching of,
4 retrieval, and transmittal all electronic documents proper for recording.
5 A county recorder shall also accept electronically any fee or tax that the
6 county recorder is authorized to collect under applicable laws. A
7 county recorder shall implement the processing of electronic
8 documents proper for recording in compliance with:

- 9 (1) this article;
10 (2) IC 33-42;
11 (3) IC 36-2-7.5;
12 (4) IC 36-2-11; and
13 (5) IC 36-2-13; and

14 the standards adopted by the electronic recording commission created
15 under section 9 of this chapter **(before its repeal)**.

16 (c) This section does not apply to the following documents:

- 17 (1) A military discharge under IC 10-17-2.
18 (2) A survey of real property.
19 (3) A plat of real property.

20 (d) A recorder who accepts electronic documents for recording
21 shall:

- 22 (1) continue to accept paper documents as authorized by state
23 law; and
24 (2) place entries for paper documents and electronic documents
25 in the same index.

26 (e) A recorder who accepts electronic documents for recording may:

- 27 (1) convert paper documents accepted for recording into
28 electronic form;
29 (2) convert into electronic form information recorded before the
30 county recorder began to accept and index electronic documents;
31 or
32 (3) agree with other officials of a state or a political subdivision
33 of a state, or of the United States, on procedures or processes to
34 facilitate the electronic satisfaction of prior approvals and
35 conditions precedent to recording and the electronic payment of
36 fees and taxes.

37 SECTION 714. IC 32-21-2.5-9 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY
38 1, 2026]. ~~Sec. 9: (a) The electronic recording commission is established~~
39 ~~to adopt standards to implement this chapter before January 1, 2018.~~
40 ~~The commission consists of the following five (5) members appointed~~
41 ~~by the governor:~~

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(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 715. 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 716. 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



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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 717. 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 718. 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 719. 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 720. IC 34-30-2.1-127 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 127: IC 10-18-1-2 (Concerning members of~~

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1 the Indiana war memorials commission):

2 SECTION 721. IC 34-30-2.1-252 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
3 JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 252. IC 16-41-42.2-5(k) (Concerning~~
4 ~~members of the spinal cord and brain injury research board):~~

5 SECTION 722. IC 34-30-27-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.2-2014,
6 SECTION 117, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
7 [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 1. An architect registered
8 under IC 25-4-1, a professional surveyor registered under IC 25-21.5,
9 or a professional engineer registered under ~~IC 25-31-1~~ IC 25-4-3 who,
10 after May 31, 2013, voluntarily, without compensation (other than
11 expense reimbursement), provides architectural, structural, electrical,
12 mechanical, or professional services:

13 (1) related to a declared national, state, or local emergency caused
14 by an earthquake, hurricane, tornado, fire, explosion, gale, severe
15 storm, flood, or collapse; and

16 (2) at the request of or with the approval of a federal or state
17 official with executive responsibility in the jurisdiction to
18 coordinate:

19 (A) law enforcement;

20 (B) public safety; or

21 (C) building inspection;

22 believed by the registered architect, professional surveyor, or
23 professional engineer to be acting in an official capacity;

24 is not liable for any personal injury, wrongful death, property damage,
25 or other loss of any nature related to the registered architect's,
26 professional surveyor's, or professional engineer's acts, errors, or
27 omissions in the performance of the services.

28 SECTION 723. IC 34-52-2-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.3-2014,
29 SECTION 29, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
30 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 1. (a) Subject to any other statute governing
31 reimbursement of fees and other expenses, this chapter applies to the
32 reimbursement of the fees and other expenses incurred in preparing for
33 or prosecuting:

34 (1) a proceeding under IC 4-21.5-5 to judicially review a final
35 order made by a state agency;

36 (2) an appeal from a final determination made by the worker's
37 compensation board;

38 (3) an appeal of a final determination made by the department of
39 state revenue; or

40 (4) an appeal of a final determination made by the department of
41 workforce development or the department of workforce



development unemployment insurance review board.

(b) However, this chapter does not apply to an order or other determination:

(1) under:

(A) IC 16-27-1;

(B) IC 16-28;

(C) IC 16-30;

(D) IC 12-28-4; or

(E) IC 12-28-5;

(2) by an agency described in IC 25-0.5-9; or

(3) by the ~~board of podiatric medicine~~; **medical licensing board of Indiana under IC 25-29.**

SECTION 724. IC 35-44.1-4-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.32-2019, SECTION 30, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 9. (a) As used in this section, "emergency medical person" means a person who holds a certificate issued by the Indiana ~~emergency medical services~~ **fire and EMS standards and education** commission to provide emergency medical services.

(b) A person who knowingly or intentionally obstructs or interferes with an emergency medical person performing or attempting to perform the emergency medical person's emergency functions or duties commits obstructing an emergency medical person, a Class A misdemeanor.

SECTION 725. 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 5-2-2-1.~~

SECTION 726. 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 727. 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 728. IC 35-47.5-4-4.5, AS AMENDED BY

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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
to:

- (1) govern the use of a regulated explosive; and
- (2) establish requirements for the issuance of a license for the use
of a regulated explosive.

(c) The ~~commission~~ **department** shall include the following
requirements in the rules adopted under subsection (b):

- (1) Relicensure every three (3) years after the initial issuance of
a license.
- (2) Continuing education as a condition of relicensure.
- (3) An application for licensure or relicensure must be submitted
to the department on forms approved by the ~~commission~~
department.
- (4) A fee for licensure and relicensure.
- (5) Reciprocal recognition of a license for the use of a regulated
explosive issued by another state if the licensure requirements of
the other state are substantially similar to the licensure
requirements established by the ~~commission~~ **department**.

(d) A person may not use a regulated explosive unless the person
has a license issued under this section for the use of a regulated
explosive.

(e) The department shall carry out the licensing and relicensing
program under the rules adopted by the ~~commission~~ **department**.

(f) As used in this section, "regulated explosive" does not include
either of the following:

- (1) Consumer fireworks (as defined in 27 CFR 555.11).
- (2) Commercially manufactured black powder in quantities not to
exceed fifty (50) pounds, if the black powder is intended to be
used solely for sporting, recreational, or cultural purposes in
antique firearms or antique devices.

SECTION 729. IC 35-47.5-4-5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS



FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) To qualify for a regulated explosives permit, an applicant must:

(1) submit information on the form provided by the state fire marshal describing:

(A) the location of the affected magazine;

(B) the types and maximum quantities of explosives that will be kept in the place covered by the application; and

(C) the distance that the affected magazine will be located from the nearest highway, railway, and structure that is also used as a place of habitation or assembly other than for the manufacture of explosives;

(2) except as provided in subdivision (3), demonstrate through an inspection that the magazine is constructed and located in accordance with the rules adopted by the ~~commission~~ **department**;

(3) demonstrate through an inspection that smoking, matches, open flames, and spark producing devices are not allowed within a room containing an indoor magazine; and

(4) pay the fee under IC 22-12-6-6.

(b) To qualify for the renewal of a regulated explosives permit, the applicant must pay the fee under IC 22-12-6-6.

SECTION 730. IC 35-47.5-4-6 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. (a) This section does not apply to storage that is exempted from the requirements of this section in the rules adopted by the ~~commission~~ **department** under IC 22-13-3.

(b) A person who:

(1) stores a regulated explosive;

(2) has control over a regulated explosive that is stored; or

(3) has control over a place where a regulated explosive is stored;

without a regulated explosives magazine permit issued under this chapter that covers the storage commits a Class C infraction.

SECTION 731. IC 35-52-5-3 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. ~~Sec. 3: IC 5-2-2-11 defines a crime concerning the law enforcement academy building commission.~~

SECTION 732. IC 35-52-16-93 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 93: IC 16-46-6-12 defines a crime concerning state health grants and programs.~~

SECTION 733. IC 35-52-25-2.7 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: **Sec. 2.7. IC 25-4-3-4 defines a**

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1 **crime concerning engineers.**

2 SECTION 734. IC 35-52-25-2.8 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
3 CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
4 [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: **Sec. 2.8. IC 25-4-3-15 defines a**
5 **crime concerning engineers.**

6 SECTION 735. IC 35-52-25-53 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
7 JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 53. IC 25-31-1-13 defines a crime~~
8 ~~concerning engineers.~~

9 SECTION 736. IC 35-52-25-54 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
10 JANUARY 1, 2027]. ~~Sec. 54. IC 25-31-1-27 defines a crime~~
11 ~~concerning engineers.~~

12 SECTION 737. IC 36-1-7-5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
13 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) Except as
14 provided in subsection (b) and regardless of the requirements of section
15 4 of this chapter, if an agreement under section 3 of this chapter
16 concerns the provision of services or facilities that a state officer or
17 state agency has power to control, the agreement must be submitted to
18 that officer or agency for approval before it takes effect.

19 (b) If a reciprocal borrowing agreement under section 3 of this
20 chapter concerns the provision of library services or facilities between
21 public libraries that are of the same nature as the services provided
22 under the statewide library card program under IC 4-23-7.1-5.1, the
23 reciprocal borrowing agreement is not required to be submitted to the
24 Indiana library ~~and historical~~ board for approval before the reciprocal
25 borrowing agreement takes effect, but a copy of the reciprocal
26 borrowing agreement shall be submitted to the state library.

27 (c) Approval or disapproval is governed by the same provisions
28 prescribed by section 4(b) of this chapter for the attorney general.

29 SECTION 738. IC 36-1-12-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.86-2025,
30 SECTION 6, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
31 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 7. (a) This section does not apply to public
32 work that:

- 33 (1) is considered routine maintenance or upkeep; or
34 (2) does not require a building permit issued by a city, town, or
35 county.

36 (b) Public work performed or contracted for on a public building,
37 the cost of which is more than one hundred thousand dollars
38 (\$100,000), may be undertaken by the board only in accordance with
39 plans and specifications approved by an architect or engineer licensed
40 under ~~IC 25-4~~ or ~~IC 25-31~~ **IC 25-4-1 or IC 25-4-3** if the scope of the
41 public work requires a design release under IC 22-15-3.

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SECTION 739. IC 36-1-12-11, AS AMENDED BY P.L.187-2021, SECTION 138, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 11. (a) The board must, within sixty (60) days after the completion of the public work project, file in the department of homeland security a complete set of final record drawings for the public work project. However, this requirement does not apply to a public work project constructed at a cost less than one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000). In addition, the filing of the drawings is required only if the project involves a public building.

(b) The department of homeland security shall provide a depository for all final record drawings filed, and retain them for inspection and loan under regulated conditions. The ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** may designate the librarian of Indiana as the custodian of the final record drawings. The librarian shall preserve the final record drawings in the state archives as public documents.

SECTION 740. IC 36-1-12.5-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.168-2006, SECTION 8, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 3. (a) As used in this chapter, "qualified provider" means the following:

(1) Before July 1, 1999, the term means a person that satisfies both of the following:

(A) The person is experienced in the design, implementation, and installation of energy conservation measures.

(B) The person submits to the school corporation or political subdivision a performance bond to ensure the qualified provider's faithful performance of the qualified provider's obligations over the term of the guaranteed energy savings contract.

(2) After June 30, 1999, the term means a person that satisfies all of the following:

(A) Subject to subdivision (3), the person is experienced in the design, implementation, and installation of energy conservation measures.

(B) The person is certified and meets the requirements of IC 4-13.6-4. The person's response to the request for proposals must include a copy of the person's certificate of qualification issued under IC 4-13.6-4.

(C) Subject to subdivision (3), the person provides energy conservation engineering services by a professional engineer licensed under ~~IC 25-31~~ **IC 25-4-3** who is under the person's



1 direct employment and supervision. The person's response to
 2 the request for proposals must include the license number of
 3 each professional engineer employed by the person to satisfy
 4 the requirement of this clause.

5 (D) The person provides:

- 6 (i) monitoring for the facility performance guarantee; and
- 7 (ii) service personnel under the person's direct employment
 8 and supervision;

9 for the duration of the contract's guarantee.

10 (E) The person performs at least twenty percent (20%) of the
 11 work (measured in dollars of the total contract price) with its
 12 own workforce.

13 (F) The person submits to the school corporation or political
 14 subdivision a performance bond to ensure the qualified
 15 provider's faithful performance of the qualified provider's
 16 obligations over the term of:

- 17 (i) the guaranteed energy savings contract; or
- 18 (ii) the guaranteed savings contract.

19 (3) With respect to conservation measures for which a contract is
 20 executed after June 30, 2006, the term includes a person that
 21 satisfies the following:

22 (A) The person is experienced in the design, implementation,
 23 and installation of conservation measures.

24 (B) The person provides engineering services with respect to
 25 conservation measures by a professional engineer licensed
 26 under ~~IC 25-31~~ **IC 25-4-3** who is under the person's direct
 27 employment and supervision. The person's response to the
 28 request for proposals must include the license number of each
 29 professional engineer employed by the person to satisfy the
 30 requirement of this clause.

31 (b) For purposes of a guaranteed energy savings contract entered
 32 into before July 1, 1999, a person who was a qualified provider under
 33 subsection (a)(1) at the time the contract was entered into remains a
 34 qualified provider for that contract after June 30, 1999. If the person
 35 enters into:

- 36 (1) a guaranteed energy savings contract after June 30, 1999, and
 37 before July 1, 2006, the person must satisfy the requirements of
 38 subsection (a)(2); or
- 39 (2) a guaranteed savings contract after June 30, 2006, the person
 40 must satisfy the requirements of subsection (a)(2) and (a)(3);

41 to be considered a qualified provider.

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1 SECTION 741. IC 36-1-12.5-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.56-2023,
 2 SECTION 328, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 3 [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 8. Conservation measures
 4 installed under a utility efficiency program or a guaranteed savings
 5 contract must be approved by the following:

6 (1) The Indiana department of health, department of homeland
 7 security, and any other state agency designated by statute.

8 (2) An architect or engineer licensed under ~~IC 25-4~~ or ~~IC 25-31~~
 9 **IC 25-4-1 or IC 25-4-3** if the conservation measures have a cost
 10 of more than fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000).

11 SECTION 742. IC 36-2-12-13 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 12 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 13. (a) A person
 13 may, for excavation, mineral extraction, or other purposes related to the
 14 person's business, temporarily remove a monument marking a corner.
 15 The person must notify in writing the county surveyor at least thirty
 16 (30) days before removing the monument. The person must replace the
 17 monument within a reasonable time at the person's expense under the
 18 supervision of the county surveyor or, if the county surveyor is not
 19 registered under IC 25-21.5 or ~~IC 25-31~~, **IC 25-4-3**; the registered
 20 person who is selected under section 11 of this chapter. The surveyor
 21 shall file a copy of the notice in the corner record book.

22 (b) Only a county surveyor or a designee may change the location
 23 of any monument. A person who wishes to have the location of a
 24 monument changed must make a request to the surveyor in writing and
 25 furnish written approval of all landowners whose property is affected
 26 by the proposed change. The surveyor may approve, reject, or modify
 27 the request and shall file a copy of the notice and the landowners'
 28 consents in the corner record book.

29 (c) When, in the construction or maintenance of a state, county, or
 30 municipal road or street, it is necessary to remove or bury a monument
 31 marking a corner, the owner of the public right-of-way shall notify the
 32 county surveyor in writing at least fifteen (15) days before commencing
 33 the work.

34 (d) A county legislative body may adopt an ordinance:

35 (1) prohibiting a person from moving, changing, or otherwise
 36 altering a monument marking a corner without complying with
 37 this section; and

38 (2) prescribing a monetary penalty for a violation of the
 39 ordinance.

40 Any money collected shall be deposited in the county surveyor's corner
 41 perpetuation fund.

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(e) A person who damages or removes a monument marking a corner or high accuracy reference network (HARN) point shall reimburse the county for the cost of repairing or replacing the monument.

(f) If a person who damages or removes a monument marking a corner violates an ordinance under subsection (d), the person is liable for:

- (1) the amount of reimbursement under subsection (e); and
- (2) any monetary penalty prescribed by the county legislative body for violation of the ordinance under subsection (d).

SECTION 743. IC 36-2-12-15, AS AMENDED BY P.L.127-2017, SECTION 89, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 15. (a) If the surveyor serves as highway supervisor or county highway engineer and is compensated for that service in an amount greater than the compensation fixed under this title, then that compensation is in lieu of the compensation fixed under this title.

(b) When fixing the compensation of county officers under this title, the county fiscal body shall fix:

- (1) compensation for the surveyor as if the surveyor is registered under IC 25-21.5 or ~~IC 25-31~~; **IC 25-4-3**; and
- (2) compensation for the surveyor as if the surveyor is not registered under IC 25-21.5 or ~~IC 25-31~~; **IC 25-4-3**.

The compensation fixed under subdivision (1) must be one and one-half (1 1/2) times that fixed under subdivision (2). The county fiscal body shall then determine whether or not the surveyor is registered under IC 25-21.5 or ~~IC 25-31~~ **IC 25-4-3** and shall fix the surveyor's compensation in the proper amount.

(c) In addition to the compensation fixed under subsection (b), if the surveyor describes and certifies the number of miles of active regulated drains in the county to the county executive, the surveyor is entitled, with the approval of the county executive, to:

- (1) two dollars (\$2) per mile for each mile described and certified, if the surveyor is not registered under IC 25-21.5 or ~~IC 25-31~~; **IC 25-4-3**; or
- (2) four dollars (\$4) per mile for each mile described and certified, if the surveyor is registered under IC 25-21.5 or ~~IC 25-31~~; **IC 25-4-3**.

(d) In addition to the compensation fixed under subsections (b) and (c), the surveyor is entitled to:

- (1) two dollars (\$2) for each corner reference required under

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section 11 of this chapter, if the surveyor is not registered under IC 25-21.5 or ~~IC 25-31~~; **IC 25-4-3**; or
 (2) four dollars (\$4) for each corner reference required under section 11 of this chapter, if the surveyor is registered under IC 25-21.5 or ~~IC 25-31~~. **IC 25-4-3.**

SECTION 744. IC 36-7-2-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.22-2005, SECTION 50, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. Each unit shall require compliance with:

- (1) the code of building laws and fire safety laws that is adopted in the rules of the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~ **department of homeland security** under IC 22-13;
- (2) orders issued under IC 22-13-2-11 that grant a variance to the code of building laws and fire safety laws described in subdivision (1);
- (3) orders issued under IC 22-12-7 that apply the code of building laws described in subdivision (1);
- (4) IC 22-15-3-7; and
- (5) a written interpretation of a building law and fire safety law binding on the unit under IC 22-13-5-3 or IC 22-13-5-4.

SECTION 745. IC 36-7-2-9.1, AS AMENDED BY THE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS BILL OF THE 2026 GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 9.1. (a) This section does not apply to:

- (1) a manufactured housing community; or
- (2) a mobile home community;

that is licensed, permitted, and inspected by the Indiana department of health or a local board of health.

(b) This section applies only to a city, town, or county that requires a building permit, plan review, or inspection for the construction of a Class 2 structure.

(c) As used in this section, "Class 2 structure" has the meaning set forth in IC 22-12-1-5.

(d) A city, town, or county shall allow the plan review or inspection to be conducted by the following:

- (1) An individual who is employed by the city, town, or county as a building inspector.
- (2) An individual who is employed by another city, town, or county as a building inspector.
- (3) A private provider who is:
 - (A) an architect registered under IC 25-4-1;
 - (B) a professional engineer registered under ~~IC 25-31-1~~;

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- 1 **IC 25-4-3; or**
 2 (C) a certified building official (as defined in ~~IC 36-7-2.5-3~~;
 3 **IC 36-7-2.5-4**).
 4 (e) An applicant for a building permit may choose to have a private
 5 provider under subsection (d)(3) conduct the plan review or inspection
 6 as provided in IC 36-7-2.5.
 7 SECTION 746. IC 36-7-2.5-9, AS ADDED BY P.L.146-2025,
 8 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 9 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 9. As used in this chapter, "private provider"
 10 means a person who:
 11 (1) is:
 12 (A) an architect registered under IC 25-4-1;
 13 (B) a professional engineer registered under ~~IC 25-31-1~~;
 14 **IC 25-4-3; or**
 15 (C) a certified building official;
 16 (2) is not:
 17 (A) an employee of;
 18 (B) affiliated with; or
 19 (C) financially interested in;
 20 the person, firm, or corporation engaged in the project to be
 21 reviewed or inspected; and
 22 (3) is not an employee of a unit.
 23 SECTION 747. IC 36-7-4-1108, AS AMENDED BY P.L.134-2024,
 24 SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 25 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1108. (a) This section applies only to a child care
 26 home that is used as the primary residence of the person who operates
 27 the child care home regardless of whether the child care home meets
 28 the definition set forth in IC 12-7-2-28.6.
 29 (b) A zoning ordinance may not do any of the following:
 30 (1) Exclude a child care home from a residential area solely
 31 because the child care home is a business.
 32 (2) Impose limits on the number of children that may be served by
 33 a child care home at any one (1) time that vary from the limits set
 34 forth in IC 12-7-2-33.7 and IC 12-7-2-33.8.
 35 (3) Impose requirements or restrictions upon child care homes
 36 that vary from the requirements and restrictions imposed upon
 37 child care homes by rules adopted by the division of family
 38 resources or the ~~fire prevention and building safety commission~~.
 39 **department of homeland security.**
 40 (c) Notwithstanding subsection (b), a child care home may be
 41 required to meet the same:



- (1) zoning requirements;
- (2) developmental standards; and
- (3) building codes;

that apply to other residential structures in the same residential district or classification as the child care home.

SECTION 748. 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 749. 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 750. IC 36-7-41-1, AS ADDED BY P.L.119-2025, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 1. (a) As used in this chapter, "~~commission~~" refers to the northwest Indiana professional sports development ~~commission established by section 2 of this chapter.~~ "**authority**" refers to the northwest Indiana regional development authority established by IC 36-7.5-2-1.

(b) As used in this chapter, "fund" refers to the local professional sports development fund created by section 13 of this chapter.

(c) As used in this chapter, "professional sports franchise" refers to a club, corporation, sole proprietorship, partnership, limited liability company, association, or other legal entity operating a professional sports team that belongs to one (1) of the following:

- (1) A professional football league established before 1930.
- (2) A professional baseball league established before 1910.
- (3) An association of professional basketball teams established before 1960.
- (4) A North American hockey league that has had at least one (1) franchise in the United States since 1924.
- (5) A professional soccer league established in 1993.

SECTION 751. IC 36-7-41-2, AS ADDED BY P.L.119-2025, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. **(a)** The northwest Indiana professional sports development commission is established.

(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 752. IC 36-7-41-3, AS ADDED BY P.L.119-2025, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) The commission consists of the following seventeen (17) members:

- (1) The mayor of East Chicago.
- (2) The mayor of Gary.
- (3) The mayor of Hammond.
- (4) The mayor of Michigan City.

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- 1 (5) The mayor of LaPorte.
- 2 (6) The mayor of Portage.
- 3 (7) The mayor of South Bend.
- 4 (8) Four (4) members appointed under subsection (b).
- 5 (9) Four (4) members appointed under subsection (c).
- 6 (10) One (1) member appointed by the executive director of the
- 7 northwest Indiana regional development authority.
- 8 (11) One (1) member appointed by the governor to represent the
- 9 Indiana economic development corporation.
- 10 (b) The board of county commissioners for each of the following
- 11 counties shall appoint to the commission one (1) member from among
- 12 the board's membership:
- 13 (1) Lake County.
- 14 (2) Porter County.
- 15 (3) LaPorte County.
- 16 (4) St. Joseph County.
- 17 (c) The county council for each of the following counties shall
- 18 appoint to the commission one (1) member from among the council's
- 19 membership:
- 20 (1) Lake County.
- 21 (2) Porter County.
- 22 (3) LaPorte County.
- 23 (4) St. Joseph County.
- 24 **(d) This section expires December 31, 2026.**
- 25 SECTION 753. IC 36-7-41-4, AS ADDED BY P.L.119-2025,
- 26 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 27 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) A member of the commission may designate
- 28 an individual to serve on the commission in the member's place.
- 29 **(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.**
- 30 SECTION 754. IC 36-7-41-5, AS ADDED BY P.L.119-2025,
- 31 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 32 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) The term of each member is two (2) years
- 33 and ends June 30 of an odd-numbered year.
- 34 (b) A member may be reappointed.
- 35 **(c) This section expires December 31, 2026.**
- 36 SECTION 755. IC 36-7-41-6, AS ADDED BY P.L.119-2025,
- 37 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 38 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. (a) A vacancy occurring in the membership of
- 39 the commission shall be filled by the appointing authority to serve the
- 40 remainder of the term.
- 41 **(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.**
- 42 SECTION 756. IC 36-7-41-7, AS ADDED BY P.L.119-2025,

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SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) A quorum of the commission must be present to conduct the commission's business. A quorum consists of nine (9) members of the commission.

(b) The affirmative votes of nine (9) members of the commission are required for the commission to take action on any measure.

(c) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 757. IC 36-7-41-8, AS ADDED BY P.L.119-2025, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) The commission shall hold its initial meeting before September 1, 2025, at the call of the member appointed under section 3(a)(10) of this chapter.

(b) The commission shall elect the following officers from among the members of the commission:

(1) A chairperson.

(2) A vice chairperson.

(3) A treasurer.

(c) The term of each officer elected under subsection (b):

(1) is one (1) year; and

(2) ends on June 30.

(d) An officer may be reelected.

(e) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 758. IC 36-7-41-9, AS ADDED BY P.L.119-2025, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. (a) The commission shall fix the time for regular meetings.

(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 759. IC 36-7-41-10, AS ADDED BY P.L.119-2025, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 10. The ~~commission~~ **authority** may do the following:

(1) Study various plans and recommendations that are proposed with respect to attracting one (1) or more professional sports franchises to northwest Indiana.

(2) Prepare a comprehensive master plan for building the facilities and other infrastructure necessary for attracting and developing professional sports franchises in northwest Indiana.

(3) Coordinate the implementation of the comprehensive master plan.

(4) Monitor the progress of implementation of the comprehensive master plan.

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(5) Report to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the Indiana economic development corporation, the legislative council, and the budget committee on:

(A) the activities of the ~~commission~~; **authority**; and

(B) the progress of implementation of the comprehensive master plan.

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

SECTION 760. IC 36-7-41-11, AS ADDED BY P.L.119-2025, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 11. When necessary to accomplish the purposes of ~~the commission~~, **this chapter**, the ~~commission~~ **authority** may do the following:

(1) Conduct studies. ~~necessary for the performance of the commission's duties~~

(2) Publicize, advertise, and distribute reports on the ~~commission's purposes~~, **authority's objectives**, ~~objectives~~ and findings.

(3) Provide recommendations in matters related to ~~the commission's~~ **this chapter's** functions and objectives to the following:

(A) The governor and, in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6, the general assembly.

(B) Political subdivisions that have territory within northwest Indiana.

(C) Other public and private agencies.

(4) When requested, act as a coordinating agency for programs and activities of other public and private agencies that are related to the commission's objectives.

(5) Receive grants and appropriations from the following:

(A) Federal, state, and local governments.

(B) Individuals.

(C) Foundations.

(D) Other organizations.

(6) Enter into agreements or contracts regarding the acceptance or use of these grants and appropriations for the purpose of carrying out the ~~commission's~~ **authority's** activities under this chapter.

(7) Acquire and dispose of real or personal property by grant, gift, purchase, lease, devise, or otherwise.

(8) Hold, use, improve, maintain, operate, own, manage, or lease

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as lessor or lessee:

(A) real or personal property; or

(B) any interest in real or personal property.

(9) Contract for staff services with qualified agencies or individuals.

SECTION 761. IC 36-7-41-12, AS ADDED BY P.L.119-2025, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 12. (a) After approval of the budget by the ~~commission~~, **authority**, money may be expended only as budgeted, unless a majority vote of the ~~commission~~ **authority** authorizes other expenditures.

(b) The treasurer of the ~~commission~~ **authority** is responsible for the safekeeping and deposit of money the commission receives under this chapter. The state board of accounts shall:

(1) prescribe the methods and forms for keeping; and

(2) periodically audit;

the accounts, records, and books of the commission.

(c) The treasurer of the ~~commission~~ **authority** may receive, disburse, and handle money belonging to the commission, subject to the following:

(1) Applicable statutes.

(2) Procedures established by the commission.

SECTION 762. IC 36-7-41-13, AS ADDED BY P.L.119-2025, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 13. (a) The local professional sports development fund is created. The ~~commission~~ **authority** may make expenditures from the fund only to accomplish the purposes of this chapter.

(b) The fund consists of the following:

(1) Grants, gifts, and donations intended for deposit in the fund.

(2) Interest that accrues from money in the fund.

(3) Money from any other source deposited in the fund.

(c) The ~~commission~~ **authority** shall do the following:

(1) Hold the fund in the name of the ~~commission~~ **authority**.

(2) Administer the fund.

(3) Make all expenditures from the fund.

SECTION 763. IC 36-7-41.5-0.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: **Sec. 0.5. (a) On January 1, 2027, all powers, duties, agreements, and liabilities of the northwest Indiana professional sports development commission are**

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transferred to the northwest Indiana regional development authority.

(b) On January 1, 2027, all records and property of the northwest Indiana professional sports development commission are transferred to the northwest Indiana regional development authority, including appropriations and other funds under the control or supervision of the northwest Indiana professional sports development commission, are transferred to the northwest Indiana regional development authority.

(c) After December 31, 2026, any amounts owed to the northwest Indiana professional sports development commission before January 1, 2027, are considered to be owed to the northwest Indiana regional development authority.

(d) After December 31, 2026, a reference to the northwest Indiana professional sports development commission in a statute, rule, or other document is considered a reference to the northwest Indiana regional development authority.

SECTION 764. IC 36-7.5-2-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.114-2022, SECTION 36, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. The northwest Indiana regional development authority is established as a separate body corporate and politic to carry out the purposes of this article by:

(1) acquiring, constructing, equipping, owning, leasing, and financing projects and facilities for lease to or for the benefit of eligible political subdivisions under this article in accordance with IC 36-7.5-3-1.5;

(2) funding and developing the Gary/Chicago International Airport expansion and other airport authority projects, commuter transportation district and other rail projects and services, regional bus authority projects and services, regional transportation authority projects and services, and economic development projects in northwestern Indiana;

(3) assisting with the funding of infrastructure needed to sustain development of an intermodal facility in northwestern Indiana;

(4) overseeing the operations of the northwest Indiana commuter transportation district established under IC 8-5-15;

~~(4)~~ **(5)** funding and developing regional transportation infrastructure projects under IC 36-9-43; and

~~(5)~~ **(6)** studying and evaluating destination based economic development projects that have:

(A) an identified market;

(B) identified funding sources and these funding sources

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1 include at least fifty percent (50%) from nongovernmental
2 sources; and

3 (C) a demonstrable short and long term local and regional
4 economic impact, as verified by an independent economic
5 analysis.

6 An economic analysis conducted under clause (C) must be
7 submitted to the budget committee at least thirty (30) days before
8 review is sought for the project under IC 36-7.5-3-1.5.

9 SECTION 765. IC 36-7.5-3-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.114-2022,
10 SECTION 37, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
11 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. The development authority shall do the
12 following:

13 (1) Subject to sections 1.5 and 1.7 of this chapter, assist in the
14 coordination of local efforts concerning projects.

15 (2) Assist a commuter transportation district, an airport authority,
16 a regional transportation authority, and a regional bus authority in
17 coordinating regional transportation and economic development
18 efforts.

19 (3) Subject to sections 1.5 and 1.7 of this chapter, fund projects
20 as provided in this article.

21 (4) Fund bus services (including fixed route services and flexible
22 or demand-responsive services) and projects related to bus
23 services and bus terminals, stations, or facilities.

24 **(5) Oversee the operations of the northern Indiana commuter**
25 **transportation district established under IC 8-5-15.**

26 SECTION 766. IC 36-7.5-4-23 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
27 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
28 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 23. (a) An appropriation made**
29 **for the benefit of the northern Indiana commuter transportation**
30 **district established under IC 8-5-15 must be made to the**
31 **development authority.**

32 **(b) The development authority must do the following with**
33 **respect to an appropriation made under subsection (a):**

34 **(1) Transfer to the northern Indiana commuter**
35 **transportation district the amount necessary for the operation**
36 **of the district.**

37 **(2) Retain any remaining amount for strategic planning for**
38 **and the expansion of the northern Indiana commuter**
39 **transportation district.**

40 SECTION 767. IC 36-8-2.5-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.7-2021,
41 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
42 JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 1. The following definitions apply



- 1 throughout this chapter:
- 2 (1) "Communication" means an oral or written statement, note,
 3 record, recording, report, or document made during, or arising out
 4 of, a first responder's receipt of CISM services or peer support
 5 services.
- 6 (2) "Critical incident" means an actual or perceived event or
 7 situation that involves crisis, disaster, trauma, or emergency.
- 8 (3) "Critical incident stress" means the acute or cumulative
 9 psychological stress or trauma that a first responder may
 10 experience in providing emergency services in response to a
 11 critical incident. The stress or trauma is an unusually strong
 12 emotional, cognitive, behavioral, or physical reaction that may
 13 interfere with normal functioning by causing:
- 14 (A) physical and emotional injury or illness;
 15 (B) failure of a usual coping mechanism;
 16 (C) loss of interest in work or normal life activities;
 17 (D) loss of ability to function; or
 18 (E) psychological disruption of personal life, including the
 19 emergency responder's relationship with a spouse, child,
 20 relative, or friend.
- 21 (4) "CISM services" means critical incident stress management
 22 services that include programs and services related to education,
 23 prevention, and mitigation of the effects from exposure to highly
 24 stressful critical incidents. The term includes services provided by
 25 an individual certified to provide group crisis intervention,
 26 individual crisis intervention, peer support, or any related service.
- 27 (5) "CISM services provider" means an individual who is certified
 28 to provide CISM services and who is acting as part of a CISM
 29 team or in another official capacity.
- 30 (6) "CISM team" means an organized community or local crisis
 31 response team that is trained and certified under standards
 32 substantially similar to the training and certification standards
 33 established by the Indiana ~~emergency medical services~~ **fire and**
 34 **EMS standards and education** commission as set forth under
 35 IC 16-31-2.
- 36 (7) "First responder" has the meaning set forth in IC 10-10.5-2-1.
- 37 (8) "First responder recipient" means an individual who is a first
 38 responder and receives CISM services, peer support services, or
 39 both.
- 40 (9) "Peer support services" means services provided by a person
 41 who:

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(A) is a first responder working for the same department or public agency that the first responder recipient works for; and

(B) acts:

(i) in the person's official capacity as a peer support team member; and

(ii) within the written peer support guidelines that are in effect for the person's respective first responder agency program.

The term includes active listening, assessment, mentoring, crisis intervention, or other support services provided to an employee experiencing personal or professional difficulties that may or may not be a result of the employee's exposure to highly stressful critical incidents.

(10) "Peer support team member" means a first responder who:

(A) has successfully completed peer support training; and

(B) is designated a peer support team member;

by the head of the first responder's agency or the president of the bargaining unit of the employees of the department or agency.

SECTION 768. IC 36-8-3-4.3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.57-2023, SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 4.3. (a) This section also applies to a town, township, or fire department of a fire protection territory or fire protection district, that has at least one (1) certified employee of a full-time, paid fire or police department, without regard to whether:

(1) the employee is an appointed police officer or firefighter; or

(2) under section 5 of this chapter, the police or fire department is exempt from sections 3, 4, and 4.1 of this chapter.

(b) As used in this section, "certified employee" means an individual who, as a condition of employment, holds a valid certification issued under IC 16-31-3 by the Indiana ~~emergency medical services fire and EMS standards and education~~ commission established by ~~IC 16-31-2-1~~. **IC 16-31-2-1.5.**

(c) As used in this section, "medical director" means a physician with an unlimited license to practice medicine in Indiana and who performs the duties and responsibilities described in 836 IAC 2-2-1.

(d) If a medical director takes any of the following actions against a certified employee, the medical director shall provide to the certified employee and to the chief of the certified employee's department a written explanation of the reasons for the action taken by the medical director:

(1) The medical director refuses or fails to supervise or otherwise

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1 provide medical control and direction to the certified employee.

2 (2) The medical director refuses or fails to attest to the
3 competency of the certified employee to perform emergency
4 medical services.

5 (3) The medical director suspends the certified employee from
6 performing emergency medical services.

7 (e) Before a police or fire department takes any employment related
8 action against a certified employee as the result of a medical director's
9 action described in subsection (d), the certified employee is entitled to
10 a hearing and appeal concerning the medical director's action as
11 provided in section 4 of this chapter.

12 (f) If the medical director's action that is the subject of an appeal
13 under subsection (e) is based on a health care decision made by the
14 certified employee in performing emergency medical services, the
15 safety board conducting the hearing shall consult with an independent
16 medical expert to determine whether the certified employee followed
17 the applicable emergency medical services protocol in making the
18 health care decision. The independent medical expert:

19 (1) must be a physician trained in emergency medical services;
20 and

21 (2) may not be affiliated with the same hospital as the medical
22 director.

23 SECTION 769. IC 36-8-3.2-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
24 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 3. (a) The
25 appointing authority shall adopt standards for firefighters establishing
26 a physical agility test that:

27 (1) does not discriminate on the basis of sex;

28 (2) reflects the essential functions of the job; and

29 (3) at a minimum includes testing the following:

30 (A) Fear of heights (acrophobia).

31 (B) Fear of confinement (claustrophobia).

32 (C) Muscular strength.

33 (D) Muscular endurance.

34 (E) Cardiovascular endurance.

35 (F) Musculoskeletal flexibility.

36 (b) The appointing authority shall also adopt standards for
37 firefighters establishing a general aptitude test.

38 (c) The standards required by this section must be presented to the
39 ~~board of firefighting personnel standards and education established by~~
40 ~~IC 22-12-3-1~~ **Indiana fire and EMS standards and education**
41 **commission established by IC 16-31-2-1.5** for review.



SECTION 770. IC 36-8-3.5-19.3, AS ADDED BY P.L.13-2010, SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 19.3. (a) This section applies to a department that has at least one (1) certified employee, without regard to whether:

- (1) the employee is an appointed police officer or firefighter; or
- (2) the department has a merit system to which this chapter does not otherwise apply as provided under section 1 of this chapter.

(b) As used in this section, "certified employee" means an individual who, as a condition of employment, holds a valid certification issued under IC 16-31-3 by the Indiana **emergency medical services fire and EMS standards and education** commission established by ~~IC 16-31-2-1~~. **IC 16-31-2-1.5.**

(c) As used in this section, "medical director" means a physician with an unlimited license to practice medicine in Indiana and who performs the duties and responsibilities described in 836 IAC 2-2-1.

(d) If a medical director takes any of the following actions against a certified employee, the medical director shall provide to the certified employee and to the chief of the certified employee's department a written explanation of the reasons for the action taken by the medical director:

- (1) The medical director refuses or fails to supervise or otherwise provide medical control and direction to the certified employee.
- (2) The medical director refuses or fails to attest to the competency of the certified employee to perform emergency medical services.
- (3) The medical director suspends the certified employee from performing emergency medical services.

(e) Before a department takes any employment related action as the result of a medical director's action described in subsection (d) against a certified employee, the certified employee is entitled to a hearing and appeal concerning the medical director's action as provided in sections 17 and 18 of this chapter.

(f) If the medical director's action that is the subject of an appeal under subsection (e) is based on a health care decision made by the certified employee in performing emergency medical services, the commission conducting the hearing shall consult with an independent medical expert to determine whether the certified employee followed the applicable emergency medical services protocol in making the health care decision. The independent medical expert:

- (1) must be a physician trained in emergency medical services; and

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(2) may not be affiliated with the same hospital as the medical director.

SECTION 771. IC 36-8-10.5-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) As used in this chapter, "education board" refers to the board of firefighting personnel standards and education.

(b) This section expires December 31, 2026.

SECTION 772. IC 36-8-10.5-2.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2.5. (a) **This section applies after December 31, 2026.**

(b) As used in this chapter, "education commission" refers to the Indiana fire and EMS standards and education commission established by IC 16-31-2-1.5.

SECTION 773. IC 36-8-10.5-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.93-2024, SECTION 209, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 7. (a) The education ~~board~~ **commission** shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 establishing minimum basic training requirements for full-time firefighters and volunteer firefighters, subject to subsection (b) and section 7.5 of this chapter. The requirements must include training in the following areas:

- (1) Orientation.
- (2) Personal safety.
- (3) Forcible entry.
- (4) Ventilation.
- (5) Apparatus.
- (6) Ladders.
- (7) Self-contained breathing apparatus.
- (8) Hose loads.
- (9) Streams.
- (10) Basic recognition of special hazards.

(b) A person who fulfills the certification requirements for:

- (1) Firefighter I; or
- (2) Firefighter II;

is considered to comply with the requirements established under subsection (a).

(c) In addition to the requirements of subsections (a), (d), and (f), the minimum basic training requirements for full-time firefighters and volunteer firefighters must include successful completion of a basic or inservice course of education and training on sudden infant death syndrome that is certified by the ~~Indiana emergency medical services~~

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1 ~~commission (created under IC 16-31-2-1)~~ **education commission**
 2 **established by IC 16-31-2-1.5** in conjunction with the state health
 3 commissioner.

4 (d) In addition to the requirements of subsections (a), (c), and (f),
 5 the minimum basic training requirements for full-time and volunteer
 6 firefighters must include successful completion of an instruction course
 7 on vehicle emergency response driving safety. The education ~~board~~
 8 **commission** shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to operate this course.

9 (e) In addition to the requirements of subsections (a), (c), (d), and
 10 (f), the minimum basic training requirements for full-time and
 11 volunteer firefighters must include successful completion of a basic or
 12 inservice course of education and training in interacting with
 13 individuals with autism that is certified by the ~~Indiana emergency~~
 14 ~~medical services commission (created under IC 16-31-2-1);~~ **education**
 15 **commission**.

16 (f) This subsection does not apply to volunteer firefighters. After
 17 December 31, 2024, in addition to the requirements of subsections (a),
 18 (c), (d), and (e), the minimum basic training requirement for full-time
 19 firefighters must include training, which may be completed online or
 20 by other means of virtual instruction, that addresses the mental health
 21 and wellness of firefighters, including:

22 (1) healthy coping skills to preserve the mental health of
 23 firefighters and to manage the stress and trauma related to
 24 employment as a firefighter;

25 (2) recognition of:

26 (A) symptoms of posttraumatic stress disorder; and

27 (B) signs of suicidal behavior; and

28 (3) information on mental health resources available for
 29 firefighters.

30 (g) The education ~~board~~ **commission** may adopt rules under
 31 IC 4-22-2 concerning the adoption of the most current edition of the
 32 following National Fire Protection Association standards, subject to
 33 amendment by the board:

34 (1) NFPA 472.

35 (2) NFPA 1001.

36 (3) NFPA 1002.

37 (4) NFPA 1003.

38 (5) NFPA 1006.

39 (6) NFPA 1021.

40 (7) NFPA 1031.

41 (8) NFPA 1033.



(9) NFPA 1035.

(10) NFPA 1041.

(11) NFPA 1521.

(12) NFPA 1670.

SECTION 774. IC 36-8-10.5-11, AS AMENDED BY P.L.32-2021, SECTION 102, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 11. (a) The education ~~board~~ **commission** must establish best practices to improve safety and health outcomes for full-time firefighters and volunteer firefighters not later than July 1, 2021.

(b) The best practices must include:

(1) a proactive health and safety risk management system consisting of a joint employer and employee governance structure to oversee a continuous process of identification, evaluation, monitoring and controlling, and reporting of safety and health hazards in the workplace;

(2) ways to reduce firefighter risk of exposure to carcinogens; and

(3) ways to prevent or reduce the risk of injuries and illness with particular focus on causes of compensable worker's compensation or disability claims.

(c) The education ~~board~~ **commission** shall:

(1) review programs established by political subdivisions and volunteer fire departments implementing best practices under this section; and

(2) provide a political subdivision or volunteer fire department with a letter for submission to an insurance company for consideration in a premium or rate discount toward the purchase or procurement of worker's compensation insurance under IC 22-3-2-2 or IC 36-8-12-10 that states that the political subdivision or volunteer fire department has implemented best practices under this section.

SECTION 775. IC 36-8-12-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.10-2019, SECTION 139, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 2. As used in this chapter:

"Emergency medical services personnel" means individuals certified by the ~~emergency medical services~~ **fire and EMS standards and education** commission established by IC 16-31-2-1 who:

(1) as a result of a written application, have been elected or appointed to membership in a volunteer fire department; and

(2) have executed a pledge to faithfully perform, with or without nominal compensation, the work related duties assigned and



orders given to the individuals by the chief of the volunteer fire department or an officer of the volunteer fire department, including orders or duties involving education and training.

"Employee" means a person in the service of another person under a written or implied contract of hire or apprenticeship.

"Employer" means:

- (1) a political subdivision;
- (2) an individual or the legal representative of a deceased individual;
- (3) a firm;
- (4) an association;
- (5) a limited liability company;
- (6) an employer that provides on-the-job training under the federal School to Work Opportunities Act (20 U.S.C. 6101 et seq.) to the extent set forth in IC 22-3-2-2.5(a); or
- (7) a corporation or its receiver or trustee;

that uses the services of another person for pay.

"Essential employee" means an employee:

- (1) who the employer has determined to be essential to the operation of the employer's daily enterprise; and
- (2) without whom the employer is likely to suffer economic injury as a result of the absence of the essential employee.

"Nominal compensation" means annual compensation of not more than twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000).

"Public servant" has the meaning set forth in IC 35-31.5-2-261.

"Responsible party" has the meaning set forth in IC 13-11-2-191(d).

"Volunteer fire department" means a department or association organized for the purpose of answering fire alarms, extinguishing fires, and providing other emergency services, the majority of members of which receive no compensation or nominal compensation for their services.

"Volunteer firefighter" means a firefighter:

- (1) who, as a result of a written application, has been elected or appointed to membership in a volunteer fire department;
- (2) who has executed a pledge to faithfully perform, with or without nominal compensation, the work related duties assigned and orders given to the firefighter by the chief of the volunteer fire department or an officer of the volunteer fire department, including orders or duties involving education and training as prescribed by the volunteer fire department or the state; and
- (3) whose name has been entered on a roster of volunteer

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1 firefighters that is kept by the volunteer fire department and that
 2 has been approved by the proper officers of the unit.

3 "Volunteer member" means a member of a volunteer emergency
 4 medical services association connected with a unit as set forth in
 5 IC 16-31-5-1(6).

6 SECTION 776. IC 36-8-16.7-24, AS AMENDED BY P.L.36-2016,
 7 SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 8 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 24. (a) The statewide 911 board is established to
 9 develop, implement, and oversee the statewide 911 system. The board
 10 is a body corporate and politic, and though it is separate from the state,
 11 the exercise by the board of its powers constitutes an essential
 12 governmental function.

13 (b) The following recommendations must be made to the governor
 14 concerning the membership of the board:

15 (1) The executive committees of:

16 (A) the Indiana chapter of the National Emergency Number
 17 Association (NENA); and

18 (B) the Indiana chapter of the Association of Public Safety
 19 Communication Officials International (APCO);

20 shall jointly recommend three (3) individuals, at least one (1) of
 21 whom must have budget experience at the local level.

22 (2) The facilities based CMRS providers authorized to provide
 23 CMRS in Indiana shall jointly recommend one (1) individual.

24 (3) The Indiana Association of County Commissioners shall
 25 recommend one (1) individual who is a county commissioner in
 26 Indiana.

27 (4) The Indiana Sheriffs' Association shall recommend one (1)
 28 individual who is a county sheriff in Indiana.

29 (5) The Indiana Telecommunications Association, or any
 30 successor organization, shall recommend two (2) individuals as
 31 follows:

32 (A) One (1) individual representing a local exchange carrier
 33 that serves less than fifty thousand (50,000) local exchange
 34 access lines in Indiana.

35 (B) One (1) individual representing a local exchange carrier
 36 that serves at least fifty thousand (50,000) local exchange
 37 access lines in Indiana.

38 (6) The Indiana Cable Telecommunications Association shall
 39 recommend one (1) individual representing a VOIP provider.

40 (7) The Indiana Association of Cities and Towns shall
 41 recommend one (1) individual representing municipalities.

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(c) The board consists of the following fifteen (15) members:

(1) The treasurer of state or the treasurer's designee. The treasurer of state or the treasurer's designee is chairperson of the board for a term concurrent with the treasurer of state's term of office. However, the treasurer of state's designee serves at the pleasure of the treasurer of state.

(2) Three (3) members for a term of three (3) years who are appointed by the governor after considering the recommendations submitted under subsection (b)(1) by the executive committees of NENA and APCO. At least one (1) member appointed under this subdivision must have budget experience at the local level.

(3) One (1) facilities based CMRS member who is appointed by the governor after considering the recommendation submitted under subsection (b)(2) by the facilities based CMRS providers authorized to provide CMRS in Indiana. A member appointed under this subdivision may not be affiliated with the same business entity as a member appointed under subdivision (6), (7), or (8).

(4) One (1) county commissioner member appointed by the ~~governor~~ **president pro tempore of the senate** after considering the recommendation submitted under subsection (b)(3) by the Indiana Association of County Commissioners.

(5) One (1) county sheriff member appointed by the governor after considering the recommendation submitted under subsection (b)(4) by the Indiana Sheriffs' Association.

(6) One (1) member who represents a local exchange carrier that serves less than fifty thousand (50,000) local exchange access lines in Indiana and who is appointed by the governor after considering the recommendation of the Indiana Telecommunications Association, or any successor organization, under subsection (b)(5)(A). A member appointed under this subdivision may not be affiliated with the same business entity as a member appointed under subdivision (3), (7), or (8).

(7) One (1) member who represents a local exchange carrier that serves at least fifty thousand (50,000) local exchange access lines in Indiana and who is appointed by the governor after considering the recommendation of the Indiana Telecommunications Association, or any successor organization, under subsection (b)(5)(B). A member appointed under this subdivision may not be affiliated with the same business entity as a member appointed under subdivision (3), (6), or (8).

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(8) One (1) member who represents a VOIP provider and who is appointed by the governor after considering the recommendation of the Indiana Cable Telecommunications Association under subsection (b)(6). A member appointed under this subdivision may not be affiliated with the same business entity as a member appointed under subdivision (3), (6), or (7).

(9) One (1) member who represents municipalities and is appointed by the ~~governor~~ **speaker of the house of representatives** after considering the recommendation of the Indiana Association of Cities and Towns submitted under subsection (b)(7).

(10) The state fire marshal or the state fire marshal's designee.

(11) The superintendent of the state police department or the superintendent's designee.

(12) The executive director of the department of homeland security, or the executive director's designee. The executive director of the department of homeland security or the executive director's designee is a nonvoting member of the board.

(13) The state GIS officer. The state GIS officer is a nonvoting member of the board.

(d) This subsection applies to a member appointed ~~by the governor~~ under subsection (c)(2) through (c)(9). The ~~governor~~ **appointing authority** shall ensure that the terms of the initial members appointed by the ~~governor~~ **appointing authority** are staggered so that the terms of not more than five (5) members expire in a single calendar year. After the initial appointments, subsequent appointments shall be for three (3) year terms. A vacancy on the board shall be filled for the vacating member's unexpired term in the same manner as the original appointment, and a member of the board is eligible for reappointment. In making an appointment under subsection (c)(2) through (c)(9), the ~~governor~~ **appointing authority** shall take into account the various geographical areas of Indiana, including rural and urban areas. A member appointed ~~by the governor~~ **under this section** serves at the pleasure of the ~~governor~~ **appointing authority**.

(e) A member must be a resident of Indiana.

(f) A member may not vote by proxy.

SECTION 777. 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 778. IC 36-8-17-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. As used in this

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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 779. 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 of defect.
- (4) The total number of orders complied with.

(c) Except as provided in subsection (d), an inspection may only be carried out by an individual who:

- (1) is a firefighter who meets, at a minimum, the training requirements described in IC 36-8-10.5; or
- (2) has:
 - (A) obtained certification as a:
 - (i) fire inspector I as described in 655 IAC 1-2.1-12;

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- 1 (ii) fire inspector II as described in 655 IAC 1-2.1-13; or
 2 (iii) fire inspector I/II as described in 655 IAC 1-2.1-13.1;
 3 and
 4 (B) in the case of an individual who is not an employee of a fire
 5 department, completed at least two (2) years of experience as
 6 a fire inspector described in clause (A)(i) through (A)(iii).
 7 (d) A volunteer fire department may carry out inspections under this
 8 section only through an individual who is certified under
 9 IC 22-14-2-6(c).
 10 SECTION 780. IC 36-8-17-11 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 11 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 11. (a) An order issued
 12 under section 9 or 10 of this chapter may be appealed to the
 13 **commission department** under IC 4-21.5-3-7. A decision to deny a
 14 request to modify or reverse an order issued under section 10 of this
 15 chapter is not appealable.
 16 (b) If an order issued under section 9 or 10 of this chapter is
 17 appealed, the **commission department** or its designee shall conduct all
 18 administrative proceedings under IC 4-21.5. In its proceedings, the
 19 **commission department** may modify or reverse the order.
 20 SECTION 781. IC 36-8-17-13 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 21 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 13. The **commission**
 22 **department** may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to implement this
 23 chapter.
 24 SECTION 782. IC 36-9-7-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.127-2017,
 25 SECTION 288, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 26 [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 3. (a) The personnel of the
 27 department of traffic engineering consists of a city traffic engineer, the
 28 traffic engineer's assistants, and other employees necessary to perform
 29 the duties of the department. The city executive shall appoint the traffic
 30 engineer.
 31 (b) The traffic engineer must:
 32 (1) have a thorough knowledge of modern traffic control methods;
 33 (2) be able to supervise and coordinate diversified traffic
 34 engineering activities and prepare engineering reports; and
 35 (3) either:
 36 (A) be a registered professional engineer who has practiced
 37 traffic engineering for at least one (1) year;
 38 (B) have a certificate of engineer-in-training under ~~IC 25-31~~
 39 **IC 25-4-3** and have practiced traffic engineering for at least two
 40 (2) years; or
 41 (C) have practiced traffic engineering for at least ten (10) years.

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1 A person must furnish evidence of the person's qualifications under this
2 subsection before the person may be appointed by the executive.

3 SECTION 783. IC 36-9-27-30, AS AMENDED BY P.L.57-2013,
4 SECTION 101, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
5 [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 30. (a) Whenever the county
6 surveyor is not registered under IC 25-21.5 or ~~IC 25-31~~ **IC 25-4-3** and
7 that statute prohibits an unregistered person from performing any
8 function that the county surveyor is directed to do under this chapter,
9 the surveyor shall employ and fix the compensation of a person who is
10 a professional engineer or professional surveyor in performing those
11 functions. However, if the county surveyor does not employ a
12 registered person within one (1) year of the acceptance of a petition for
13 construction or reconstruction of a drain, the board may make the
14 appointment of a registered person that this section requires.

15 (b) The person employed by the county surveyor, who shall be
16 known as a qualified deputy, shall file with the county surveyor the
17 original of all plans, specifications, and other documents made by the
18 person in performing the work for which the person was employed.
19 Those plans, specifications, and other documents become a part of the
20 permanent file of the county surveyor's office, which the county
21 surveyor shall maintain for the use of the board as provided in section
22 109 of this chapter.

23 (c) The rate of compensation paid to a qualified deputy shall be
24 assessed against the drainage project for which the deputy was
25 employed.

26 (d) This subsection applies whenever the county surveyor is not
27 registered under IC 25-21.5 or ~~IC 25-31~~, **IC 25-4-3**, and the county
28 surveyor has not employed a registered person as provided in
29 subsection (a). If the county has a full-time employee who is registered
30 as a professional surveyor under IC 25-21.5 or as a professional
31 engineer under ~~IC 25-31~~, **IC 25-4-3**, the board may, subject to the
32 approval of the county executive and the county surveyor, designate
33 that person to perform the functions of the county surveyor under this
34 chapter that are allowed under the employee's license as a professional
35 surveyor or professional engineer. If a designation is made and
36 approved under this subsection, the county surveyor may not employ
37 a registered person under subsection (a) to perform that same function.

38 SECTION 784. IC 36-9-27-31 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
39 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 31. If for any
40 reason there is no elected county surveyor in any county, the board
41 shall employ and fix the compensation of a part-time or full-time

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1 engineer or surveyor. The engineer or surveyor, who must be registered
 2 under IC 25-21.5 or ~~IC 25-34~~ **IC 25-4-3** and must be or become a
 3 resident of Indiana, shall perform the functions required of the county
 4 surveyor in this chapter.

5 SECTION 785. IC 36-9-27-71 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 6 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027]: Sec. 71. (a) When, in
 7 the construction or reconstruction of a regulated drain, the county
 8 surveyor determines that the proposed drain will cross a public
 9 highway or the right-of-way of a railroad company at a point where:

10 (1) there is no crossing; or

11 (2) the crossing will not adequately handle or will be endangered
 12 by the flow of water from the drain when completed;

13 the county surveyor shall include in the plans the grade and cross
 14 section requirements for a new crossing, or the requirements for
 15 altering, enlarging, repairing, or replacing the crossing. The surveyor
 16 shall mail a copy of the requirements addressed to the owner of the
 17 highway or right-of-way.

18 (b) When requested by the owner of the highway or right-of-way,
 19 the county surveyor shall meet with the owner at a time and place to be
 20 fixed by the surveyor. The surveyor shall hear objections to the
 21 requirements, and may then change the requirements as justice may
 22 require.

23 (c) When the board finds that in the construction, reconstruction, or
 24 maintenance of a regulated drain it is necessary to:

25 (1) alter, enlarge, repair, or replace a crossing; or

26 (2) construct a new crossing where none existed before;

27 the cost of the work on the crossing shall be paid by the owner of the
 28 public highway. This cost may not be considered by the county
 29 surveyor or by the board in determining the cost of the work on the
 30 drain or in assessing benefits and damages. However, if it is necessary
 31 for the owner of a public highway to construct a new crossing because
 32 of a cut-off for the purpose of shortening or straightening a regulated
 33 drain, the owner of the public highway shall pay one-half (1/2) of the
 34 cost of the new crossing, and the remainder shall be included in the
 35 cost of the work on the drain.

36 (d) A railroad company with a right-of-way that is:

37 (1) crossed by the construction of a regulated drain; or

38 (2) affected by the altering or enlarging of a crossing;

39 shall pay one-half (1/2) of the cost of the work on the crossing and the
 40 remainder shall be included in the cost of the work on the drain.

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(e) If the county surveyor is registered under ~~IC 25-31~~, **IC 25-4-3**, the county surveyor must review and approve or disapprove the plans and hydraulic data for an existing crossing that is to be altered, enlarged, repaired, or replaced, or the construction of a new crossing for a public highway or the right-of-way of a railroad company. The county surveyor shall disapprove the plans and hydraulic data if they do not show that the structure will meet hydraulic requirements that will permit the drain to function properly.

(f) If the county surveyor is registered under IC 25-21.5, the county surveyor must review and approve or disapprove the plans and hydraulic data for an existing crossing that is to be altered, enlarged, repaired, or replaced or the construction of a new crossing for a public highway or the right-of-way of a railroad company. The county surveyor shall disapprove the plans and hydraulic data if they do not show that the structure will meet hydraulic requirements that will permit the drain to function properly.

(g) Approval of the plans and hydraulic data by a person who is registered under IC 25-21.5 or ~~IC 25-31~~ **IC 25-4-3** is required before the work can take place. However, if the county surveyor is not registered under IC 25-21.5 or ~~IC 25-31~~, **IC 25-4-3**, a registered person who is selected under section 30 of this chapter shall:

(1) review and approve or disapprove the plans and specifications described in this subsection;

(2) inform the county surveyor in writing of the approval or disapproval; and

(3) submit all plans, specifications, and hydraulic data along with the approval or disapproval.

SECTION 786. IC 36-10-3-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.133-2025, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) This subsection applies only in a third class city. A city board consists of four (4) members to be appointed by the city executive. The members shall be appointed on the basis of their interest in and knowledge of parks and recreation. In addition, the creating ordinance may provide for one (1) or two (2) additional members, those being:

(1) a member selected by the governing body of the school corporation who is:

(A) a member of the governing body of the school corporation, serving ex officio; or

(B) an individual who resides in the school corporation;



(2) a member selected by the governing body of the library district who is:

(A) a member of the governing body of the library district, serving ex officio; or

(B) an individual who resides in the library district, **selected by the governing body of the library district**; or

(3) individuals under both subdivisions (1) and (2).

(b) This subsection applies in a county containing a consolidated city and in a second class city. A city board consists of four (4) members to be appointed by the city executive. The members shall be appointed on the basis of their interest in and knowledge of parks and recreation, but no more than two (2) members may be affiliated with the same political party. In addition, the creating ordinance may provide for one (1) or two (2) additional members, those being:

(1) either:

(A) a member of the governing body of the school corporation, serving ex officio, selected by the governing body of the school corporation; or

(B) an individual who resides in the school corporation, selected by the governing body of the school corporation;

(2) a member of the governing body of the library district, serving ex officio, selected by that body; or

(3) individuals described in both subdivisions (1) and (2).

(c) A town board consists of four (4) members to be appointed by the town legislative body. The members shall be appointed on the basis of their interest in and knowledge of parks and recreation. Except as provided in section 4.1 of this chapter, not more than two (2) members may be affiliated with the same political party. Members of the board must be residents of the district. In addition, the creating ordinance may provide for one (1) or two (2) additional members, those being:

(1) a member:

(A) of the governing body of the school corporation, serving ex officio, selected by that body; or

(B) designated by the governing body of the school corporation;

(2) a member selected by the governing body of the library district who is:

(A) a member of the governing body of the library district serving ex officio; or

(B) an individual who resides in the library district; or

(3) individuals under both subdivisions (1) and (2).

(d) A county board shall be appointed as follows:

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1 (1) Two (2) members shall be appointed by the judge of the
2 circuit court.

3 (2) One (1) member shall be appointed by the county executive.

4 (3) Two (2) members shall be appointed by the county fiscal
5 body.

6 The members appointed under subdivisions (1), (2), and (3) shall be
7 appointed on the basis of their interest in and knowledge of parks and
8 recreation, but no more than one (1) member appointed under
9 subdivisions (1) and (3) may be affiliated with the same political party.
10 In a county having at least one (1) first or second class city, the creating
11 ordinance must provide for one (1) ex officio board member to be
12 appointed by the executive of that city. The member appointed by the
13 city executive must be affiliated with a different political party than the
14 member appointed by the county executive. However, if a county has
15 more than one (1) such city, the executives of those cities shall agree
16 on the member. The member serves for a term coterminous with the
17 term of the appointing executive or executives.

18 (e) Ex officio members have all the rights of regular members,
19 including the right to vote. A vacancy in an ex officio position shall be
20 filled by the appointing authority. All members serving on a county,
21 city, or town board have the same rights, including the right to vote. A
22 vacancy in the seat of a member shall be filled by the appointing
23 authority.

24 (f) A municipal executive, a member of a county fiscal body, a
25 member of the county executive, or a member of the municipal fiscal
26 body may not serve on a board.

27 (g) The creating ordinance in any county may provide for:

28 (1) the county cooperative extension coordinator;

29 (2) the county extension educator; or

30 (3) a member of the county extension committee selected by the
31 committee;

32 to serve as an ex officio member of the county board, in addition to the
33 members provided for under subsection (d).

34 (h) The creating ordinance in a county having no first or second
35 class cities may provide for a member of the county board to be
36 selected by the board of supervisors of a soil and water conservation
37 district in which a facility of the county board is located. The member
38 selected under this subsection is in addition to the members provided
39 for under subsections (d) and (g).

40 SECTION 787. IC 36-12-1-2, AS ADDED BY P.L.1-2005,
41 SECTION 49, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE

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JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. "Indiana library ~~and historical~~ board" refers to the Indiana library ~~and historical~~ board established by IC 4-23-7-2.

SECTION 788. IC 36-12-3-16, AS AMENDED BY P.L.84-2012, SECTION 24, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 16. (a) The library board may adopt a resolution allowing money to be disbursed under this section for lawful library purposes, including advertising and promoting the programs and services of the library.

(b) With the prior written approval of the library board and if the library board has adopted a resolution under subsection (a), claim payments may be made in advance of library board allowance for any of the following types of expenses:

- (1) Property or services purchased or leased from the federal government or the federal government's agencies and the state, the state's agencies, or the state's political subdivisions.
- (2) Dues, subscriptions, and publications.
- (3) License or permit fees.
- (4) Insurance premiums.
- (5) Utility payments or connection charges.
- (6) Federal grant programs where:
 - (A) advance funding is not prohibited; and
 - (B) the contracting party posts sufficient security to cover the amount advanced.
- (7) Grants of state funds authorized by statute.
- (8) Maintenance and service agreements.
- (9) Legal retainer fees.
- (10) Conference fees.
- (11) Expenses related to the educational or professional development of an individual employed by the library board, including:
 - (A) inservice training;
 - (B) attending seminars or other special courses of instruction; and
 - (C) tuition reimbursement;
 if the library board determines that the expenditures under this subdivision directly benefit the library.
- (12) Leases or rental agreements.
- (13) Bond or coupon payments.
- (14) Payroll costs.
- (15) State, federal, or county taxes.



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(16) Expenses that must be paid because of emergency circumstances.

(17) Expenses incurred to advertise and promote the programs and services of the library.

(18) Other expenses described in a library board resolution.

The library board shall review and allow the claim at the library board's first regular or special meeting following the payment of a claim under this section.

(c) Each payment of expenses lawfully incurred for library purposes must be supported by a fully itemized invoice or other documentation. The library director shall certify to the library board before payment that each claim for payment is true and correct. The certification must be on a form prescribed by the state board of accounts.

(d) Purchases of books, magazines, pamphlets, films, filmstrips, microforms, microfilms, slides, transparencies, phonodiscs, phonotapes, models, art reproductions, and all other forms of library and audiovisual materials are exempt from the restrictions imposed by IC 5-22.

(e) The purchase of library automation systems must meet the standards established by the Indiana library and historical board under IC 4-23-7.1-11(b).

SECTION 789. IC 36-12-11-2, AS ADDED BY P.L.1-2005, SECTION 49, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "board" refers to the Indiana library and historical board established by IC 4-23-7-2.

SECTION 790. [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 791. [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



1 supervision of the commission, are transferred to the department,
2 as the successor agency.

3 (e) After July 1, 2026, any amounts owed to the commission
4 before July 1, 2026, are considered to be owed to the department,
5 as the successor agency.

6 (f) After July 1, 2026, a reference to the commission in a statute,
7 rule, contract, lease, or other document is considered a reference
8 to the department, as the successor agency.

9 (g) All powers, duties, agreements, and liabilities of the
10 commission with respect to bonds issued by the commission in
11 connection with any trust agreement or indenture securing those
12 bonds are transferred to the department, as the successor agency.
13 The rights of the trustee under any trust agreement or indenture
14 and the rights of the bondholders of the commission remain
15 unchanged, although the powers, duties, agreements, and liabilities
16 of the commission have been transferred to the department, as the
17 successor agency.

18 (h) The terms of all members serving on the commission expire
19 June 30, 2026.

20 (i) This SECTION expires July 1, 2027.

21 SECTION 792. [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE] (a) As used in
22 this SECTION, "commission" means the law enforcement
23 academy building commission created by IC 5-2-2-1 (before its
24 repeal by this act).

25 (b) As used in this SECTION, "department" means the state
26 police department.

27 (c) On July 1, 2026, all agreements and liabilities of the
28 commission are transferred to the department, as the successor
29 agency.

30 (d) On July 1, 2026, all records and property of the commission,
31 including appropriations and other funds under the control or
32 supervision of the commission, are transferred to the department,
33 as the successor agency.

34 (e) After July 1, 2026, any amounts owed to the commission
35 before July 1, 2026, are considered to be owed to the department,
36 as the successor agency.

37 (f) After July 1, 2026, a reference to the commission in a statute,
38 rule, contract, lease, or other document is considered a reference
39 to the department, as the successor agency.

40 (g) All powers, duties, agreements, and liabilities of the
41 commission with respect to bonds issued by the commission in
42 connection with any trust agreement or indenture securing those

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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.

(h) The terms of all members serving on the commission expire June 30, 2026.

(i) This SECTION expires July 1, 2027.

SECTION 793. [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE] (a) As used in this SECTION, "council" means the advisory council established by IC 14-9-6-1 (before its repeal by this act).

(b) As used in this SECTION, "department" means the department of natural resources.

(c) On July 1, 2026, all agreements and liabilities of the council are transferred to the department, as the successor agency.

(d) On July 1, 2026, all records and property of the council, including appropriations and other funds under the control or supervision of the council, are transferred to the department, as the successor agency.

(e) After July 1, 2026, any amounts owed to the council before July 1, 2026, are considered to be owed to the department, as the successor agency. The department shall transfer any amounts received under this subsection to the state comptroller for deposit in the state general fund.

(f) After July 1, 2026, a reference to the council in a statute, rule, or other document is considered a reference to the department, as the successor agency.

(g) All powers, duties, agreements, and liabilities of the council with respect to bonds issued by the council 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 council remain unchanged, although the powers, duties, agreements, and liabilities of the council have been transferred to the department, as the successor agency.

(h) The terms of all members serving on the council expire June 30, 2026.

(i) This SECTION expires July 1, 2027.

SECTION 794. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026] (a) As used in this SECTION, "CHLA" refers to the commission on Hispanic/Latino affairs established by IC 4-23-28-2 (before its repeal by this act).

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(b) As used in this SECTION, "CSSBM" refers to the commission on the social status of black males established by IC 4-23-31-2 (before its repeal by this act).

(c) As used in this SECTION, "ICW" refers to the Indiana commission for women created by IC 4-23-25-3 (before its repeal by this act).

(d) As used in this SECTION, "NAIAC" refers to the Native American Indian affairs commission established by IC 4-23-32-3 (before its repeal by this act).

(e) As used in this SECTION, "commission" refers to the Indiana cultural commission established by IC 4-23-36-3 (as added 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 powers, duties, agreements, and liabilities of the ICW, CHLA, CSSBM, and NAIAC, as applicable, have been transferred to the commission as the successor entity.

(k) The term of any member serving as of June 30, 2026, on the:

- (1) CHLA;
- (2) CSSBM;
- (3) ICW; or
- (4) NAIAC;

expires July 1, 2026.

(l) This SECTION expires July 1, 2027.

SECTION 795. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026] (a) The legislative services agency shall prepare for introduction in 2027 any legislation necessary to conform the Indiana code to:

- (1) the expiration of IC 14-10 (natural resources commission) on July 1, 2027; or
- (2) the expiration or repeal of any other board, commission, committee, council, or similar entity enacted in this act.

(b) This SECTION expires July 1, 2027.

SECTION 796. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026] (a) Not later than January 1, 2028, the treasurer of Purdue University shall transfer to the state comptroller the balance of any funds that remain on December 31, 2027, and are being held to administer the following:

- (1) IC 15-15-1.
- (2) IC 15-15-2.
- (3) IC 15-15-5.
- (4) IC 15-15-7.
- (5) IC 15-15-13.
- (6) IC 15-16-2-35.
- (7) IC 15-16-2-36.
- (8) IC 15-16-4.
- (9) IC 15-16-5.
- (10) IC 15-19-7.

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1 (11) IC 25-31.5-3-9.

2 (12) Any other law administered by the state chemist or state
3 seed commissioner.

4 (b) This SECTION expires July 1, 2028.

5 SECTION 797. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026] (a) Not later than
6 July 1, 2027, the treasurer of Purdue University shall transfer to
7 the treasurer of state the balance of any funds that remain on June
8 30, 2027, and are being held to administer IC 15-18-2. The
9 treasurer of state shall deposit amounts received under this
10 SECTION in the creamery inspection fund established by
11 IC 15-18-2-31.5, as added by this act.

12 (b) After December 31, 2026, a rule adopted by the creamery
13 examining board or the creamery licensing division of Purdue
14 University is considered a rule adopted by the Indiana state board
15 of animal health for all purposes of administering IC 15-18-2.

16 (c) After December 31, 2026, a license issued before January 1,
17 2027, by the creamery license division under IC 15-18-2:

18 (1) is considered a license issued by the Indiana state board of
19 animal health; and

20 (2) remains valid under the terms of the license until it expires
21 or is revoked in accordance with IC 15-18-2.

22 (d) This SECTION expires June 30, 2028.

23 SECTION 798. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026] (a) As used in this
24 SECTION, "commission" refers to the Indiana fire and EMS
25 standards and education commission established by IC 16-31-2-1.5,
26 as added by this act.

27 (b) As used in this SECTION, "education board" refers to the
28 board of firefighting personnel standards and education
29 established by IC 22-12-3-1 (before its expiration).

30 (c) As used in this SECTION, "EMS commission" refers to the
31 Indiana emergency medical services commission created by
32 IC 16-31-2-1 (before its expiration).

33 (d) On January 1, 2027, all agreements and liabilities of the
34 education board and the EMS commission are considered
35 agreements and liabilities of the commission.

36 (e) On January 1, 2027, all records and property of the
37 education board and the EMS commission, including any
38 appropriations and other funds under the control or supervision of
39 either entity, are considered records and property of the
40 commission.



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(f) After December 31, 2026, any amount owed to the education board or the EMS commission is considered owed to the commission.

(g) After December 31, 2026, any reference to the education board or the EMS commission in a statute, rule, or other document is considered a reference to the commission.

(h) This SECTION expires July 1, 2028.

SECTION 799. [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE] (a) As used in this SECTION, "commission" means the occupational safety standards commission created by IC 22-8-1.1-7 (before its repeal by this act).

(b) As used in this SECTION, "board" means the board of safety review created by IC 22-8-1.1-30.1.

(c) On January 1, 2027, all agreements and liabilities of the commission are transferred to the board, as the successor entity.

(d) On January 1, 2027, all records and property of the commission, including appropriations and other funds under the control or supervision of the commission, are transferred to the board, as the successor entity.

(e) After December 31, 2026, any amounts owed to the commission before January 1, 2027, are considered to be owed to the board, as the successor entity.

(f) After December 31, 2026, a reference to the commission in a statute, rule, contract, lease, or other document is considered a reference to the board, as the successor entity.

(g) Proceedings pending before the commission on January 1, 2027, shall be transferred from the commission to the board and treated as if initiated by the board.

(h) The rules adopted by the commission before January 1, 2027, are considered, after December 31, 2026, rules of the board.

(i) 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 board, 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 board, as the successor entity.

(j) The terms of all members serving on the commission expire December 31, 2026.

(k) This SECTION expires July 1, 2027.

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1 SECTION 800. [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE] (a) As used in
2 this SECTION, "architect board" means the board of registration
3 for architects and landscape architects established by IC 25-4-1-2
4 (before the amendments made by this act).

5 (b) As used in this SECTION, "design professionals board"
6 means the Indiana board of registration for design professionals
7 established by IC 25-4-1-2.

8 (c) On January 1, 2027, all agreements and liabilities of the
9 architect board are transferred to the design professionals board,
10 as a successor.

11 (d) On January 1, 2027, all records and property of the architect
12 board, including appropriations and other funds under the control
13 or supervision of the architect board, are transferred to the design
14 professionals board, as a successor.

15 (e) After January 1, 2027, any amounts owed to the architect
16 board on or before January 1, 2027, are considered owed to the
17 design professionals board, as a successor. The design professionals
18 board shall transfer any amounts transferred under this subsection
19 to the state comptroller for deposit in the state general fund.

20 (f) After January 1, 2027, a reference to the architect board in
21 a statute, rule, or other document is considered a reference to the
22 design professionals board, as a successor.

23 (g) All powers, duties, agreements, and liabilities of the architect
24 board with respect to bonds issued by the architect board in
25 connection with any trust agreement or indenture securing those
26 bonds are transferred to the design professionals board, as a
27 successor. The rights of the trustee under any trust agreement or
28 indenture and the rights of the bondholders of the architect board
29 remain unchanged, although the powers, duties, agreements, and
30 liabilities of the architect board have been transferred to the design
31 professionals board, as a successor.

32 (h) The terms of all members serving on the architect board
33 expire December 31, 2026.

34 (i) This SECTION expires January 1, 2028.

35 SECTION 801. [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE] (a) As used in
36 this SECTION, "engineers board" means the state board of
37 registration for professional engineers established by IC 25-31-1-3
38 (before its repeal by this act).

39 (b) As used in this SECTION, "design professionals board"
40 means the Indiana board of registration for design professionals
41 established by IC 25-4-1-2.



(c) On January 1, 2027, all agreements and liabilities of the engineers board are transferred to the design professionals board, as a successor.

(d) On January 1, 2027, all records and property of the engineers board, including appropriations and other funds under the control or supervision of the engineers board, are transferred to the design professionals board, as a successor.

(e) After January 1, 2027, any amounts owed to the engineers board on or before January 1, 2027, are considered owed to the design professionals board, as a successor. The design professionals board shall transfer any amounts transferred under this subsection to the state comptroller for deposit in the state general fund.

(f) After January 1, 2027, a reference to the engineers board in a statute, rule, or other document is considered a reference to the design professionals board, as a successor.

(g) All powers, duties, agreements, and liabilities of the engineers board with respect to bonds issued by the engineers board in connection with any trust agreement or indenture securing those bonds are transferred to the design professionals board, as a successor. The rights of the trustee under any trust agreement or indenture and the rights of the bondholders of the engineers board remain unchanged, although the powers, duties, agreements, and liabilities of the engineers board have been transferred to the design professionals board, as a successor.

(h) The terms of all members serving on the engineers board expire December 31, 2026.

(i) This SECTION expires January 1, 2028.

SECTION 802. [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE] (a) The terms of all members serving on the:

(1) Indiana pesticide review board established by IC 15-16-4-42 (before its repeal by this act); and

(2) invasive species council established by IC 15-16-10-3 (before its repeal by this act);

expire June 30, 2026.

(b) This SECTION expires July 1, 2027.

SECTION 803. An emergency is declared for this act.

