



# COMMITTEE REPORT

**MR. PRESIDENT:**

**The Senate Committee on Education and Career Development, to which was referred House Bill No. 1004, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that said bill be AMENDED as follows:**

- 1           Page 5, between lines 13 and 14, begin a new paragraph and insert:  
2           "SECTION 4. IC 6-1.1-20-3.1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.68-2025,  
3           SECTION 66, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
4           JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3.1. (a) Subject to section 3.5(a)(1)(C) of this  
5           chapter, this section applies only to the following:  
6           (1) A controlled project (as defined in section 1.1 of this chapter  
7           as in effect June 30, 2008) for which the proper officers of a  
8           political subdivision make a preliminary determination in the  
9           manner described in subsection (b) before July 1, 2008.  
10          (2) An elementary school building, middle school building, high  
11          school building, or other school building for academic instruction  
12          that:  
13              (A) is a controlled project;  
14              (B) will be used for any combination of kindergarten through  
15              grade 12; and  
16              (C) will not cost more than the lesser of the following:  
17                  (i) The threshold amount determined under this item. In the  
18                  case of an ordinance or resolution adopted before January 1,  
19                  2018, making a preliminary determination to issue bonds or

1 enter into a lease for the project, the threshold amount is ten  
 2 million dollars (\$10,000,000). In the case of an ordinance or  
 3 resolution adopted after December 31, 2017, and before  
 4 January 1, 2019, making a preliminary determination to  
 5 issue bonds or enter into a lease for the project, the threshold  
 6 amount is fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000). In the case  
 7 of an ordinance or resolution adopted in a calendar year after  
 8 December 31, 2018, making a preliminary determination to  
 9 issue bonds or enter into a lease for the project, the threshold  
 10 amount is an amount (as determined by the department of  
 11 local government finance) equal to the result of the  
 12 maximum levy growth quotient determined under  
 13 IC 6-1.1-18.5-2 for the year multiplied by the threshold  
 14 amount determined under this item for the preceding  
 15 calendar year. In the case of a threshold amount determined  
 16 under this item that applies for a calendar year after  
 17 December 31, 2018, the department of local government  
 18 finance shall publish the threshold in the Indiana Register  
 19 under IC 4-22-7-7 not more than sixty (60) days after the  
 20 date the budget agency releases the maximum levy growth  
 21 quotient for the ensuing year under IC 6-1.1-18.5-2.

22 (ii) An amount equal to one percent (1%) of the total gross  
 23 assessed value of property within the political subdivision  
 24 on the last assessment date, if that total gross assessed value  
 25 is more than one billion dollars (\$1,000,000,000), or ten  
 26 million dollars (\$10,000,000), if the total gross assessed  
 27 value of property within the political subdivision on the last  
 28 assessment date is not more than one billion dollars  
 29 (\$1,000,000,000).

30 (3) Any other controlled project that:

31 (A) is not a controlled project described in subdivision (1) or

32 (2); and

33 (B) will not cost the political subdivision more than the lesser  
 34 of the following:

35 (i) The threshold amount determined under this item. In the  
 36 case of an ordinance or resolution adopted before January 1,  
 37 2018, making a preliminary determination to issue bonds or  
 38 enter into a lease for the project, the threshold amount is

1 twelve million dollars (\$12,000,000). In the case of an  
2 ordinance or resolution adopted after December 31, 2017,  
3 and before January 1, 2019, making a preliminary  
4 determination to issue bonds or enter into a lease for the  
5 project, the threshold amount is fifteen million dollars  
6 (\$15,000,000). In the case of an ordinance or resolution  
7 adopted in a calendar year after December 31, 2018, making  
8 a preliminary determination to issue bonds or enter into a  
9 lease for the project, the threshold amount is an amount (as  
10 determined by the department of local government finance)  
11 equal to the result of the maximum levy growth quotient  
12 determined under IC 6-1.1-18.5-2 for the year multiplied by  
13 the threshold amount determined under this item for the  
14 preceding calendar year. In the case of a threshold amount  
15 determined under this item that applies for a calendar year  
16 after December 31, 2018, the department of local  
17 government finance shall publish the threshold in the  
18 Indiana Register under IC 4-22-7-7 not more than sixty (60)  
19 days after the date the budget agency releases the maximum  
20 levy growth quotient for the ensuing year under  
21 IC 6-1.1-18.5-2.

22 (ii) An amount equal to one percent (1%) of the total gross  
23 assessed value of property within the political subdivision  
24 on the last assessment date, if that total gross assessed value  
25 is more than one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000), or  
26 one million dollars (\$1,000,000), if the total gross assessed  
27 value of property within the political subdivision on the last  
28 assessment date is not more than one hundred million  
29 dollars (\$100,000,000).

30 (4) A controlled project funded by debt service if the scope of the  
31 project changes from the purpose of the project initially  
32 advertised to taxpayers as determined under section 4.2(c) of this  
33 chapter.

34 (5) This subdivision does not apply to a project for which a public  
35 hearing to issue bonds or enter into a lease has been conducted  
36 under IC 20-26-7-37 before July 1, 2023, or to a project for which  
37 an ordinance or resolution making a preliminary determination to  
38 issue bonds or enter into a lease is adopted after June 30, 2025.

- 1 Any other controlled project if both of the following apply:
- 2 (A) The political subdivision's total debt service tax rate is
- 3 more than forty cents (\$0.40) per one hundred dollars (\$100)
- 4 of assessed value, but less than eighty cents (\$0.80) per one
- 5 hundred dollars (\$100) of assessed value.
- 6 (B) The controlled project is not otherwise described in section
- 7 3.5(a)(1) of this chapter.
- 8 This subdivision expires December 31, 2025. For purposes of this
- 9 subdivision, a political subdivision's total debt service tax rate
- 10 does not include a tax rate imposed in a referendum debt service
- 11 levy approved by voters.
- 12 (6) Any other controlled project if the following apply:
- 13 (A) An ordinance or resolution making a preliminary
- 14 determination to issue bonds or enter into a lease for the
- 15 project is adopted after June 30, 2025.
- 16 (B) The controlled project is not otherwise described in section
- 17 3.5(a)(1) of this chapter.
- 18 (C) In the case of a:
- 19 (i) school corporation, the school corporation's total debt
- 20 service tax rate is more than forty cents (\$0.40) per one
- 21 hundred dollars (\$100) of assessed value, but not more than
- 22 seventy cents (\$0.70) per one hundred dollars (\$100) of
- 23 assessed value;
- 24 (ii) city, county, or town, the city's, county's, or town's total
- 25 debt service tax rate is more than twenty-five cents (\$0.25)
- 26 per one hundred dollars (\$100) of assessed value, but not
- 27 more than forty cents (\$0.40) per one hundred dollars (\$100)
- 28 of assessed value; or
- 29 (iii) political subdivision not described in item (i) or (ii), the
- 30 political subdivision's total debt service tax rate is more than
- 31 five cents (\$0.05) per one hundred dollars (\$100) of
- 32 assessed value, but not more than ten cents (\$0.10) per one
- 33 hundred dollars (\$100) of assessed value.
- 34 However, this subdivision does not apply to a project for which a
- 35 public hearing to issue bonds or enter into a lease has been
- 36 conducted under IC 20-26-7-37 before July 1, 2025. For purposes
- 37 of this subdivision, a political subdivision's total debt service tax
- 38 rate does not include a tax rate imposed in a referendum debt

- 1 service tax levy approved by voters.
- 2 (b) A political subdivision may not impose property taxes to pay
- 3 debt service on bonds or lease rentals on a lease for a controlled project
- 4 without completing the following procedures:
- 5 (1) The proper officers of a political subdivision shall publish
- 6 notice in accordance with IC 5-3-1 and send notice by first class
- 7 mail to the circuit court clerk ~~and to any organization that delivers~~
- 8 ~~to the officers, before January 1 of that year, an annual written~~
- 9 ~~request for such notices of any meeting to consider adoption of a~~
- 10 ~~resolution or an ordinance making a preliminary determination to~~
- 11 ~~issue bonds or enter into a lease and shall conduct at least two (2)~~
- 12 public hearings on a preliminary determination before adoption
- 13 of the resolution or ordinance. The political subdivision must at
- 14 each of the public hearings on the preliminary determination
- 15 allow the public to testify regarding the preliminary determination
- 16 and must make the following information available to the public
- 17 at each of the public hearings on the preliminary determination,
- 18 in addition to any other information required by law:
- 19 (A) The result of the political subdivision's current and
- 20 projected annual debt service payments divided by the net
- 21 assessed value of taxable property within the political
- 22 subdivision.
- 23 (B) The result of:
- 24 (i) the sum of the political subdivision's outstanding long
- 25 term debt plus the outstanding long term debt of other taxing
- 26 units that include any of the territory of the political
- 27 subdivision; divided by
- 28 (ii) the net assessed value of taxable property within the
- 29 political subdivision.
- 30 (C) The information specified in subdivision (3)(A) through
- 31 (3)(H).
- 32 (2) When the proper officers of a political subdivision make a
- 33 preliminary determination to issue bonds or enter into a lease for
- 34 a controlled project, the officers shall give notice of the
- 35 preliminary determination by:
- 36 (A) publication in accordance with IC 5-3-1; and
- 37 (B) first class mail to the circuit court clerk. ~~and to the~~
- 38 ~~organizations described in subdivision (1):~~

1 (3) A notice under subdivision (2) of the preliminary  
 2 determination of the political subdivision to issue bonds or enter  
 3 into a lease for a controlled project must include the following  
 4 information:

5 (A) The maximum term of the bonds or lease.

6 (B) The maximum principal amount of the bonds or the  
 7 maximum lease rental for the lease.

8 (C) The estimated interest rates that will be paid and the total  
 9 interest costs associated with the bonds or lease.

10 (D) The purpose of the bonds or lease.

11 (E) A statement that any owners of property within the  
 12 political subdivision or registered voters residing within the  
 13 political subdivision who want to initiate a petition and  
 14 remonstrance process against the proposed debt service or  
 15 lease payments must file a petition that complies with  
 16 subdivisions (4) and (5) not later than thirty (30) days after  
 17 publication in accordance with IC 5-3-1.

18 (F) With respect to bonds issued or a lease entered into to  
 19 open:

20 (i) a new school facility; or

21 (ii) an existing facility that has not been used for at least  
 22 three (3) years and that is being reopened to provide  
 23 additional classroom space;

24 the estimated costs the school corporation expects to incur  
 25 annually to operate the facility.

26 (G) A statement of whether the school corporation expects to  
 27 appeal for a new facility adjustment (as defined in  
 28 IC 20-45-1-16 (repealed) before January 1, 2009) for an  
 29 increased maximum permissible tuition support levy to pay the  
 30 estimated costs described in clause (F).

31 (H) The following information:

32 (i) The political subdivision's current debt service levy and  
 33 rate.

34 (ii) The estimated increase to the political subdivision's debt  
 35 service levy and rate that will result if the political  
 36 subdivision issues the bonds or enters into the lease.

37 (iii) The estimated amount of the political subdivision's debt  
 38 service levy and rate that will result during the following ten

- 1 (10) years if the political subdivision issues the bonds or  
2 enters into the lease, after also considering any changes that  
3 will occur to the debt service levy and rate during that  
4 period on account of any outstanding bonds or lease  
5 obligations that will mature or terminate during that period.  
6 (I) The information specified in subdivision (1)(A) through  
7 (1)(B).
- 8 (4) After notice is given, a petition requesting the application of  
9 a petition and remonstrance process may be filed by the lesser of:  
10 (A) five hundred (500) persons who are either owners of  
11 property within the political subdivision or registered voters  
12 residing within the political subdivision; or  
13 (B) five percent (5%) of the registered voters residing within  
14 the political subdivision.
- 15 (5) The state board of accounts shall design and, upon request by  
16 the county voter registration office, deliver to the county voter  
17 registration office or the county voter registration office's  
18 designated printer the petition forms to be used solely in the  
19 petition process described in this section. The county voter  
20 registration office shall issue to an owner or owners of property  
21 within the political subdivision or a registered voter residing  
22 within the political subdivision the number of petition forms  
23 requested by the owner or owners or the registered voter. Each  
24 form must be accompanied by instructions detailing the  
25 requirements that:  
26 (A) the carrier and signers must be owners of property or  
27 registered voters;  
28 (B) the carrier must be a signatory on at least one (1) petition;  
29 (C) after the signatures have been collected, the carrier must  
30 swear or affirm before a notary public that the carrier  
31 witnessed each signature; and  
32 (D) govern the closing date for the petition period.
- 33 Persons requesting forms may be required to identify themselves  
34 as owners of property or registered voters and may be allowed to  
35 pick up additional copies to distribute to other owners of property  
36 or registered voters. Each person signing a petition must indicate  
37 whether the person is signing the petition as a registered voter  
38 within the political subdivision or is signing the petition as the

1 owner of property within the political subdivision. A person who  
2 signs a petition as a registered voter must indicate the address at  
3 which the person is registered to vote. A person who signs a  
4 petition as an owner of property must indicate the address of the  
5 property owned by the person in the political subdivision.

6 (6) Each petition must be verified under oath by at least one (1)  
7 qualified petitioner in a manner prescribed by the state board of  
8 accounts before the petition is filed with the county voter  
9 registration office under subdivision (7).

10 (7) Each petition must be filed with the county voter registration  
11 office not more than thirty (30) days after publication under  
12 subdivision (2) of the notice of the preliminary determination.

13 (8) The county voter registration office shall determine whether  
14 each person who signed the petition is a registered voter.  
15 However, after the county voter registration office has determined  
16 that at least five hundred twenty-five (525) persons who signed  
17 the petition are registered voters within the political subdivision,  
18 the county voter registration office is not required to verify  
19 whether the remaining persons who signed the petition are  
20 registered voters. If the county voter registration office does not  
21 determine that at least five hundred twenty-five (525) persons  
22 who signed the petition are registered voters, the county voter  
23 registration office shall, not more than fifteen (15) business days  
24 after receiving a petition, forward a copy of the petition to the  
25 county auditor. Not more than ten (10) business days after  
26 receiving the copy of the petition, the county auditor shall provide  
27 to the county voter registration office a statement verifying:

28 (A) whether a person who signed the petition as a registered  
29 voter but is not a registered voter, as determined by the county  
30 voter registration office, is the owner of property in the  
31 political subdivision; and

32 (B) whether a person who signed the petition as an owner of  
33 property within the political subdivision does in fact own  
34 property within the political subdivision.

35 (9) The county voter registration office, not more than ten (10)  
36 business days after determining that at least five hundred  
37 twenty-five (525) persons who signed the petition are registered  
38 voters or receiving the statement from the county auditor under

1 subdivision (8), as applicable, shall make the final determination  
2 of the number of petitioners that are registered voters in the  
3 political subdivision and, based on the statement provided by the  
4 county auditor, the number of petitioners that own property within  
5 the political subdivision. Whenever the name of an individual  
6 who signs a petition form as a registered voter contains a minor  
7 variation from the name of the registered voter as set forth in the  
8 records of the county voter registration office, the signature is  
9 presumed to be valid, and there is a presumption that the  
10 individual is entitled to sign the petition under this section. Except  
11 as otherwise provided in this chapter, in determining whether an  
12 individual is a registered voter, the county voter registration office  
13 shall apply the requirements and procedures used under IC 3 to  
14 determine whether a person is a registered voter for purposes of  
15 voting in an election governed by IC 3. However, an individual is  
16 not required to comply with the provisions concerning providing  
17 proof of identification to be considered a registered voter for  
18 purposes of this chapter. A person is entitled to sign a petition  
19 only one (1) time in a particular petition and remonstrance  
20 process under this chapter, regardless of whether the person owns  
21 more than one (1) parcel of real property, mobile home assessed  
22 as personal property, or manufactured home assessed as personal  
23 property, or a combination of those types of property within the  
24 subdivision and regardless of whether the person is both a  
25 registered voter in the political subdivision and the owner of  
26 property within the political subdivision. Notwithstanding any  
27 other provision of this section, if a petition is presented to the  
28 county voter registration office within forty-five (45) days before  
29 an election, the county voter registration office may defer acting  
30 on the petition, and the time requirements under this section for  
31 action by the county voter registration office do not begin to run  
32 until five (5) days after the date of the election.

33 (10) The county voter registration office must file a certificate and  
34 each petition with:

35 (A) the township trustee, if the political subdivision is a  
36 township, who shall present the petition or petitions to the  
37 township board; or

38 (B) the body that has the authority to authorize the issuance of

1           the bonds or the execution of a lease, if the political  
2           subdivision is not a township;  
3           within thirty-five (35) business days of the filing of the petition  
4           requesting a petition and remonstrance process. The certificate  
5           must state the number of petitioners that are owners of property  
6           within the political subdivision and the number of petitioners who  
7           are registered voters residing within the political subdivision.

8           If a sufficient petition requesting a petition and remonstrance process  
9           is not filed by owners of property or registered voters as set forth in this  
10          section, the political subdivision may issue bonds or enter into a lease  
11          by following the provisions of law relating to the bonds to be issued or  
12          lease to be entered into.

13          (c) A political subdivision may not divide a controlled project in  
14          order to avoid the requirements of this section and section 3.2 of this  
15          chapter. A person that owns property within a political subdivision or  
16          a person that is a registered voter residing within a political subdivision  
17          may file a petition with the department of local government finance  
18          objecting that the political subdivision has divided a controlled project  
19          in order to avoid the requirements of this section and section 3.2 of this  
20          chapter. The petition must be filed not more than ten (10) days after the  
21          political subdivision gives notice of the political subdivision's decision  
22          to issue bonds or enter into leases for a capital project that the person  
23          believes is the result of a division of a controlled project that is  
24          prohibited by this subsection. If the department of local government  
25          finance receives a petition under this subsection, the department shall  
26          not later than thirty (30) days after receiving the petition make a final  
27          determination on the issue of whether the political subdivision divided  
28          a controlled project in order to avoid the requirements of this section  
29          and section 3.2 of this chapter. If the department of local government  
30          finance determines that a political subdivision divided a controlled  
31          project in order to avoid the requirements of this section and section  
32          3.2 of this chapter and the political subdivision continues to desire to  
33          proceed with the project, the political subdivision shall fulfill the  
34          requirements of this section and section 3.2 of this chapter, if  
35          applicable, regardless of the cost of the project in dispute. A political  
36          subdivision shall be considered to have divided a capital project in  
37          order to avoid the requirements of this section and section 3.2 of this  
38          chapter if the result of one (1) or more of the subprojects cannot

1 reasonably be considered an independently desirable end in itself  
 2 without reference to another capital project. This subsection does not  
 3 prohibit a political subdivision from undertaking a series of capital  
 4 projects in which the result of each capital project can reasonably be  
 5 considered an independently desirable end in itself without reference  
 6 to another capital project.

7 SECTION 5. IC 6-1.1-20-3.2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.246-2017,  
 8 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 9 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3.2. (a) Subject to section 3.5(a)(1)(C) of this  
 10 chapter, this section applies only to controlled projects described in  
 11 section 3.1(a) of this chapter.

12 (b) If a sufficient petition requesting the application of a petition and  
 13 remonstrance process has been filed as set forth in section 3.1 of this  
 14 chapter, a political subdivision may not impose property taxes to pay  
 15 debt service on bonds or lease rentals on a lease for a controlled project  
 16 without completing the following procedures:

17 (1) The proper officers of the political subdivision shall give  
 18 notice of the applicability of the petition and remonstrance  
 19 process by:

20 (A) publication in accordance with IC 5-3-1; and

21 (B) first class mail to the circuit court clerk. ~~and to the~~  
 22 ~~organizations described in section 3-1(b)(1) of this chapter.~~

23 A notice under this subdivision must include a statement that any  
 24 owners of property within the political subdivision or registered  
 25 voters residing within the political subdivision who want to  
 26 petition in favor of or remonstrate against the proposed debt  
 27 service or lease payments must file petitions and remonstrances  
 28 in compliance with subdivisions (2) through (4) not earlier than  
 29 thirty (30) days or later than sixty (60) days after publication in  
 30 accordance with IC 5-3-1.

31 (2) Not earlier than thirty (30) days or later than sixty (60) days  
 32 after the notice under subdivision (1) is given:

33 (A) petitions (described in subdivision (3)) in favor of the  
 34 bonds or lease; and

35 (B) remonstrances (described in subdivision (3)) against the  
 36 bonds or lease;

37 may be filed by an owner or owners of property within the  
 38 political subdivision or a registered voter residing within the

1 political subdivision. Each signature on a petition must be dated,  
2 and the date of signature may not be before the date on which the  
3 petition and remonstrance forms may be issued under subdivision  
4 (3). A petition described in clause (A) or a remonstrance  
5 described in clause (B) must be verified in compliance with  
6 subdivision (4) before the petition or remonstrance is filed with  
7 the county voter registration office under subdivision (4).

8 (3) The state board of accounts shall design and, upon request by  
9 the county voter registration office, deliver to the county voter  
10 registration office or the county voter registration office's  
11 designated printer the petition and remonstrance forms to be used  
12 solely in the petition and remonstrance process described in this  
13 section. The county voter registration office shall issue to an  
14 owner or owners of property within the political subdivision or a  
15 registered voter residing within the political subdivision the  
16 number of petition or remonstrance forms requested by the owner  
17 or owners or the registered voter. Each form must be  
18 accompanied by instructions detailing the requirements that:

19 (A) the carrier and signers must be owners of property or  
20 registered voters;

21 (B) the carrier must be a signatory on at least one (1) petition;

22 (C) after the signatures have been collected, the carrier must  
23 swear or affirm before a notary public that the carrier  
24 witnessed each signature;

25 (D) govern the closing date for the petition and remonstrance  
26 period; and

27 (E) apply to the carrier under section 10 of this chapter.

28 Persons requesting forms may be required to identify themselves  
29 as owners of property or registered voters and may be allowed to  
30 pick up additional copies to distribute to other owners of property  
31 or registered voters. Each person signing a petition or  
32 remonstrance must indicate whether the person is signing the  
33 petition or remonstrance as a registered voter within the political  
34 subdivision or is signing the petition or remonstrance as the  
35 owner of property within the political subdivision. A person who  
36 signs a petition or remonstrance as a registered voter must  
37 indicate the address at which the person is registered to vote. A  
38 person who signs a petition or remonstrance as an owner of

1 property must indicate the address of the property owned by the  
2 person in the political subdivision. The county voter registration  
3 office may not issue a petition or remonstrance form earlier than  
4 twenty-nine (29) days after the notice is given under subdivision  
5 (1). The county voter registration office shall certify the date of  
6 issuance on each petition or remonstrance form that is distributed  
7 under this subdivision.

8 (4) The petitions and remonstrances must be verified in the  
9 manner prescribed by the state board of accounts and filed with  
10 the county voter registration office within the sixty (60) day  
11 period described in subdivision (2) in the manner set forth in  
12 section 3.1 of this chapter relating to requests for a petition and  
13 remonstrance process.

14 (5) The county voter registration office shall determine whether  
15 each person who signed the petition or remonstrance is a  
16 registered voter. The county voter registration office shall not  
17 more than fifteen (15) business days after receiving a petition or  
18 remonstrance forward a copy of the petition or remonstrance to  
19 the county auditor. Not more than ten (10) business days after  
20 receiving the copy of the petition or remonstrance, the county  
21 auditor shall provide to the county voter registration office a  
22 statement verifying:

23 (A) whether a person who signed the petition or remonstrance  
24 as a registered voter but is not a registered voter, as  
25 determined by the county voter registration office, is the owner  
26 of property in the political subdivision; and

27 (B) whether a person who signed the petition or remonstrance  
28 as an owner of property within the political subdivision does  
29 in fact own property within the political subdivision.

30 (6) The county voter registration office shall not more than ten  
31 (10) business days after receiving the statement from the county  
32 auditor under subdivision (5) make the final determination of:

33 (A) the number of registered voters in the political subdivision  
34 that signed a petition and, based on the statement provided by  
35 the county auditor, the number of owners of property within  
36 the political subdivision that signed a petition; and

37 (B) the number of registered voters in the political subdivision  
38 that signed a remonstrance and, based on the statement

1 provided by the county auditor, the number of owners of  
2 property within the political subdivision that signed a  
3 remonstrance.

4 Whenever the name of an individual who signs a petition or  
5 remonstrance as a registered voter contains a minor variation from  
6 the name of the registered voter as set forth in the records of the  
7 county voter registration office, the signature is presumed to be  
8 valid, and there is a presumption that the individual is entitled to  
9 sign the petition or remonstrance under this section. Except as  
10 otherwise provided in this chapter, in determining whether an  
11 individual is a registered voter, the county voter registration office  
12 shall apply the requirements and procedures used under IC 3 to  
13 determine whether a person is a registered voter for purposes of  
14 voting in an election governed by IC 3. However, an individual is  
15 not required to comply with the provisions concerning providing  
16 proof of identification to be considered a registered voter for  
17 purposes of this chapter. A person is entitled to sign a petition or  
18 remonstrance only one (1) time in a particular petition and  
19 remonstrance process under this chapter, regardless of whether  
20 the person owns more than one (1) parcel of real property, mobile  
21 home assessed as personal property, or manufactured home  
22 assessed as personal property or a combination of those types of  
23 property within the subdivision and regardless of whether the  
24 person is both a registered voter in the political subdivision and  
25 the owner of property within the political subdivision.  
26 Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, if a petition  
27 or remonstrance is presented to the county voter registration  
28 office within forty-five (45) days before an election, the county  
29 voter registration office may defer acting on the petition or  
30 remonstrance, and the time requirements under this section for  
31 action by the county voter registration office do not begin to run  
32 until five (5) days after the date of the election.

33 (7) The county voter registration office must file a certificate and  
34 the petition or remonstrance with the body of the political  
35 subdivision charged with issuing bonds or entering into leases  
36 within thirty-five (35) business days of the filing of a petition or  
37 remonstrance under subdivision (4), whichever applies,  
38 containing ten thousand (10,000) signatures or less. The county

1 voter registration office may take an additional five (5) days to  
 2 review and certify the petition or remonstrance for each additional  
 3 five thousand (5,000) signatures up to a maximum of sixty (60)  
 4 days. The certificate must state the number of petitioners and  
 5 remonstrators that are owners of property within the political  
 6 subdivision and the number of petitioners who are registered  
 7 voters residing within the political subdivision.

8 (8) If a greater number of persons who are either owners of  
 9 property within the political subdivision or registered voters  
 10 residing within the political subdivision sign a remonstrance than  
 11 the number that signed a petition, the bonds petitioned for may  
 12 not be issued or the lease petitioned for may not be entered into.  
 13 The proper officers of the political subdivision may not make a  
 14 preliminary determination to issue bonds or enter into a lease for  
 15 the controlled project defeated by the petition and remonstrance  
 16 process under this section or any other controlled project that is  
 17 not substantially different within one (1) year after the date of the  
 18 county voter registration office's certificate under subdivision (7).  
 19 Withdrawal of a petition carries the same consequences as a  
 20 defeat of the petition.

21 (9) After a political subdivision has gone through the petition and  
 22 remonstrance process set forth in this section, the political  
 23 subdivision is not required to follow any other remonstrance or  
 24 objection procedures under any other law (including section 5 of  
 25 this chapter) relating to bonds or leases designed to protect  
 26 owners of property within the political subdivision from the  
 27 imposition of property taxes to pay debt service or lease rentals.  
 28 However, the political subdivision must still receive the approval  
 29 of the department of local government finance if required by:

30 (A) IC 6-1.1-18.5-8; or

31 (B) IC 20-46-7-8, IC 20-46-7-9, and IC 20-46-7-10.

32 SECTION 6. IC 6-1.1-20-4.2, AS ADDED BY P.L.136-2024,  
 33 SECTION 26, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 34 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4.2. (a) This section applies only if, with respect  
 35 to a particular controlled project that fulfilled the petition and  
 36 remonstrance process under sections 3.1 and 3.2 of this chapter, the  
 37 political subdivision subsequently changes the scope of the controlled  
 38 project beyond that initially presented.

1 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision in this chapter, if at least  
 2 ten (10) persons who are either owners of property within the political  
 3 subdivision or registered voters residing within the political  
 4 subdivision file a petition with the proper officers of the political  
 5 subdivision contending that the scope of a controlled project has  
 6 changed from how it was initially presented, the proper officers of the  
 7 political subdivision shall hold a public hearing to determine whether  
 8 any change in scope is significant enough to warrant a new petition and  
 9 remonstrance process. A petition under this subsection must be filed  
 10 not later than one (1) year after the controlled project received final  
 11 approval.

12 (c) Notwithstanding any other provision in this chapter, if it is  
 13 determined at the hearing described in subsection (b) that the political  
 14 subdivision has subsequently changed the scope of a controlled project  
 15 beyond that initially presented as described in subsection (a), the  
 16 political subdivision must complete the following procedures under this  
 17 section:

18 (1) The proper officers of the political subdivision shall give  
 19 notice of the applicability of the petition and remonstrance  
 20 process by:

21 (A) publication in accordance with IC 5-3-1; and

22 (B) first class mail to the circuit court clerk. ~~and to the~~  
 23 ~~organizations described in section 3-1(b)(1) of this chapter.~~

24 A notice under this subdivision must include a statement that any  
 25 owners of property within the political subdivision or registered  
 26 voters residing within the political subdivision who want to  
 27 petition in favor of or remonstrate against the proposed debt  
 28 service or lease payments must file petitions and remonstrances  
 29 in compliance with subdivisions (2) through (4) not earlier than  
 30 thirty (30) days or later than sixty (60) days after publication in  
 31 accordance with IC 5-3-1.

32 (2) Not earlier than thirty (30) days or later than sixty (60) days  
 33 after the notice under subdivision (1) is given:

34 (A) petitions (described in subdivision (3)) in favor of the  
 35 bonds or lease; and

36 (B) remonstrances (described in subdivision (3)) against the  
 37 bonds or lease;

38 may be filed by an owner or owners of property within the

1 political subdivision or a registered voter residing within the  
2 political subdivision. Each signature on a petition must be dated,  
3 and the date of signature may not be before the date on which the  
4 petition and remonstrance forms may be issued under subdivision  
5 (3). A petition described in clause (A) or a remonstrance  
6 described in clause (B) must be verified in compliance with  
7 subdivision (4) before the petition or remonstrance is filed with  
8 the county voter registration office under subdivision (4).

9 (3) The state board of accounts shall design and, upon request by  
10 the county voter registration office, deliver to the county voter  
11 registration office or the county voter registration office's  
12 designated printer the petition and remonstrance forms to be used  
13 solely in the petition and remonstrance process described in this  
14 section. The county voter registration office shall issue to an  
15 owner or owners of property within the political subdivision or a  
16 registered voter residing within the political subdivision the  
17 number of petition or remonstrance forms requested by the owner  
18 or owners or the registered voter. Each form must be  
19 accompanied by instructions detailing the requirements that:

- 20 (A) the carrier and signers must be owners of property or
- 21 registered voters;
- 22 (B) the carrier must be a signatory on at least one (1) petition;
- 23 (C) after the signatures have been collected, the carrier must
- 24 swear or affirm before a notary public that the carrier
- 25 witnessed each signature;
- 26 (D) govern the closing date for the petition and remonstrance
- 27 period; and
- 28 (E) apply to the carrier under section 10 of this chapter.

29 Persons requesting forms may be required to identify themselves  
30 as owners of property or registered voters and may be allowed to  
31 pick up additional copies to distribute to other owners of property  
32 or registered voters. Each person signing a petition or  
33 remonstrance must indicate whether the person is signing the  
34 petition or remonstrance as a registered voter within the political  
35 subdivision or is signing the petition or remonstrance as the  
36 owner of property within the political subdivision. A person who  
37 signs a petition or remonstrance as a registered voter must  
38 indicate the address at which the person is registered to vote. A

1 person who signs a petition or remonstrance as an owner of  
2 property must indicate the address of the property owned by the  
3 person in the political subdivision. The county voter registration  
4 office may not issue a petition or remonstrance form earlier than  
5 twenty-nine (29) days after the notice is given under subdivision  
6 (1). The county voter registration office shall certify the date of  
7 issuance on each petition or remonstrance form that is distributed  
8 under this subdivision.

9 (4) The petitions and remonstrances must be verified in the  
10 manner prescribed by the state board of accounts and filed with  
11 the county voter registration office within the sixty (60) day  
12 period described in subdivision (2) in the manner set forth in  
13 section 3.1 of this chapter relating to requests for a petition and  
14 remonstrance process.

15 (5) The county voter registration office shall determine whether  
16 each person who signed the petition or remonstrance is a  
17 registered voter. The county voter registration office shall not  
18 more than fifteen (15) business days after receiving a petition or  
19 remonstrance forward a copy of the petition or remonstrance to  
20 the county auditor. Not more than ten (10) business days after  
21 receiving the copy of the petition or remonstrance, the county  
22 auditor shall provide to the county voter registration office a  
23 statement verifying:

24 (A) whether a person who signed the petition or remonstrance  
25 as a registered voter but is not a registered voter, as  
26 determined by the county voter registration office, is the owner  
27 of property in the political subdivision; and

28 (B) whether a person who signed the petition or remonstrance  
29 as an owner of property within the political subdivision does  
30 in fact own property within the political subdivision.

31 (6) The county voter registration office shall not more than ten  
32 (10) business days after receiving the statement from the county  
33 auditor under subdivision (5) make the final determination of:

34 (A) the number of registered voters in the political subdivision  
35 that signed a petition and, based on the statement provided by  
36 the county auditor, the number of owners of property within  
37 the political subdivision that signed a petition; and

38 (B) the number of registered voters in the political subdivision

1           that signed a remonstrance and, based on the statement  
2           provided by the county auditor, the number of owners of  
3           property within the political subdivision that signed a  
4           remonstrance.

5           Whenever the name of an individual who signs a petition or  
6           remonstrance as a registered voter contains a minor variation from  
7           the name of the registered voter as set forth in the records of the  
8           county voter registration office, the signature is presumed to be  
9           valid, and there is a presumption that the individual is entitled to  
10          sign the petition or remonstrance under this section. Except as  
11          otherwise provided in this chapter, in determining whether an  
12          individual is a registered voter, the county voter registration office  
13          shall apply the requirements and procedures used under IC 3 to  
14          determine whether a person is a registered voter for purposes of  
15          voting in an election governed by IC 3. However, an individual is  
16          not required to comply with the provisions concerning providing  
17          proof of identification to be considered a registered voter for  
18          purposes of this chapter. A person is entitled to sign a petition or  
19          remonstrance only one (1) time in a particular petition and  
20          remonstrance process under this chapter, regardless of whether  
21          the person owns more than one (1) parcel of real property, mobile  
22          home assessed as personal property, or manufactured home  
23          assessed as personal property or a combination of those types of  
24          property within the subdivision and regardless of whether the  
25          person is both a registered voter in the political subdivision and  
26          the owner of property within the political subdivision.  
27          Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, if a petition  
28          or remonstrance is presented to the county voter registration  
29          office within forty-five (45) days before an election, the county  
30          voter registration office may defer acting on the petition or  
31          remonstrance, and the time requirements under this section for  
32          action by the county voter registration office do not begin to run  
33          until five (5) days after the date of the election.

34          (7) The county voter registration office must file a certificate and  
35          the petition or remonstrance with the body of the political  
36          subdivision within thirty-five (35) business days of the filing of a  
37          petition or remonstrance under subdivision (4), whichever  
38          applies, containing ten thousand (10,000) signatures or less. The

1 county voter registration office may take an additional five (5)  
2 days to review and certify the petition or remonstrance for each  
3 additional five thousand (5,000) signatures up to a maximum of  
4 sixty (60) days. The certificate must state the number of  
5 petitioners and remonstrators that are owners of property within  
6 the political subdivision and the number of petitioners who are  
7 registered voters residing within the political subdivision.

8 (8) If a greater number of persons who are either owners of  
9 property within the political subdivision or registered voters  
10 residing within the political subdivision sign a remonstrance than  
11 the number that signed a petition, the political subdivision may  
12 not proceed with the changed scope of the controlled project. In  
13 that case, the political subdivision may either:

14 (A) proceed with the controlled project as it was initially  
15 presented; or

16 (B) terminate the controlled project as it was initially  
17 presented and initiate procedures for the controlled project that  
18 reflects the change in scope.

19 Withdrawal of a petition carries the same consequences as a  
20 defeat of the petition.

21 (9) After a political subdivision has gone through the petition and  
22 remonstrance process set forth in this section, the political  
23 subdivision is not required to follow any other remonstrance or  
24 objection procedures under any other law (including section 5 of  
25 this chapter) relating to bonds or leases designed to protect  
26 owners of property within the political subdivision from the  
27 imposition of property taxes to pay debt service or lease rentals.  
28 However, the political subdivision must still receive the approval  
29 of the department of local government finance if required by:

30 (A) IC 6-1.1-18.5-8; or

31 (B) IC 20-46-7-8, IC 20-46-7-9, and IC 20-46-7-10."

32 Page 6, line 11, delete "subsection (a)" and insert "**subsection (b)**".

33 Page 6, line 18, delete "subsection (a)" and insert "**subsection (b)**".

34 Page 6, line 23, delete "subsection (a)" and insert "**subsection (b)**".

35 Page 35, line 33, after "money" insert "**under**".

36 Page 80, line 9, after "charter" insert "**school**".

37 Page 103, line 11, delete ".".

38 Page 134, line 27, delete "this".

- 1 Page 140, line 39, delete "(A)" and insert "(A)".
- 2 Page 156, line 27, delete "IC 20-18-2-18" and insert "IC
- 3 **20-18-2-18)**".
- 4 Renumber all SECTIONS consecutively.  
(Reference is to HB 1004 as reprinted January 28, 2026.)

**and when so amended that said bill do pass and be reassigned to the Senate Committee on Appropriations.**

Committee Vote: Yeas 8, Nays 4.

**Raatz**

**Chairperson**