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# HOUSE BILL No. 1004

Proposed Changes to January 28, 2026 printing by AM100435

## DIGEST OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Remediation programs. Removes a provision concerning remediation programs. Requires the department of education to: (1) develop a survey to collect information concerning remediation programs from school corporations; and (2) report the findings of the survey to the legislative council.

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning education.

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

1 SECTION 1. IC 5-1-11.5-3, AS ADDED BY P.L.244-2017,  
2 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
3 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) This section applies only to a school  
4 corporation that has an ADM of more than fifteen thousand (15,000)  
5 for the school corporation's most recent fall count. Notwithstanding any  
6 other law, a school corporation subject to this section may not issue  
7 bonds after August 15, 2020, unless the school corporation has for its  
8 preceding budget year prepared an annual financial report using the  
9 modified accrual basis of accounting in accordance with generally  
10 accepted accounting principles. However, upon request of a school  
11 corporation to the state examiner, the state examiner may waive the  
12 requirement under this section if the state examiner determines that a  
13 waiver is in the best interest of the school corporation.

14 (b) If a school corporation described in subsection (a) uses the  
15 accounting described in subsection (a), the school corporation may  
16 not be required to use another form of accounting.

17 SECTION 2. IC 5-11-10-1.6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.181-2023,  
18 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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- 1 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1.6. (a) As used in this section, "governmental
- 2 entity" refers to any of the following:
- 3 (1) A municipality (as defined in IC 36-1-2-11).
- 4 (2) A school corporation (as defined in IC 36-1-2-17), including
- 5 a school extracurricular account.
- 6 (3) A county.
- 7 (4) A regional water or sewer district organized under IC 13-26
- 8 or under IC 13-3-2 (before its repeal).
- 9 (5) A municipally owned utility that is subject to IC 8-1.5-3 or
- 10 IC 8-1.5-4.
- 11 (6) A board of an airport authority under IC 8-22-3.
- 12 (7) A board of aviation commissioners under IC 8-22-2.
- 13 (8) A conservancy district.
- 14 (9) A public transportation corporation under IC 36-9-4.
- 15 (10) A commuter transportation district under IC 8-5-15.
- 16 (11) The state.
- 17 (12) A solid waste management district established under
- 18 IC 13-21 or IC 13-9.5 (before its repeal).
- 19 (13) A levee authority established under IC 14-27-6.
- 20 (14) A county building authority under IC 36-9-13.
- 21 (15) A soil and water conservation district established under
- 22 IC 14-32.
- 23 (16) The northwestern Indiana regional planning commission
- 24 established by IC 36-7-7.6-3.
- 25 (b) As used in this section, "claim" means a bill or an invoice
- 26 submitted to a governmental entity for goods or services.
- 27 (c) The fiscal officer of a governmental entity may not draw a
- 28 warrant or check for payment of a claim unless all of the following
- 29 apply:
- 30 (1) There is a fully itemized invoice or bill for the claim.
- 31 (2) The invoice or bill is approved by the officer or person
- 32 receiving the goods and services.
- 33 (3) The invoice or bill is filed with the governmental entity's
- 34 fiscal officer.
- 35 (4) The fiscal officer audits and certifies before payment that the
- 36 invoice or bill is true and correct.
- 37 (5) Payment of the claim is allowed by the governmental entity's
- 38 legislative body or the board or official having jurisdiction over
- 39 allowance of payment of the claim.
- 40 (d) Notwithstanding subsection (c), the following are permitted:
- 41 (1) A school corporation, with prior approval of the board having
- 42 jurisdiction over allowance of payment of the claim, may make

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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payment in advance of receipt of services as allowed by guidelines developed under ~~IC 20-20-13-10~~. **IC 20-20.5-6-5.**

(2) A municipality may make advance payment of meal expenses to a municipal employee who will be traveling on official municipal business if the municipal fiscal body has adopted an ordinance allowing the advance payment. An ordinance adopted under this subdivision must provide for all of the following:

- (A) The maximum amount that may be paid in advance.
- (B) The required invoices and other documentation that must be submitted by the municipal employee.
- (C) Reimbursement from the wages of the municipal employee if the municipal employee does not submit the required invoices and documentation.

(3) A political subdivision (as defined in IC 36-1-2-13) may make advance payments to contractors to enable the contractors to purchase materials needed for a public works project of the political subdivision. The solicitation for the public works contract providing for advance payment for contractors under this subdivision must include the following information:

- (A) That the political subdivision will make advance payments to contractors to enable contractors to purchase materials.
- (B) Any limitations on the amount of advance payments that will be made.
- (C) Requirements for documentation relating to making advance payments to contractors for materials.
- (D) Any other information about advance payment for materials the political subdivision considers useful to contractors that make offers.

(4) A political subdivision (as defined in IC 36-1-2-13) may make advance payments for goods or services before the goods are delivered or services are completed if the fiscal body of the political subdivision authorizes making advance payments. If the fiscal body of the political subdivision authorizes making advance payments, the local fiscal officer or the local fiscal officer's designee must do all of the following when advance payments are made:

- (A) Track prepayments by defining the prepayment on a purchase order.
- (B) Create a prepayment invoice that is associated with the purchase order.
- (C) Require insurance or a surety bond in the amount of the

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**HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110**



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1                   prepayment if the amount of the prepayment is more than  
2                   one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000).  
3                   (e) Advance payments made under subsection (d)(3) or (d)(4) may  
4 not exceed the lesser of the following:  
5                   (1) Fifty percent (50%) of the entire cost of the contract.  
6                   (2) Two million dollars (\$2,000,000).  
7                   (f) The fiscal officer of a governmental entity shall issue checks or  
8 warrants for claims by the governmental entity that meet all of the  
9 requirements of this section. The fiscal officer does not incur personal  
10 liability for disbursements:  
11                   (1) processed in accordance with this section; and  
12                   (2) for which funds are appropriated and available.  
13                   (g) The certification provided for in subsection (c)(4) must be on  
14 a form prescribed by the state board of accounts.  
15                   SECTION 3. IC 5-22-1-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.140-2022,  
16 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
17 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. Except as provided in this article, this article  
18 does not apply to the following:  
19                   (1) The commission for higher education.  
20                   (2) A state educational institution. However, IC 5-22-5-9 and  
21 IC 5-22-15 apply to a state educational institution.  
22                   (3) Military officers and military and armory boards of the state.  
23                   (4) An entity established by the general assembly as a body  
24 corporate and politic. However, IC 5-22-15 applies to a body  
25 corporate and politic.  
26                   (5) A local hospital authority under IC 5-1-4.  
27                   (6) A municipally owned utility under IC 8-1-11.1 or IC 8-1.5.  
28                   (7) Hospitals established and operated under IC 16-22-1 through  
29 IC 16-22-5, IC 16-22-8, IC 16-23-1, or IC 16-24-1.  
30                   (8) A library board under IC 36-12-3-16(b).  
31                   (9) A local housing authority under IC 36-7-18.  
32                   (10) Tax exempt Indiana nonprofit corporations leasing and  
33 operating a city market owned by a political subdivision.  
34                   (11) A person paying for a purchase or lease with funds other  
35 than public funds.  
36                   (12) A person that has entered into an agreement with a  
37 governmental body under IC 5-23.  
38                   (13) A municipality for the operation of municipal facilities used  
39 for the collection, treatment, purification, and disposal in a  
40 sanitary manner of liquid and solid waste, sewage, night soil, and  
41 industrial waste.  
42                   (14) The department of financial institutions established by

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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- 1 IC 28-11-1-1.
- 2 (15) The insurance commissioner in retaining an examiner for
- 3 purposes of IC 27-1-3.1-9.
- 4 (16) The department of natural resources for the procurement of
- 5 supplies purchased for resale at properties owned or managed by
- 6 the department of natural resources.
- 7 (17) The Indiana horse racing commission in making an
- 8 expenditure under IC 4-31-3-15(b).
- 9 (18) An entity that has entered into a memorandum of
- 10 understanding with the department of education under
- 11 ~~IC 20-20-38.5-2(a)(2).~~ **IC 20-20.5-11-2(a)(2).**

12 SECTION 4. IC 6-2.5-5-38.1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.118-2024,  
 13 SECTION 8, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 14 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 38.1. (a) As used in this section, "service center"  
 15 means an educational service center established under ~~IC 20-20-1.~~ **IC 20-20.5-1.**

17 (b) As used in this section, "school" means a public or private  
 18 elementary or secondary school containing students in any grade from  
 19 grade 1 through grade 12.

20 (c) As used in this chapter, "qualified computer equipment" means  
 21 computer equipment, including hardware and software, specified by the  
 22 state board of education under IC 6-3.1-15-10 (as in effect on January  
 23 1, 2012).

- 24 (d) Sales of qualified computer equipment are exempt from the  
 25 state gross retail tax, if:
- 26 (1) the seller is a service center or school;
  - 27 (2) the purchaser is a parent or guardian of a student who is
  - 28 enrolled in a school; and
  - 29 (3) the qualified computer equipment is sold to the parent or
  - 30 guardian under IC 6-3.1-15-12 (as in effect on January 1, 2012).

31 SECTION 5. IC 9-18.5-15-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.43-2021,  
 32 SECTION 33, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 33 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. The fees collected under this chapter shall be  
 34 distributed as follows:

- 35 (1) Twenty-five percent (25%) to the secretary of education to
- 36 administer the school intervention and career counseling
- 37 development program and fund under ~~IC 20-20-17.~~ **IC 20-20.5-7.**
- 38
- 39 (2) Seventy-five percent (75%) as provided under section 6 of
- 40 this chapter.

41 SECTION 6. IC 10-19-2-3 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE  
 42 AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 1, 2026]: **Sec. 3. (a) The definitions in IC 20-18-2 apply to this**  
2 **section.**

3 **(b) The department, in collaboration with the state police**  
4 **department, shall:**

- 5 **(1) identify a set of best practices; and**
  - 6 **(2) develop a set of educational materials;**
- 7 **regarding recommendations for the safe possession and storage of**  
8 **a firearm in a home with a child.**

9 **(c) The best practices and educational materials described in**  
10 **subsection (a) must include information on:**

- 11 **(1) firearm access;**
- 12 **(2) firearm handling;**
- 13 **(3) firearm storage;**
- 14 **(4) ammunition access; and**
- 15 **(5) ammunition storage.**

16 **(d) After December 31, 2026, the department shall provide the**  
17 **best practices and educational materials described in subsection (a)**  
18 **to public schools, charter schools, and state accredited nonpublic**  
19 **schools.**

20 **(e) The department shall maintain a public website that**  
21 **contains the best practices and educational materials described in**  
22 **subsection (a). The department shall publicize the website and**  
23 **promote the best practices and educational materials to all**  
24 **elementary and high schools operating in the state.**

25 SECTION 7. IC 10-21-1-2, AS AMENDED BY THE  
26 TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS BILL OF THE 2026 GENERAL  
27 ASSEMBLY, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
28 JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 2. (a) The Indiana secured school fund is**  
29 **established to provide:**

30 **(1) matching grants to school corporations, charter schools, and**  
31 **accredited nonpublic schools, where the matching grants may be**  
32 **used to:**

33 **(A) employ a school resource officer, employ a law**  
34 **enforcement officer, or enter into a contract or a**  
35 **memorandum of understanding with a:**

- 36 **(i) local law enforcement agency;**
- 37 **(ii) private entity; or**
- 38 **(iii) nonprofit corporation;**

39 **to employ a school resource officer or a law enforcement**  
40 **officer;**

41 **(B) conduct:**

- 42 **(i) a site vulnerability assessment of the buildings**

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**HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110**



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- 1 within a school corporation or the buildings that are  
 2 operated by a charter school or accredited nonpublic  
 3 school; or  
 4 (ii) critical incident digital mapping of the buildings  
 5 within a school corporation or the buildings that are  
 6 operated by a charter school or accredited nonpublic  
 7 school;
- 8 (C) purchase equipment, hardware, materials, and  
 9 technology to:
- 10 (i) restrict access to school property and classrooms;  
 11 (ii) assist with visitor management on school property;  
 12 (iii) expedite notification of first responders;  
 13 (iv) expedite access to school property for first  
 14 responders;  
 15 (v) provide school staff with information about the  
 16 open or closed status of interior and exterior doors;  
 17 (vi) detect fire, chemical, visual, or audible threats;  
 18 (vii) enhance emergency communications inside the  
 19 building; or  
 20 (viii) assist with emergency medical response on  
 21 school property;
- 22 (D) implement a student and parent support services plan;  
 23 ~~as described in IC 20-34-9;~~
- 24 (E) purchase or provide training for a canine trained to  
 25 detect drugs and illegal substances, explosives, or firearms,  
 26 or to otherwise provide protection for students and school  
 27 employees and the canine shall:
- 28 (i) be primarily assigned to a school corporation,  
 29 charter school, or accredited nonpublic school;  
 30 (ii) be primarily assigned to a school resource officer  
 31 or law enforcement officer described in clause (A) who  
 32 has received appropriate training for handling a canine  
 33 trained to detect drugs and illegal substances,  
 34 explosives, or firearms, or to otherwise provide  
 35 protection for students and school employees,  
 36 including training regarding handling a canine in a  
 37 school setting; and  
 38 (iii) receive continuous training as appropriate;
- 39 (F) provide funding for school employees to receive  
 40 training, including expenses for per diem, travel, and  
 41 lodging, related to:
- 42 (i) site vulnerability assessments;

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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- 1 (ii) mental health or behavioral health threat  
2 assessments;
- 3 (iii) multi-disciplinary threat assessment teams; or  
4 (iv) emergency preparedness or response activities;
- 5 (G) provide funding for school resource officers or law  
6 enforcement officers described in clause (A) to receive  
7 training, including expenses for per diem, travel, and  
8 lodging, related to handling a canine trained to detect drugs  
9 and illegal substances, explosives, or firearms, or to  
10 otherwise provide protection for students and school  
11 employees;
- 12 (H) purchase student safety management technology;
- 13 (I) design and construct additions or renovations on school  
14 property if the primary purpose of the construction project  
15 is to enhance the physical security of the school building; **or**  
16 (J) implement a bullying prevention program; **or and**  
17 ~~(K) develop, implement, and carry out a Stop the Bleed~~  
18 ~~program required by IC 20-34-3-24, including for the~~  
19 ~~purchase of bleeding control kits; and~~
- 20 (2) one (1) time grants to enable school corporations, charter  
21 schools, and accredited nonpublic schools with the sheriff for the  
22 county in which the school corporation, charter school, or  
23 accredited nonpublic school is located, to provide the initial set  
24 up costs for an active event warning system.
- 25 (b) A school corporation or charter school may use money  
26 received under a matching grant for a purpose listed in subsection (a)  
27 to provide a response to a threat in a manner that the school corporation  
28 or charter school sees fit, including firearms training or other  
29 self-defense training.
- 30 (c) The fund shall be administered by the department of homeland  
31 security.
- 32 (d) The fund consists of:
- 33 (1) appropriations from the general assembly;
- 34 (2) federal grants;
- 35 (3) amounts deposited from any other public or private source;  
36 and
- 37 (4) amounts deposited under IC 33-37-9-4.
- 38 (e) The expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from  
39 money in the fund.
- 40 (f) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not  
41 currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same  
42 manner as other public money may be invested. Interest that accrues

HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 from these investments shall be deposited in the fund.  
 2 (g) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not  
 3 revert to the state general fund.  
 4 SECTION 8. IC 10-21-1-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.150-2023,  
 5 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 6 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) The board may award a matching grant to  
 7 enable a school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic  
 8 school (or a coalition of schools applying jointly) to:  
 9 (1) employ a school resource officer, employ a law enforcement  
 10 officer, or enter into a contract or memorandum of understanding  
 11 with a:  
 12 (A) local law enforcement agency;  
 13 (B) private entity; or  
 14 (C) nonprofit corporation;  
 15 to employ a school resource officer or a law enforcement officer;  
 16 (2) conduct a site vulnerability assessment of the buildings  
 17 within a school corporation or the buildings that are operated by  
 18 a charter school or accredited nonpublic school;  
 19 (3) conduct critical incident digital mapping of the buildings  
 20 within a school corporation or the buildings that are operated by  
 21 a charter school or accredited nonpublic school;  
 22 (4) purchase equipment, hardware, materials, and technology to:  
 23 (A) restrict access to school property and classrooms;  
 24 (B) assist with visitor management on school property;  
 25 (C) expedite notification of first responders;  
 26 (D) expedite access to school property for first responders;  
 27 (E) provide staff with information about open or closed  
 28 status of interior and exterior doors;  
 29 (F) detect fire, chemical, visual, or audible threats;  
 30 (G) enhance emergency communications inside the school  
 31 building; ~~or~~  
 32 (H) assist with emergency medical response on school  
 33 property; ~~or~~  
 34 **(I) monitor areas of school property used for student**  
 35 **seclusion (as defined in IC 20-20.5-13-9) or time-out (as**  
 36 **defined in IC 20-20.5-13-10) with audiovisual devices;**  
 37 (5) implement a student and parent support services plan; ~~in the~~  
 38 ~~manner set forth in IC 20-34-9;~~  
 39 (6) purchase or provide training for a canine trained to detect  
 40 drugs and illegal substances, explosives, or firearms, or to  
 41 otherwise provide protection for students and school employees  
 42 and the canine shall:

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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- 1 (A) be primarily assigned to a school corporation, charter
- 2 school, or accredited nonpublic school;
- 3 (B) be primarily assigned to a school resource officer or law
- 4 enforcement officer described in subdivision (1)(A) who
- 5 has received appropriate training for handling a canine
- 6 trained to detect drugs and illegal substances, explosives, or
- 7 firearms, or to otherwise provide protection for students and
- 8 school employees, including training regarding handling a
- 9 canine in a school setting; and
- 10 (C) receive continuous training as appropriate;
- 11 (7) provide funding for:
- 12 (A) school employees to receive training, including
- 13 expenses for per diem, travel, and lodging, related to:
- 14 (i) site vulnerability assessments;
- 15 (ii) mental health or behavioral health threat
- 16 assessments;
- 17 (iii) multi-disciplinary threat assessment teams; or
- 18 (iv) emergency preparedness or response activities; or
- 19 (B) school resource officers or law enforcement officers
- 20 described in subdivision (1)(A) to receive training,
- 21 including expenses for per diem, travel, and lodging, related
- 22 to handling a canine trained to detect drugs and illegal
- 23 substances, explosives, or firearms, or to otherwise provide
- 24 protection for students and school employees;
- 25 (8) design and construct additions or renovations on school
- 26 property if the primary purpose of the construction project is to
- 27 enhance the physical security of the school building;
- 28 (9) provide one (1) time grants to enable school corporations,
- 29 charter schools, and accredited nonpublic schools with the
- 30 sheriff for the county in which the school corporation, charter
- 31 school, or accredited nonpublic school is located to provide the
- 32 initial set up costs for an active event warning system;
- 33 (10) implement a bullying prevention program; or
- 34 (11) purchase student safety management technology;
- 35 in accordance with section 2(a) of this chapter.
- 36 (b) A matching grant awarded to a school corporation, charter
- 37 school, or accredited nonpublic school (or a coalition of schools
- 38 applying jointly) may not exceed the lesser of the following during a
- 39 two (2) year period beginning on or after May 1, 2013:
- 40 (1) The total cost of the program established by the school
- 41 corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school (or
- 42 the coalition of schools applying jointly).

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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- 1 (2) Except as provided in subsection (d), the following amounts:
- 2 (A) Thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000) per year, in the
- 3 case of a school corporation, charter school, or accredited
- 4 nonpublic school that:
- 5 (i) has an ADM of at least one (1) and less than one
- 6 thousand one (1,001) students; and
- 7 (ii) is not applying jointly with any other school
- 8 corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic
- 9 school.
- 10 (B) Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) per year, in the case of
- 11 a school corporation, charter school, or accredited
- 12 nonpublic school that:
- 13 (i) has an ADM of more than one thousand (1,000) and
- 14 less than five thousand one (5,001) students; and
- 15 (ii) is not applying jointly with any other school
- 16 corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic
- 17 school.
- 18 (C) Seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) per year, in the
- 19 case of a school corporation, charter school, or accredited
- 20 nonpublic school that:
- 21 (i) has an ADM of more than five thousand (5,000) and
- 22 less than fifteen thousand one (15,001) students; and
- 23 (ii) is not applying jointly with any other school
- 24 corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic
- 25 school.
- 26 (D) One hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) per year, in
- 27 the case of a school corporation, charter school, or
- 28 accredited nonpublic school that:
- 29 (i) has an ADM of more than fifteen thousand
- 30 (15,000); and
- 31 (ii) is not applying jointly with any other school
- 32 corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic
- 33 school.
- 34 (E) One hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) per year, in
- 35 the case of a coalition of schools applying jointly.
- 36 (c) Except as provided in subsection (d), the match requirement
- 37 for a grant under this chapter is based on the ADM for the school
- 38 corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school (or coalition
- 39 of schools applying jointly) that is the subject of the grant as follows:
- 40 (1) For a school corporation, charter school, or accredited
- 41 nonpublic school with an ADM of less than five hundred one
- 42 (501) students, the grant match must be twenty-five percent

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- 1 (25%) of the grant amount described in subsection (b).
- 2 (2) For a school corporation, charter school, or accredited
- 3 nonpublic school with an ADM of more than five hundred (500)
- 4 and less than one thousand one (1,001) students, the grant match
- 5 must be fifty percent (50%) of the grant amount described in
- 6 subsection (b).
- 7 (3) For a school corporation, charter school, or accredited
- 8 nonpublic school with an ADM of more than one thousand
- 9 (1,000) students or a coalition of schools applying jointly, the
- 10 grant match must be one hundred percent (100%) of the grant
- 11 amount described in subsection (b).
- 12 (d) A school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic
- 13 school may be eligible to receive a grant of up to:
- 14 (1) one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) if:
- 15 (A) the school corporation, charter school, or accredited
- 16 nonpublic school receives a grant match of one hundred
- 17 percent (100%) of the requested grant amount; and
- 18 (B) the board approves the grant request; or
- 19 (2) for a school corporation, charter school, or accredited
- 20 nonpublic school described in subsection (c)(1) or (c)(2), a grant
- 21 of up to fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) if:
- 22 (A) the school corporation, charter school, or accredited
- 23 nonpublic school receives a grant match of fifty percent
- 24 (50%) of the requested grant amount; and
- 25 (B) the board approves the grant request.
- 26 (e) A school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic
- 27 school may receive only one (1) matching grant under this section each
- 28 year.
- 29 (f) The board may not award a grant to a school corporation,
- 30 charter school, or accredited nonpublic school under this section unless
- 31 the school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school
- 32 is in a county that has a county school safety commission, as described
- 33 in section 12 of this chapter.
- 34 SECTION 9. IC 12-14-2-17, AS AMENDED BY P.L.161-2007,
- 35 SECTION 19, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 36 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 17. (a) To retain eligibility for TANF assistance
- 37 under this article, a recipient of TANF assistance and a dependent child
- 38 who is a recipient of TANF assistance must attend school if all of the
- 39 following apply:
- 40 (1) The recipient or the dependent child meets the compulsory
- 41 attendance requirements under IC 20-33-2.
- 42 (2) The recipient or the dependent child has not graduated from

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 a high school or has not obtained a high school equivalency  
 2 certificate (as defined in IC 12-14-5-2).  
 3 (3) The recipient or the dependent child is not excused from  
 4 attending school under IC 20-33-2-14 through ~~IC 20-33-2-17.~~  
 5 **>[IC 20-33-2-15.**  
 6 (4) The recipient or the dependent child does not have good  
 7 cause for failing to attend school, as determined by rules adopted  
 8 by the director under IC 4-22-2.  
 9 (5) If the recipient or the dependent child is the mother of a  
 10 child, a physician has not determined that the recipient or the  
 11 dependent child should delay returning to school after giving  
 12 birth.  
 13 (b) A recipient or the dependent child of a recipient described in  
 14 subsection (a) who has more than three (3) unexcused absences during  
 15 a school year is subject to revocation or suspension of assistance as  
 16 provided in section 18 of this chapter.  
 17 (c) The director, in consultation with the department of education,  
 18 shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to establish a definition for the term  
 19 "unexcused absence".  
 20 SECTION 10. IC 12-15-1-16, AS AMENDED BY P.L.35-2022,  
 21 SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 22 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 16. (a) Each:  
 23 (1) school corporation; or  
 24 (2) school corporation's employed, licensed, or qualified  
 25 provider;  
 26 must enroll in a program to use federal funds under the Medicaid  
 27 program (IC 12-15-1 et seq.) with the intent to share the costs of  
 28 services that are reimbursable under the Medicaid program and that are  
 29 provided to eligible children by the school corporation. However, a  
 30 school corporation or a school corporation's employed, licensed, or  
 31 qualified provider is not required to file any claims or participate in the  
 32 program developed under this section.  
 33 (b) The secretary and the department of education may develop  
 34 policies and adopt rules to administer the program developed under this  
 35 section.  
 36 (c) The federal reimbursement for services provided under this  
 37 section must be distributed to the school corporation. The state shall  
 38 retain the nonfederal share of the reimbursement for Medicaid services  
 39 provided under this section.  
 40 (d) The office of Medicaid policy and planning, with the approval  
 41 of the budget agency and after consultation with the department of  
 42 education, shall establish procedures for the timely distribution of

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 federal reimbursement due to the school corporations. The distribution  
2 procedures may provide for offsetting reductions to distributions of  
3 state tuition support or other state funds to school corporations in the  
4 amount of the nonfederal reimbursements required to be retained by the  
5 state under subsection (c).

6 (e) The office may apply to the United States Department of  
7 Health and Human Services for a state plan amendment to allow school  
8 corporations to seek Medicaid reimbursement for medically necessary,  
9 school based Medicaid covered services that are provided under federal  
10 or state mandates. If the state plan amendment is approved and  
11 implemented, services may be provided by a qualified provider in a  
12 school setting to Medicaid enrolled students. Subject to subsection (f),  
13 the services may be pursuant to any of the following:

- 14 (1) An individualized education program (as defined in  
15 IC 20-18-2-9).
- 16 (2) A plan developed under Section 504 of the federal  
17 Rehabilitation Act, 29 U.S.C. 794.
- 18 (3) A behavioral intervention plan (as defined in  
19 ~~IC 20-20-40-1~~). [IC 20-20.5-13-1](#).
- 20 (4) A service plan developed under 511 IAC 7-34.
- 21 (5) An individualized health care plan.

22 The office may, in consultation with the department of education,  
23 develop any necessary state plan amendment under this subsection. The  
24 office may apply for any state plan amendment necessary to implement  
25 this subsection.

26 (f) Services under subsection (e) may not include the following:

- 27 (1) An abortion.
- 28 (2) Counseling for abortion procedures.
- 29 (3) Referrals for abortion services.
- 30 (4) Abortifacients.
- 31 (5) Contraceptives.

32 (g) If the state plan amendment described in subsection (e) is  
33 approved and implemented, the medically necessary, school based  
34 Medicaid covered services described in subsection (e):

- 35 (1) may only be performed by a qualified provider;
- 36 (2) must be within the qualified provider's scope of practice; and
- 37 (3) must be provided in accordance with this article and  
38 administrative rules concerning the Medicaid program.

39 SECTION 11. IC 20-17 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,  
40 2026]. (Effect of Recodification of Title 20).

41 SECTION 12. IC 20-18-2-12, AS ADDED BY P.L.1-2005,  
42 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE

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**HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110**



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1 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 12. (a) "Nonpublic school" means a school that is  
2 not:

- 3 (1) maintained by a school corporation; or
- 4 (2) a charter school.

5 (b) The term includes a private school or parochial school.

6 SECTION 13. IC 20-18-2-16, AS AMENDED BY P.L.211-2019,  
7 SECTION 16, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
8 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 16. (a) "School corporation", for purposes of this  
9 title (except ~~IC 20-20-33, <=> [IC 20-20.5-9, <=> [IC 20-26-1 through~~  
10 IC 20-26-5, IC 20-26-7, IC 20-26-7.1, IC 20-28-11.5, IC 20-30-8,  
11 IC 20-30-16, IC 20-43, and IC 20-50), means a public school  
12 corporation established by Indiana law. The term includes a:

- 13 (1) school city;
- 14 (2) school town;
- 15 (3) consolidated school corporation;
- 16 (4) metropolitan school district;
- 17 (5) township school corporation;
- 18 (6) county school corporation;
- 19 (7) united school corporation; or
- 20 (8) community school corporation.

21 (b) "School corporation", for purposes of IC 20-26-1 through  
22 IC 20-26-5, IC 20-26-7, and IC 20-26-7.1, has the meaning set forth in  
23 IC 20-26-2-4.

24 (c) "School corporation", for purposes of ~~IC 20-20-33, <=> [~~  
25 ~~IC 20-20.5-9, IC 20-26.5, IC 20-30-8, and IC 20-50, includes a charter~~  
26 school (as defined in IC 20-24-1-4).

27 (d) "School corporation", for purposes of IC 20-43, has the  
28 meaning set forth in IC 20-43-1-23.

29 (e) "School corporation", for purposes of IC 20-28-11.5, has the  
30 meaning set forth in IC 20-28-11.5-3.

31 (f) "School corporation", for purposes of IC 20-35, has the  
32 meaning set forth in IC 20-35-1-6.

33 (g) "School corporation", for purposes of IC 20-30-16, has the  
34 meaning set forth in IC 20-30-16-4.

35 SECTION 14. IC 20-18-2-18, AS AMENDED BY P.L.127-2016,  
36 SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
37 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 18. (a) ~~Except as provided in subsection (b);~~  
38 "Secondary school" means a high school.

39 (b) ~~For purposes of IC 20-28-9-25; "secondary school" has the~~  
40 ~~meaning set forth in IC 20-28-9-25.~~

41 SECTION 15. IC 20-19-2-2.2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.213-2025,  
42 SECTION 160, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



1 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2.2. (a) The state board consists of  
 2 the following members:  
 3 (1) The secretary of education.  
 4 (2) Eight (8) members appointed by the governor. The following  
 5 provisions apply to members of the state board appointed under  
 6 this subdivision:  
 7 (A) At least six (6) members appointed under this  
 8 subdivision must have professional experience in the field  
 9 of education as provided in subsection (b).  
 10 (B) Members shall be appointed from different parts of  
 11 Indiana with not more than one (1) member being appointed  
 12 from a particular congressional district.  
 13 (C) Not more than five (5) members of the state board may  
 14 be appointed from the membership of any one (1) political  
 15 party.  
 16 (D) ~~Subject to subsection (h);~~ At least one (1) member shall  
 17 be a practicing licensed special education teacher or special  
 18 education director at the time the member is appointed.  
 19 (3) One (1) member, who is not a member of the general  
 20 assembly, appointed by the speaker of the house of  
 21 representatives.  
 22 (4) One (1) member, who is not a member of the general  
 23 assembly, appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate.  
 24 (b) For purposes of subsection (a), an individual is considered to  
 25 have professional experience in the field of education if the individual  
 26 has teaching or leadership experience at a postsecondary educational  
 27 institution or is currently employed as, or is retired from a position as:  
 28 (1) a teacher;  
 29 (2) a principal;  
 30 (3) an assistant superintendent; or  
 31 (4) a superintendent.  
 32 (c) A quorum consists of six (6) members of the state board. An  
 33 action of the state board is not official unless the action is authorized  
 34 by at least six (6) members.  
 35 (d) The members of the state board shall elect a chairperson and  
 36 vice chairperson annually from the members of the state board. The  
 37 vice chairperson shall act as chairperson in the absence of the  
 38 chairperson.  
 39 (e) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (f), each member  
 40 appointed under subsection (a)(2) through (a)(4) serves a four (4) year  
 41 term. The term begins on July 1.  
 42 (f) A member appointed under subsection (a)(2) through (a)(4)

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 may be removed from the state board by the member's appointing  
2 authority for just cause. Vacancies in the appointments to the state  
3 board shall be filled by the appointing authority. A member appointed  
4 under this subsection serves for the remainder of the unexpired term.

5 (g) The state board shall meet at a minimum at least one (1) time  
6 each year. The state board shall establish the date of the next meeting  
7 during a meeting of the state board. In addition to the annual meeting  
8 required under this subsection, the state board shall meet at the call of  
9 the chairperson.

10 (h) ~~This subsection expires July 1, 2024. The governor shall~~  
11 ~~appoint a member who has the qualifications described in subsection~~  
12 ~~(a)(2)(D) for the first appointment made by the governor to fill a~~  
13 ~~vacancy on the state board after March 31, 2020.~~

14 SECTION 16. IC 20-19-2-2.3 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
15 1, 2026]. Sec. 2.3: (a) After May 31, 2015, a reference to the state  
16 board in a statute, rule, or other document is considered a reference to  
17 the state board established by section 2.1 of this chapter.

18 (b) After May 31, 2015, a rule adopted by the state board  
19 established by section 2 of this chapter (expired June 1, 2015) is  
20 considered a rule adopted by the state board established by section 2.1  
21 of this chapter. However, a rule concerning driver education is  
22 considered a rule of the bureau of motor vehicles.

23 (c) On June 1, 2015, the property and obligations of the state board  
24 established by section 2 of this chapter (expired June 1, 2015) are  
25 transferred to the state board established by section 2.1 of this chapter.

26 (d) An action taken by the state board established by section 2 of  
27 this chapter (expired June 1, 2015) before June 1, 2015, shall be treated  
28 after May 31, 2015, as if it were originally taken by the state board  
29 established by section 2.1 of this chapter.

30 SECTION 17. IC 20-19-2-14, AS AMENDED BY P.L.242-2017,  
31 SECTION 6, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
32 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 14. The state board shall do the following:

- 33 (1) Establish the educational goals of the state, developing  
34 standards and objectives for local school corporations.
- 35 (2) Assess the attainment of the established goals.
- 36 (3) Assure compliance with established standards and objectives.
- 37 (4) Coordinate with the commission for higher education  
38 (~~<IC 21-18-1>~~ [\[IC 21-18-1\]](#)) and the department of workforce  
39 development (~~<IC 22-4>~~ [\[IC 22-4\]](#).1-2) to develop  
40 entrepreneurship education programs for elementary and  
41 secondary education, higher education, and individuals in the  
42 work force.

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1           ~~(5)~~ (4) Make recommendations to the governor and general  
2           assembly concerning the educational needs of the state,  
3           including financial needs.

4           ~~(6)~~ (5) Provide for reviews to ensure the validity and reliability  
5           of the statewide assessment program.

6           SECTION 18. IC 20-19-3-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.269-2019,  
7           SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
8           JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) The department shall:

- 9           (1) perform the duties required by statute;
- 10          (2) implement the policies and procedures established by the  
11          state board;
- 12          (3) conduct analytical research to assist the state board in  
13          determining the state's educational policy;
- 14          (4) compile statistics concerning the ethnicity, gender, and  
15          disability status of students in Indiana schools, including  
16          statistics for all information that the department receives from  
17          school corporations on enrollment, number of suspensions, and  
18          number of expulsions; and
- 19          (5) provide technical assistance to school corporations.

20          (b) In compiling statistics by gender, ethnicity, and disability  
21          status under subsection (a)(4), the department shall also categorize  
22          suspensions and expulsions by cause as follows:

- 23          (1) Alcohol.
- 24          (2) Drugs.
- 25          (3) Deadly weapons (other than firearms).
- 26          (4) Handguns.
- 27          (5) Rifles or shotguns.
- 28          (6) Other firearms.
- 29          (7) Tobacco.
- 30          (8) Attendance.
- 31          (9) Destruction of property.
- 32          (10) Legal settlement. ~~(under IC 20-33-8-17).~~
- 33          (11) Fighting (incident does not rise to the level of battery).
- 34          (12) A battery offense included in IC 35-42-2.
- 35          (13) Intimidation (IC 35-45-2-1).
- 36          (14) Verbal aggression or profanity.
- 37          (15) Defiance.
- 38          (16) Other.

39          (c) The department shall provide the state board any data,  
40          including fiscal data, as determined by the state board, in a reasonable  
41          time frame established by the state board after consultation with the  
42          department, necessary to conduct an audit or evaluation of any federal

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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- 1 or state supported program principally engaged in the provision of
- 2 education, including, but not limited to:
- 3 (1) early childhood education;
- 4 (2) elementary and secondary education;
- 5 (3) postsecondary education;
- 6 (4) special education;
- 7 (5) job training;
- 8 (6) career and technical education; and
- 9 (7) adult education;

10 or for the enforcement of or compliance with federal legal requirements  
 11 related to those education programs as determined by the state board.  
 12 The state board and the department are considered state educational  
 13 authorities within the meaning of the federal Family Educational Rights  
 14 and Privacy Act (20 U.S.C. 1232g and 34 CFR Part 99) for the purpose  
 15 of allowing the free exchange of information between the department  
 16 and the state board.

17 (d) The department may, upon request by a new school, assign an  
 18 identification number for the new school.

19 (e) The department shall develop guidelines necessary to  
 20 implement this section.

21 SECTION 19. IC 20-19-3-8 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
 22 1, 2026]. Sec. 8: (a) ~~The department may not approve or disapprove  
 23 plans and specifications for the construction, alteration, or repair of  
 24 school buildings, except as necessary under the terms of a federal grant  
 25 or a federal law:~~

26 (b) ~~Notwithstanding subsection (a), the department shall establish  
 27 a central clearinghouse for access by school corporations that may want  
 28 to use a prototype design in the construction of school facilities. The  
 29 department shall compile necessary publications and may establish a  
 30 computer data base to distribute information on prototype designs to  
 31 school corporations. Architects and engineers registered to practice in  
 32 Indiana may submit plans and specifications for a prototype design to  
 33 the clearinghouse. The plans and specifications may be accessed by any  
 34 person. However, the following provisions apply to a prototype design  
 35 submitted to the clearinghouse:~~

- 36 (1) ~~The original architect of record or engineer of record retains~~  
 37 ~~ownership of and liability for a prototype design.~~
- 38 (2) ~~A school corporation or other person may not use a prototype~~  
 39 ~~design without the site-specific, written permission of the~~  
 40 ~~original architect of record or engineer of record.~~
- 41 (3) ~~An architect's or engineer's liability under subdivision (1) is~~  
 42 ~~subject to the requirements of subdivision (2).~~

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 The state board may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to implement this  
2 subsection:

3 SECTION 20. IC 20-19-3-10, AS ADDED BY P.L.83-2010,  
4 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
5 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) The department, in collaboration with  
6 organizations that have expertise in dating violence, domestic violence,  
7 and sexual abuse, shall identify or develop:

- 8 (1) model dating violence educational materials; and
- 9 (2) a model for dating violence response policies and reporting.

10 ~~Not later than July 1, 2011,~~ The department shall make the models  
11 developed or identified under this section available to assist schools  
12 with the implementation of dating violence education programs in  
13 grades 6 through 12 and dating violence response policies.

14 (b) The model dating violence policy identified or developed  
15 under subsection (a) may include the following topics:

- 16 (1) Warning signs of dating violence.
- 17 (2) The basic principles of dating violence prevention.
- 18 (3) Methods of parental education and outreach.

19 SECTION 21. IC 20-19-3-12, AS AMENDED BY P.L.25-2016,  
20 SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
21 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 12. (a) The department, in collaboration with the  
22 Indiana criminal justice institute, the department of child services, the  
23 center for evaluation and education policy at Indiana University, the  
24 state police department, and any organization that has expertise in  
25 providing criminal organization education, prevention, or intervention  
26 that the department determines to be appropriate, shall:

- 27 (1) identify or develop evidence based model educational  
28 materials on criminal organization activity; and
- 29 (2) develop and maintain a model policy to address criminal  
30 organizations and criminal organization activity in schools.

31 (b) ~~Not later than July 1, 2015,~~ The department shall make the  
32 model policy developed under subsection (a)(2) available to assist  
33 schools. ~~in the development and implementation of a criminal~~  
34 ~~organization policy.~~

35 (c) The model educational materials on criminal organization  
36 activity identified or developed under subsection (a)(1) must include  
37 information:

- 38 (1) to educate students and parents on the extent to which  
39 criminal organization activity exists;
- 40 (2) regarding the negative societal impact that criminal  
41 organizations have on the community;
- 42 (3) on methods to discourage participation in criminal

HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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- 1 organizations; and
- 2 (4) on methods of providing intervention to a child suspected of
- 3 participating in criminal organization activity.
- 4 (d) The model criminal organization policy developed under
- 5 subsection (a)(2) must include:
- 6 (1) a statement prohibiting criminal organization activity in
- 7 schools;
- 8 (2) a statement prohibiting reprisal or retaliation against an
- 9 individual who reports suspected criminal organization activity;
- 10 (3) definitions of "criminal organization" as set forth in
- 11 IC 35-45-9-1 and "criminal organization activity";
- 12 (4) model procedures for:
- 13 (A) reporting suspected criminal organization activity; and
- 14 (B) the prompt investigation of suspected criminal
- 15 organization activity;
- 16 (5) information about the types of support services, including
- 17 family support services, available for a student suspected of
- 18 participating in criminal organization activity; and
- 19 (6) recommendations concerning criminal organization
- 20 prevention and intervention services and programs for students
- 21 that maximize community participation and the use of federal
- 22 funding.
- 23 SECTION 22. IC 20-19-3-23 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY
- 24 1, 2026]. ~~Sec. 23. (a) The department may adopt and provide to schools~~
- 25 ~~an early warning system or systems that:~~
- 26 ~~(1) provide actionable data on students as early as elementary~~
- 27 ~~school;~~
- 28 ~~(2) provide metrics based on student-level data to assist in~~
- 29 ~~identifying potential learning loss at the student, school, and~~
- 30 ~~district level;~~
- 31 ~~(3) research proven predictive analytics for on time high school~~
- 32 ~~graduation using local data to determine threshold based~~
- 33 ~~indicators; and~~
- 34 ~~(4) may include the following:~~
- 35 ~~(A) Recommendations regarding an actionable intervention~~
- 36 ~~plan for each student who, based on graduation indicators~~
- 37 ~~and multitiered systems of support, is not on track to~~
- 38 ~~graduate on-time or prepared for postsecondary success.~~
- 39 ~~(B) Summative success data by each intervention plan used~~
- 40 ~~by each student, student group, and school.~~
- 41 (b) The department may, not later than August 1, 2021, annually
- 42 select one (1) or more vendors to make available an early warning

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 system or systems described in subsection (a). The department may  
 2 require that the vendor or vendors provide to the department, at least  
 3 twice annually, a summary report in the aggregate regarding:  
 4 (1) students who, based on graduation indicators, are not on  
 5 track to graduate on time;  
 6 (2) the intervention plans implemented for the students described  
 7 in subdivision (1) in attempting to ensure the students graduate  
 8 on time; and  
 9 (3) whether the intervention plans described in subdivision (2)  
 10 are, based on graduation indicators, successful in moving  
 11 students to be on track to graduate on time and, if applicable,  
 12 graduating on time for the purpose of evaluating the return on  
 13 investment of intervention programs.

14 The information provided in subdivisions (2) and (3) may be  
 15 disaggregated by grade level.

16 SECTION 23. IC 20-19-3-25, AS AMENDED BY THE  
 17 TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS BILL OF THE 2026 GENERAL  
 18 ASSEMBLY, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 19 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 25. ~~(a)~~ The department shall establish an online  
 20 adjunct teacher portal on the department's ~~Internet web site~~ **website** or  
 21 incorporate into the teacher referral system developed under  
 22 ~~IC 20-20-3~~ **IC 20-20.5-2** a functionality to allow:

- 23 (1) a school corporation to post a vacant adjunct teacher  
 24 position; and
- 25 (2) an individual to:
  - 26 (A) post a resume;
  - 27 (B) post any other information requested by the school  
 28 corporation through the portal or system; **and**
  - 29 (C) make inquiries to the school corporation through the  
 30 portal or system. **and**
  - 31 ~~(D) view information relating to adjunct teachers employed~~  
 32 ~~by a particular school corporation reported to the~~  
 33 ~~department in accordance with IC 20-28-5-27(g).~~

34 (b) The department shall post the information received under  
 35 ~~IC 20-28-5-27(g)~~ on the department's portal or teacher referral system  
 36 described in subsection (a):

37 SECTION 24. IC 20-19-3-28 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
 38 1, 2026]. Sec. 28. Not later than September 1 of each year, the  
 39 department shall do the following:

- 40 (1) Compile and prepare a report regarding the information  
 41 reported by school corporations and charter schools to the  
 42 department under ~~IC 20-26-5-42.1~~.

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



1 (2) Submit the report to the legislative council in an electronic  
 2 format under IC 5-14-6.  
 3 SECTION 25. IC 20-19-3-29 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
 4 1, 2026]. Sec. 29: (a) Not later than July 1, 2024, the department may  
 5 establish or license for use an online platform that:  
 6 (1) provides information and training on each of the subjects and  
 7 content described in IC 20-28-3-5.5 and IC 20-28-5.5-1.5;  
 8 (2) is accessible by both teachers and students enrolled in a  
 9 teacher preparation program; and  
 10 (3) upon successful completion of the training, provides written  
 11 confirmation to a teacher or student described in subdivision (2)  
 12 that the teacher or student successfully completed the training.  
 13 (b) Not later than July 1, 2025, the department may include the  
 14 following information and training on the online platform described in  
 15 subsection (a):  
 16 (1) 29 CFR 1910.1030 concerning bloodborne pathogens.  
 17 (2) 29 CFR 1910.147 concerning lock out/tag out.  
 18 (3) 511 ~~<IAC 5-5-5>~~ [IAC 5-5-5] concerning assessment  
 19 training.  
 20 (c) If a teacher successfully completes a training on the online  
 21 platform, the training must count towards continuing education  
 22 required for licensure renewal, as prescribed by the department.  
 23 SECTION 26. IC 20-19-3-30.4 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE  
 24 JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 30.4: (a) The department, in collaboration with the  
 25 state police department, shall:  
 26 (1) identify a set of best practices; and  
 27 (2) develop a set of educational materials;  
 28 regarding recommendations for the safe possession and storage of a  
 29 firearm in a home with a child.  
 30 (b) The best practices and educational materials described in  
 31 subsection (a) must include information on:  
 32 (1) firearm access;  
 33 (2) firearm handling;  
 34 (3) firearm storage;  
 35 (4) ammunition access; and  
 36 (5) ammunition storage.  
 37 (c) After December 31, 2023, the department shall provide the  
 38 best practices and educational materials described in subsection (a) to  
 39 public schools, charter schools, and state accredited nonpublic schools  
 40 for annual distribution to parents of students.  
 41 (d) The department shall maintain a public website that contains  
 42 the best practices and educational materials described in subsection (a).

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 The department shall publicize the website and promote the best  
2 practices and educational materials to all elementary and high schools  
3 operating in the state:

4 SECTION 27. IC 20-19-3-35 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
5 1, 2026]. Sec. 35. (a) Not later than July 1, 2024, the department shall  
6 do the following:

7 (1) Establish an online, self-paced professional development  
8 module to support educators in doing the following with regard  
9 to mathematics:

10 (A) Implementing the Indiana academic standards:

11 (B) Applying effective teaching strategies:

12 (C) Emphasizing contextual problem solving:

13 (D) Fostering collaborative learning environments:

14 (E) Using universal supports for students:

15 (2) Develop math descriptions correlated to proficiency level  
16 descriptors to track proficiency at the student level that are:

17 (A) appropriately aligned to the Indiana academic  
18 standards; and

19 (B) readily available to educators, parents, and students  
20 across the state:

21 (3) Create and identify dedicated math resources for parents,  
22 families, and educators to assist with intervention and  
23 enrichment opportunities and instructional strategies:

24 (b) Not later than July 1, 2024, the department shall post the  
25 resources created and identified under subsection (a)(3) on the  
26 department's website:

27 (c) Not later than December 1, 2024, the department shall submit  
28 a plan to the legislative council in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6  
29 that includes:

30 (1) strategies for the early identification of students who are at  
31 risk of not meeting grade level proficiency in mathematics; and

32 (2) recommendations for high quality intervention policies for  
33 mathematics that focus on:

34 (A) providing data driven, systematic small group or  
35 individualized instruction focused on building student  
36 understanding through mathematical learning progressions;

37 (B) using materials aligned to daily core instruction; and

38 (C) using evidence based instructional strategies to  
39 promote:

40 (i) conceptual understanding;

41 (ii) procedural fluency; and

42 (iii) real world problem solving.

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 This subsection expires July 1, 2025.

2 SECTION 28. IC 20-19-3-37 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
3 1, 2026]. Sec. 37: (a) The department shall do the following:

4 (1) Study the basis for student suspensions and expulsions  
5 categorized as "other" by school corporations.

6 (2) Prepare a report that includes the following:

7 (A) Information concerning the study under subdivision (1):

8 (B) Any recommendation regarding expanding the  
9 suspension and expulsion category options.

10 (3) Not later than November 1, 2025, submit the report prepared  
11 under subdivision (2) to the legislative council in an electronic  
12 format under IC 5-14-6.

13 (b) This section expires July 1, 2026.

14 SECTION 29. IC 20-19-3-37.4 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE  
15 JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 37.4: Not later than October 1, 2025, the secretary  
16 of education shall compile and prepare a report concerning the  
17 feasibility of offering the school bus driver safety education training  
18 course described in IC 20-27-8-10 at several regional locations.

19 SECTION 30. IC 20-19-3-38 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
20 1, 2026]. Sec. 38: (a) As used in this section:

21 (1) "school health plan" refers to a school employee health plan  
22 offered under IC 20-26-17; and

23 (2) "state health plan" refers to a state employee health plan  
24 offered under IC 5-10-8-6.7.

25 (b) Before November 1, 2025, the department shall prepare and  
26 submit a report to the general assembly in an electronic format under  
27 IC 5-14-6 that provides an analysis of the feasibility and cost of  
28 increasing school corporation employee health plan options.

29 (c) The report described in subsection (b) must include the  
30 following:

31 (1) An analysis of the feasibility and cost of allowing a school  
32 corporation employee to elect to participate in a state health plan  
33 if the state health plan is less expensive than the school health  
34 plan offered by the employee's school corporation.

35 (2) An analysis of the feasibility and cost of allowing a school  
36 corporation employee who elects, as described in subdivision  
37 (1), to participate in a less expensive state health plan to apply  
38 the difference between the amount of the school health plan  
39 offered by the employee's school corporation and the amount of  
40 the state health plan to:

41 (A) the employee's defined contribution account, if the  
42 employee maintains a defined contribution account; or

HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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(B) the employee's annual salary.

(d) This section expires July 1, 2026.

SECTION 31. IC 20-19-3-40 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 40: (a) Not later than December 1, 2025, the department shall submit a report to the general assembly in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6 on the academic readiness of students who enroll in a virtual school or program. To the extent possible, the report must include course completion data and student performance data on the statewide assessment.

(b) This section expires June 30, 2026.

SECTION 32. IC 20-19-11-4 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 4: This chapter expires January 1, 2027.

SECTION 33. IC 20-20 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. (Programs Administered by the State).

SECTION 34. IC 20-20.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW ARTICLE TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]:

**ARTICLE 20.5. PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE STATE**

**Chapter 1. Educational Service Centers**

**Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "applicable nonpublic school" refers to a nonpublic school that has one (1) or more employees.**

**Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "board" refers to the board of an educational service center described in section 8 of this chapter.**

**Sec. 3. (a) As used in this chapter, "educational service center" means an extended agency of school corporations, charter schools, and applicable nonpublic schools that:**

**(1) operates under rules established by the state board;**

**(2) is the administrative and operational unit that serves a definitive geographical boundary, which, to the extent possible, must be aligned with the boundary of a regional works council's region established under IC 20-19-6 (before its expiration); and**

**(3) allows school corporations, charter schools, and applicable nonpublic schools to voluntarily cooperate and share programs and services that the school corporations, charter schools, and applicable nonpublic schools cannot individually provide but collectively may implement.**

**(b) Programs and services collectively implemented through an educational service center may include, but are not limited to, the following:**

**(1) Curriculum development.**

HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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- 1           (2) Pupil personnel and special education services.  
 2           (3) In-service education.  
 3           (4) State-federal liaison services.  
 4           (5) Instructional materials and multimedia services.  
 5           (6) Career and technical education.  
 6           (7) Purchasing and financial management.  
 7           (8) Needs assessment.  
 8           (9) Computer use.  
 9           (10) Research and development.
- 10          Sec. 4. The state board may provide for the establishment of  
 11          and procedures for the operation of educational service centers.
- 12          Sec. 5. (a) The state board shall do the following:  
 13               (1) Adopt a comprehensive plan to implement this chapter.  
 14               (2) Determine the areas in Indiana that will be served by an  
 15               educational service center.
- 16          (b) In determining the geographic area to be served by a  
 17          educational service center, the state board shall consider the  
 18          following:  
 19               (1) Physical factors.  
 20               (2) Socio-economic factors.  
 21               (3) Educational factors.  
 22               (4) Existing cooperative efforts and agreements.
- 23          Sec. 6. An educational service center must be established  
 24          under rules adopted by the state board to develop, provide, and  
 25          make available to participating schools, including participating  
 26          charter schools and applicable nonpublic schools, those services  
 27          requested by the participating school corporations, participating  
 28          charter schools, and applicable nonpublic schools and approved by  
 29          the state board.
- 30          Sec. 7. Educational service centers shall be located throughout  
 31          Indiana to allow each school corporation, charter school, and  
 32          applicable nonpublic school to have an opportunity to:  
 33               (1) be served by; and  
 34               (2) participate in;  
 35          an approved center on a voluntary basis by resolution of the  
 36          governing body of the school corporation, by the approval of an  
 37          organizer of a charter school, or by the approval of the governing  
 38          board or entity of an applicable nonpublic school.
- 39          Sec. 8. An educational service center shall be governed in its  
 40          local administration by a board selected by an assembly comprised  
 41          of the:  
 42               (1) superintendent or the superintendent's designee from

HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 each participating school corporation;  
 2 (2) organizer of a charter school or the organizer's designee  
 3 from each participating charter school; and  
 4 (3) chief administrative officer of an applicable nonpublic  
 5 school or the chief administrative officer's designee.  
 6 **Sec. 9. (a) The state board shall adopt uniform rules to provide**  
 7 **for the local selection, appointment, and continuity of membership**  
 8 **for boards.**  
 9 (b) Vacancies on a board shall be filled by appointment by the  
 10 remaining members of the board.  
 11 (c) Members of a board serve without compensation.  
 12 **Sec. 10. A board may employ the following:**  
 13 (1) An executive director for the educational service center.  
 14 (2) Other personnel the board considers necessary to:  
 15 (A) carry out the functions of the educational service  
 16 center; and  
 17 (B) do and perform all things the board considers  
 18 proper for successful operation of the center.  
 19 **Sec. 11. (a) Any funds, including donated funds and funds from**  
 20 **federal or other local sources, shall be used to pay for the costs of**  
 21 **establishing or operating an educational service center.**  
 22 (b) An educational service center may administer programs  
 23 and funds from any of the sources described in subsection (a). All  
 24 activities funded from federal sources must follow all applicable  
 25 federal guidelines, rules, and regulations.  
 26 **Sec. 12. This chapter does not prohibit an educational service**  
 27 **center from receiving and using matching funds from federal**  
 28 **sources in any amount for which the educational service center**  
 29 **may be eligible.**  
 30 **Chapter 2. Teacher Referral System**  
 31 **Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "referral system" refers to the**  
 32 **teacher employment opportunities referral system established by**  
 33 **section 2 of this chapter.**  
 34 **Sec. 2. The department shall establish and keep current a**  
 35 **computerized teacher employment opportunities referral system.**  
 36 **Sec. 3. The referral system must:**  
 37 (1) be capable of identifying the available public school  
 38 teaching positions within Indiana;  
 39 (2) provide the pertinent information on individuals who are  
 40 seeking employment as teachers; and  
 41 (3) be accessible to school corporations, teachers, prospective  
 42 teachers, and state educational institutions.

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1 Chapter 3. Teacher of the Year

2 Sec. 1. A teacher of the year may be invited to serve one (1)  
3 year of professional leave with:

- 4 (1) an Indiana postsecondary educational institution; or  
5 (2) the department.

6 Sec. 2. (a) The school where a teacher of the year is regularly  
7 employed shall do the following:

8 (1) Grant the teacher a one (1) year professional leave to  
9 provide service as described in section 1 of this chapter.

10 (2) Allow the teacher to return to the school from the  
11 professional leave:

12 (A) to the same or a comparable position as the teacher  
13 held before the professional leave; and

14 (B) without loss of accrued benefits or seniority.

15 (3) Continue to provide the teacher all benefits of  
16 employment with the school other than salary.

17 (b) The department shall reimburse a school for the cost of  
18 benefits provided by the school to a teacher under subsection  
19 (a)(3).

20 Sec. 3. If a teacher of the year provides service for the  
21 department or an Indiana postsecondary educational institution  
22 under this chapter, the department or the Indiana postsecondary  
23 educational institution shall pay the teacher's salary for the term  
24 of the service and shall reimburse the teacher's regular employer  
25 for the teacher's benefits during the term of service.

26 Chapter 4. Curricular Materials

27 Sec. 1. (a) Not later than July 1, 2027, and each July 1  
28 thereafter, the department shall evaluate, approve, and publish a  
29 list of high quality curricular materials for use in the following  
30 subjects:

- 31 (1) Science.  
32 (2) Technology.  
33 (3) Engineering.  
34 (4) Math.  
35 (5) English/language arts.

36 The department shall post the list approved under this subsection  
37 on the department's website.

38 (b) Subject to subsection (g), the department shall:

39 (1) determine the:

40 (A) process for evaluating and approving curricular  
41 materials under subsection (a); and

42 (B) requirements for curricular materials to be

HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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- 1 approved and included on the list described in
- 2 subsection (a); and
- 3 (2) collaborate with teachers in evaluating and approving
- 4 high quality curricular materials in English/language arts
- 5 under subsection (a).
- 6 (c) The department shall publish an annual report that
- 7 describes the method used to conduct the evaluation required
- 8 under subsection (a) and that contains the results of the evaluation.
- 9 The report must do the following:
- 10 (1) Provide a list of each curricular material evaluated and
- 11 a summary of the evaluation for each curricular material.
- 12 (2) Provide a listing and summary review for the high quality
- 13 curricular materials approved by the department.
- 14 (3) Include any clarification or response from the publisher
- 15 of a curricular material related to the department's
- 16 summary review provided under subdivision (2).
- 17 (4) Include the written, exact, and standard statewide price
- 18 provided by the publisher of the curricular material under
- 19 subsection (e) for each high quality curricular material
- 20 approved by the department under this section.
- 21 (d) A governing body and superintendent may use the list
- 22 approved under subsection (a) in complying with IC 20-26-12-24.
- 23 (e) Before the department may approve curricular material
- 24 for inclusion on the list under subsection (a), the publisher of the
- 25 curricular material must:
- 26 (1) provide the department a written, exact, and standard
- 27 statewide price for each curricular material; and
- 28 (2) enter into a data share agreement with the department in
- 29 the manner prescribed by the department.
- 30 (f) A publisher may request that an update to the publisher's
- 31 curricular materials and corresponding prices replace the
- 32 information on the curricular materials set forth in the report
- 33 under subsection (c).
- 34 (g) At a minimum, the process for evaluating curricular
- 35 materials and the requirements for curricular materials to be
- 36 approved and included on the list described in subsection (a) must
- 37 include the following:
- 38 (1) The availability and use of benchmark, formative,
- 39 interim, or similar assessments to identify students that
- 40 require remediation or enrichment and provide
- 41 individualized instruction.
- 42 (2) The incorporation of experiential learning opportunities.

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- (3) An evaluation of the benchmark, formative, interim, or similar assessment data provided by the publisher of the curricular material pursuant to the data share agreement described in subsection (e).
- (4) The alignment of the curricular material to Indiana's academic standards developed by the department under IC 20-31-3-2.
- (5) The age appropriateness of the content.

**Sec. 2. (a) The secretary of education shall notify the governing bodies of each school corporation, charter school, and state accredited nonpublic school immediately of:**

- (1) the initial publication and annual update on the department's website of the report described in section 1(c) of this chapter, including the website address where the report is published; and
- (2) updates of the following types of information in the report described in section 1(c) of this chapter:
  - (A) The addition of materials.
  - (B) The removal of materials.
  - (C) Changes in the per unit price of curricular materials that exceed five percent (5%).

- (b) A notification under this section must state that:
  - (1) the reviews of curricular materials included in the report described in section 1(c) of this chapter are departmental reviews only; and
  - (2) each governing body has authority to adopt curricular materials for a school corporation.

**Chapter 5. High School Diploma Program for Eligible Veterans**

**Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "department of veterans' affairs" refers to the Indiana department of veterans' affairs established by IC 10-17-1-2.**

**Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "diploma" refers to a high school diploma.**

**Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "eligible veteran" refers to an individual who has the following qualifications:**

- (1) Served as a member of the armed forces of the United States at any time during at least one (1) of the following periods:
  - (A) Beginning April 6, 1917, and ending November 11, 1918 (World War I).
  - (B) Beginning December 7, 1941, and ending December

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- 31, 1946 (World War II).
- (C) Beginning June 27, 1950, and ending January 31, 1955 (Korean Conflict).
- (D) Beginning August 5, 1964, and ending May 7, 1975 (Vietnam Conflict).
- (2) Before the military service described in subdivision (1):
  - (A) attended a public or nonpublic high school in Indiana; and
  - (B) was a student in good standing at the high school described in clause (A), to the satisfaction of the department of veterans' affairs.
- (3) Did not graduate or receive a diploma because of leaving the high school described in subdivision (2) for the military service described in subdivision (1).
- (4) Was discharged from the armed forces of the United States under conditions other than conditions set forth in IC 10-17-12-7.5(2).

Sec. 4. As used in this chapter, "program" refers to the high school diploma program for eligible veterans established by section 6 of this chapter.

Sec. 5. As used in this chapter, "school corporation" includes a successor school corporation serving the area where a high school that no longer exists was once located.

Sec. 6. The high school diploma program for eligible veterans is established to provide for the issuance of high school diplomas to certain veterans.

Sec. 7. (a) The department and the department of veterans' affairs shall jointly design a form for the application for issuance of a diploma under the program.

(b) The application form must require at least the following information about an eligible veteran:

- (1) Personal identification information.
- (2) Military service information, including a copy of the eligible veteran's discharge from military service under conditions other than conditions set forth in IC 10-17-12-7.5(2).
- (3) High school information, including the following:
  - (A) Name and address, including county, of the last high school attended.
  - (B) Whether the high school was a public or nonpublic school.
  - (C) Years attended.

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- 1                   (D) Year of leaving high school to begin military service.
- 2                   (E) Year in which the veteran would have graduated if
- 3                   the veteran had not left high school to begin military
- 4                   service.
- 5           (4) If the high school attended was a public school, whether
- 6           the veteran prefers receiving a diploma issued by:
- 7                   (A) the state board; or
- 8                   (B) the governing body of the school corporation
- 9                   governing the high school.
- 10           Sec. 8. The department of veterans' affairs shall do the
- 11           following for individuals that the department of veterans' affairs
- 12           has reason to believe may be eligible to apply for a diploma under
- 13           the program:
- 14                   (1) Give notice of the program.
- 15                   (2) Describe the application procedure.
- 16                   (3) Furnish an application form.
- 17           Sec. 9. The following individuals may apply for the issuance of
- 18           a diploma to an eligible veteran under the program:
- 19                   (1) An eligible veteran, including an eligible veteran who has
- 20                   received a general educational development (GED) diploma
- 21                   issued under IC 20-20-6 (before its repeal) or IC 22-4.1-18,
- 22                   or a similar diploma.
- 23                   (2) An individual who is:
- 24                           (A) the surviving spouse of; or
- 25                           (B) otherwise related to;
- 26                   an eligible veteran who is deceased.
- 27           Sec. 10. An applicant for a diploma under the program must
- 28           submit a completed application form to the department of
- 29           veterans' affairs.
- 30           Sec. 11. Upon receipt of an application, the department of
- 31           veterans' affairs shall do the following:
- 32                   (1) Verify the accuracy of the information in the application,
- 33                   in consultation with the department, if necessary.
- 34                   (2) Forward the verified application to the department.
- 35           Sec. 12. Upon receipt of a verified application, the department
- 36           shall do the following:
- 37                   (1) If the applicant:
- 38                           (A) expresses a preference in the application to receive
- 39                           a diploma issued by the state board; or
- 40                           (B) attended a nonpublic high school before leaving high
- 41                           school for military service;
- 42                   the department shall present a diploma issued by the state

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**board.**

**(2) If the applicant expresses a preference for receiving a diploma from the governing body of the school corporation containing the public high school that the eligible veteran left for military service, the department shall direct the governing body of the affected school corporation to issue and present the diploma.**

**Sec. 13. (a) The department and governing bodies are encouraged but are not required to hold a ceremony to present a diploma that is issued under the program.**

**(b) Upon request of a governing body, the department, in cooperation with the department of veterans' affairs, shall assist the governing body to develop a variety of formats for appropriate ceremonies at which to award diplomas under the program.**

**Sec. 14. (a) The state board shall design a unique commemorative diploma for the board to issue to eligible veterans who:**

**(1) attended a public high school and express in the application a preference for receiving a diploma that the state board issues; or**

**(2) attended a nonpublic high school.**

**(b) The state board shall design a unique commemorative diploma that a governing body may choose to issue under the program.**

**Sec. 15. (a) A governing body may design a unique commemorative diploma for the governing body to issue under the program.**

**(b) A governing body that issues a diploma under the program shall issue one (1) of the following types of diplomas:**

**(1) The diploma described in subsection (a).**

**(2) The diploma designed by the state board under section 14(b) of this chapter.**

**(3) The same diploma that the governing body issues to current graduates.**

**Sec. 16. The department and the department of veterans' affairs shall work cooperatively to jointly administer this chapter.**

**Sec. 17. A fee may not be charged to process an application or to award a diploma under this chapter.**

**Sec. 18. The department and the department of veterans' affairs may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to implement this chapter.**

**Chapter 6. Educational Technology Program and Grants**

**Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "fund" refers to the Senator**

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1 David C. Ford educational technology fund established under  
2 section 3 of this chapter.

3 Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "technology equipment" means  
4 computer hardware, computer software, related teacher training  
5 services, related instructional manuals and materials, and  
6 equipment servicing.

7 Sec. 3. (a) The Senator David C. Ford educational technology  
8 fund is established to extend educational technologies to  
9 elementary and secondary schools. The fund may be used for:

10 (1) a school technology program developed by the  
11 department. The program may include grants to school  
12 corporations for the purchase of:

13 (A) equipment, hardware, and software;

14 (B) learning and teaching systems; and

15 (C) other materials;

16 that promote student learning, as determined by the  
17 department;

18 (2) conducting educational technology training for teachers;

19 (3) other innovative educational technology programs; and

20 (4) providing professional learning opportunities for  
21 educators regarding digital learning.

22 (b) The department may also use money in the fund under  
23 contracts entered into with the office of technology established by  
24 IC 4-13.1-2-1 to study the feasibility of establishing an information  
25 telecommunications gateway that provides access to information  
26 on employment opportunities, career development, and  
27 instructional services from data bases operated by the state among  
28 the following:

29 (1) Elementary and secondary schools.

30 (2) Postsecondary educational institutions.

31 (3) Career and technical educational centers and institutions  
32 that are not postsecondary educational institutions.

33 (4) Libraries.

34 (5) Any other agencies offering education and training  
35 programs.

36 (c) The fund consists of:

37 (1) state appropriations;

38 (2) private donations to the fund; or

39 (3) any combination of the amounts described in subdivisions  
40 (1) and (2).

41 (d) The fund shall be administered by the department.

42 (e) Unexpended money appropriated to or otherwise available

HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not revert to the  
2 state general fund but remains available to the department for use  
3 under this chapter.

4 Sec. 4. Upon the approval of the governor and the budget  
5 agency, the department may use funds available under this chapter  
6 to provide or extend education technology to any school  
7 corporation for purposes described in this chapter.

8 Sec. 5. The department shall develop guidelines necessary to  
9 implement this chapter, including guidelines that require the  
10 school corporation to use the laboratories to the fullest extent  
11 possible.

12 Sec. 6. To be eligible to receive money this chapter, a school  
13 corporation must apply to the department on forms provided by  
14 the department.

15 Sec. 7. A school corporation that receives a grant under this  
16 chapter must deposit the grant in the school corporation's  
17 education fund.

18 Chapter 7. School Intervention and Career Counseling  
19 Development Program and Fund

20 Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "fund" refers to the school  
21 intervention and career counseling development fund established  
22 by section 4 of this chapter.

23 Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "grant" refers to a grant from  
24 the fund.

25 Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "school intervention and career  
26 counseling development program" refers to a program carried out  
27 under this chapter:

- 28 (1) for kindergarten through grade 6; and
- 29 (2) by a licensed school counselor.

30 Sec. 4. (a) As a result of a comprehensive study conducted by  
31 the department on the role of school counselors, including the  
32 expanding role of school counselors in career development under  
33 workforce development programs that affect public schools, the  
34 school intervention and career counseling development fund is  
35 established. The money in the fund shall be used to develop  
36 counseling models in a limited number of school corporations as  
37 determined by the department under this chapter.

38 (b) If a school corporation is awarded a grant under this  
39 chapter, the school corporation must:

- 40 (1) agree to evaluate the impact and results of the school  
41 corporation's program; and
- 42 (2) submit the school corporation's findings to the

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- 1 department.  
 2 (c) The department shall administer the fund.  
 3 (d) The fund consists of:  
 4 (1) gifts to the fund;  
 5 (2) appropriations from the general assembly;  
 6 (3) grants, including grants from private entities; and  
 7 (4) a combination of the resources described in subdivisions  
 8 (1), (2), and (3).

9 Sec. 5. Subject to section 6 of this chapter, for a school  
 10 corporation to be eligible to receive a grant under this chapter, the  
 11 following must occur:

12 (1) The superintendent of the school corporation must apply  
 13 to the department for a grant on forms provided by the  
 14 department.

15 (2) The application for a grant must include the following  
 16 information:

17 (A) A detailed description of a proposal for initiating or  
 18 expanding a school intervention or career counseling  
 19 program.

20 (B) Evidence supporting the school corporation's need  
 21 to implement the school intervention or career  
 22 counseling program.

23 (C) The number of elementary school counselors  
 24 employed by the school corporation.

25 (D) The elementary school counselor/student ratio for  
 26 the school corporation.

27 (E) Any other pertinent information required by the  
 28 department, including evidence guaranteeing that if the  
 29 school corporation receives a grant under this chapter,  
 30 the school corporation has developed a plan to evaluate  
 31 the impact and results of the school corporation's  
 32 program.

33 Sec. 6. The department may award grants to school  
 34 corporations:

35 (1) upon review of the applications received under section 5  
 36 of this chapter;

37 (2) subject to available money; and

38 (3) in accordance with the following priorities:

39 (A) To the extent possible, to achieve geographic balance  
 40 throughout Indiana and to include urban, suburban, and  
 41 rural school corporations.

42 (B) To address a documented need for new or expanded

HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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school intervention or career counseling programs, including considering the percentage of students within the school corporation who are designated as at risk students.

(C) To promote innovative methods for initiating or expanding school intervention or career counseling programs.

(D) To reward school corporations that propose school intervention or career counseling programs that demonstrate the greatest potential for replication and implementation in Indiana.

(E) To lower school counselor/student ratios where the ratios are excessively high.

**Sec. 7. (a) Subject to subsection (b), the department shall determine the amount of each grant that is awarded under this chapter.**

**(b) A grant to a particular school corporation may not exceed:**

**(1) fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) for each full-time counselor for each academic year, or seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500) for each full-time counselor for each semester; and**

**(2) the following total grant awards as each relates to the ADM of the school corporation at the time the school corporation applies for the grant:**

**(A) For a school corporation with an ADM of not more than five thousand (5,000), seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000).**

**(B) For a school corporation with an ADM of at least five thousand one (5,001) and not more than nine thousand nine hundred ninety-nine (9,999), one hundred twenty thousand dollars (\$120,000).**

**(C) For a school corporation with an ADM of at least ten thousand (10,000), one hundred eighty thousand dollars (\$180,000).**

**Sec. 8. A grant received by a school corporation may be expended by the school corporation for a twenty-four (24) month period.**

**Sec. 9. The department shall develop guidelines necessary to implement this chapter.**

**Chapter 8. Early Childhood Programs**

**Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "early childhood program" refers to a voluntary parental education program for parents of**

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1 children from birth to less than three (3) years of age that provides  
2 these parents with information and activities to help the parents  
3 better prepare children for school.

4 Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "latch key program" means a  
5 voluntary school age child care program for children who attend  
6 kindergarten through grade 6 and that at a minimum, operates  
7 after the school day and may include periods before school is in  
8 session or during periods when school is not in session.

9 Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "preschool program" refers to  
10 a voluntary school readiness program for children who are at least  
11 three (3) years of age and not enrolled in at least kindergarten.

12 Sec. 4. A school corporation may enter into an agreement with  
13 a nonprofit corporation to provide early childhood education  
14 programs, preschool programs, or latch key programs. However,  
15 if a school corporation enters into a contract for a preschool  
16 program, the nonprofit corporation must operate a federally  
17 approved preschool program.

18 Sec. 5. The department shall develop guidelines necessary to  
19 implement this chapter.

20 Chapter 9. Alternative Education Program Grants

21 Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "alternative education  
22 program" means an alternative education program (as defined in  
23 IC 20-30-8-1).

24 Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "full-time equivalent students"  
25 means the number of students determined under IC 20-30-8-16.

26 Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "qualifying school corporation"  
27 means a school corporation, including a charter school, that has  
28 been approved under IC 20-30-8-8 to receive a grant under this  
29 chapter.

30 Sec. 4. A qualifying school corporation is eligible to receive a  
31 grant from the state for each full-time equivalent student who is  
32 enrolled in an alternative education program conducted for the  
33 school corporation.

34 Sec. 5. The maximum amount that may be granted to a  
35 qualifying school corporation in a school year is seven hundred  
36 fifty dollars (\$750) per full-time equivalent student.

37 Sec. 6. To receive a grant under this chapter, a school  
38 corporation must expend on alternative education programs in the  
39 school year a matching amount of at least one-third (1/3) of the  
40 amount of the state grant per full-time equivalent student, as  
41 determined under the rules adopted by the state board.

42 Sec. 7. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), the department

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1 shall distribute a grant under this chapter to a qualifying school  
 2 corporation not later than September 1. The grant must be for the  
 3 number of full-time equivalent students enrolled in and attending  
 4 an alternative education program from July 1 through June 30 of  
 5 the immediately preceding school year and reported to the  
 6 department under IC 20-30-8-15.

7 (b) The department may authorize additional distributions for  
 8 approved programs if the total amount of the distributions to a  
 9 school corporation during a school year under this subsection does  
 10 not exceed a maximum amount of seven hundred fifty dollars  
 11 (\$750) per full-time equivalent student reported under  
 12 IC 20-30-8-15.

### 13 Chapter 10. Career and Technical Education

14 Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "career and technical  
 15 education" means any secondary level vocational, agricultural,  
 16 occupational, manpower, employment, or technical training or  
 17 retraining that:

- 18 (1) enhances an individual's career potential and further  
 19 education; and
- 20 (2) is accessible to individuals who desire to explore and  
 21 learn for economic and personal growth leading to  
 22 employment opportunities.

23 Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "commission" refers to the  
 24 commission for higher education established by IC 21-18-2-1.

25 Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "employment training" means  
 26 all programs administered by the following:

- 27 (1) The commission.
- 28 (2) The Indiana jobs training program.
- 29 (3) The department.

30 Sec. 4. (a) The state board shall develop and implement a long  
 31 range state plan for a comprehensive secondary level career and  
 32 technical education program in Indiana.

33 (b) The plan developed under this section must be updated as  
 34 changes occur. The state board shall make the plan and any  
 35 revisions made to the plan available to:

- 36 (1) the governor;
- 37 (2) the general assembly;
- 38 (3) the department of workforce development;
- 39 (4) the commission for higher education;
- 40 (5) the board for proprietary education; and
- 41 (6) any other appropriate state or federal agency.

42 A plan or revised plan submitted under this section to the general

HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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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 Indiana.
- (6) An analysis of the private career and education sector in Indiana.
- (7) Recommendations for improvement in the state career and technical education program.
- (8) The educational levels expected of career and technical education programs proposed to meet the projected employment needs.

(d) When making any revisions to the plan, the state board shall consider the workforce needs and training and education needs identified in the occupational demand report prepared by the department of workforce development under IC 22-4.1-4-10 (before its expiration).

(e) The state board shall use data from the department of workforce development to develop and implement a plan or make revisions to a plan under this section.

Sec. 5. (a) The state board shall do the following:

- (1) Prepare biennially a plan for implementing career and technical education.
- (2) Implement, to the best of its ability, the career and technical education plan prepared under subdivision (1).
- (3) Investigate the funding of career and technical education on a cost basis.
- (4) Establish and monitor the operation of secondary level career and technical education in Indiana in accordance with the comprehensive long range state plan developed under section 4 of this chapter.
- (5) In consultation with the Indiana professional licensing

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agency, adopt rules concerning secondary level career and technical education programs, courses, and classes in the areas of cosmetology, electrology, esthetics, barbering, and manicuring.

(6) To comply with this section and any federal law or regulation:

- (A) adopt rules under IC 4-22-2; and
- (B) develop policies and administrative procedures.

(b) The state board shall use data from the department of workforce development to carry out the state board's duties under this section.

Sec. 6. (a) The state board shall do the following:

(1) Make recommendations to the general assembly concerning the development, duplication, and accessibility of employment training and career and technical education on a regional and statewide basis.

(2) Consult with any state agency, commission, or organization that supervises or administers programs of career and technical education concerning the coordination of career and technical education, including the following:

- (A) The Indiana economic development corporation.
- (B) A private industry council (as defined in 29 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.).
- (C) The department of labor.
- (D) The commission for higher education.
- (E) The department of workforce development.
- (F) The board for proprietary education.
- (G) The department of veterans' affairs.

(3) Review and make recommendations concerning plans submitted by the commission for higher education. The state board may request the resubmission of plans or parts of plans that:

- (A) are not consistent with the long range state plan of the state board;
- (B) are incompatible with other plans within the system; or
- (C) duplicate existing services.

(4) Report to the general assembly on the state board's conclusions and recommendations concerning interagency cooperation, coordination, and articulation of career and technical education and employment training. A report under this subdivision must be in an electronic format under

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- 1           **IC 5-14-6.**  
 2           **(5) Study and develop a plan concerning the transition**  
 3           **between secondary level career and technical education and**  
 4           **postsecondary level career and technical education.**  
 5           **(b) The state board shall use data from the department of**  
 6           **workforce development in carrying out the state board's duties**  
 7           **under this section.**  
 8           **Sec. 7. (a) The state board may do the following:**  
 9           **(1) Make recommendations, including recommendations for**  
 10           **policies to encourage involvement of minority groups in the**  
 11           **career and technical education system in Indiana, to:**  
 12               **(A) the governor;**  
 13               **(B) the general assembly, in an electronic format under**  
 14               **IC 5-14-6; and**  
 15               **(C) the various agencies, commissions, or organizations**  
 16               **that administer career and technical education**  
 17               **programs concerning all facets of career and technical**  
 18               **education programming.**  
 19           **(2) Establish a regional planning and coordination system for**  
 20           **career and technical education and employment training that**  
 21           **will, either in whole or in part, serve career and technical**  
 22           **education and employment training in Indiana.**  
 23           **(3) Appoint advisory committees whenever necessary.**  
 24           **(4) Contract for services necessary to carry out this chapter.**  
 25           **(5) Provide information and advice on career and technical**  
 26           **education to a business, an industry, or a labor organization**  
 27           **operating a job training program in the private sector.**  
 28           **(b) The state board shall use data from the department of**  
 29           **workforce development in making recommendations, establishing**  
 30           **a regional planning and coordination system, or providing**  
 31           **information and advice under subsection (a).**  
 32           **Sec. 8. (a) The state board shall adopt statewide systems or**  
 33           **policies concerning the following as the systems or policies relate**  
 34           **to the implementation of career and technical education programs:**  
 35               **(1) Student records.**  
 36               **(2) Data processing at the secondary level.**  
 37               **(3) An evaluation system that must be conducted by the state**  
 38               **board at least annually and that evaluates the following as**  
 39               **each relates to the career and technical education programs**  
 40               **and courses offered at the secondary level:**  
 41                   **(A) Graduation rates.**  
 42                   **(B) Student placement rates.**

HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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- (C) Retention rates.
- (D) Enrollment.
- (E) Student transfer rates to postsecondary educational institutions.
- (F) When applicable, student performance on state licensing examinations or other external certification examinations.
- (G) Cost data study.

(4) A system of financial audits to be conducted at least biennially at the secondary level.

(b) The state board shall use data from the department of workforce development in adopting statewide systems or policies under subsection (a).

Sec. 9. (a) The state board shall establish career and technical education evaluation criteria.

(b) Using the criteria established under subsection (a), the state board shall evaluate the effectiveness of career and technical education relative to the goals of the long range plan developed under section 4 of this chapter.

(c) The state board shall use data from the department of workforce development in establishing career and technical education evaluation criteria under subsection (a).

Sec. 10. (a) The state board shall develop a definition for and report biennially to:

- (1) the general assembly; and
- (2) the governor;

on attrition and persistence rates by students enrolled in secondary career and technical education. A biennial report under this section to the general assembly must be in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.

(b) The state board shall use data from the department of workforce development in developing a definition and a report under subsection (a).

Sec. 11. Upon request of the budget director, the state board shall prepare a legislative budget request for state funds for secondary and postsecondary career and technical education. The budget director shall determine the period to be covered by the budget request. This budget request must be made available to the commission for higher education before the request's review by the budget committee.

Sec. 12. (a) The state board shall review the legislative budget requests for secondary and postsecondary career and technical

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1 education prepared by the state educational institutions.

2 (b) After the review under subsection (a) and a review of any  
3 recommendations from the commission for higher education, the  
4 state board shall make recommendations to the budget committee  
5 concerning the appropriation of state funds for secondary and  
6 postsecondary career and technical education. The state board's  
7 recommendations concerning appropriations and allocations for  
8 secondary and postsecondary career and technical education by  
9 secondary schools and state educational institutions must specify:

10 (1) the categories of expenditures and the distribution plan  
11 or formula for secondary schools; and

12 (2) the categories of expenditures for each state educational  
13 institution.

14 (c) After reviewing the state board's recommendations, and  
15 each agency's budget request, the budget committee shall make  
16 recommendations to the general assembly for funding to  
17 implement secondary and postsecondary career and technical  
18 education. The general assembly shall biennially appropriate state  
19 funds for secondary and postsecondary career and technical  
20 education and allocate federal funds available under 20 U.S.C.  
21 2301 et seq. for secondary and postsecondary career and technical  
22 education. At least sixty percent (60%) of the federal funds  
23 available under 20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq. must be allocated to  
24 secondary level career and technical education to implement the  
25 long range state plan developed under section 4 of this chapter.

26 (d) The budget agency, with the advice of the state board, and  
27 the budget committee, may augment or proportionately reduce an  
28 allocation of federal funds made under subsection (c).

29 (e) The state board shall use data from the department of  
30 workforce development in making a recommendation under this  
31 section.

32 Sec. 13. The state board shall distribute state funds made  
33 available for secondary and postsecondary career and technical  
34 education that have been appropriated by the general assembly  
35 and in accordance with the plan prepared by:

36 (1) the state board under section 5 of this chapter; and

37 (2) the commission for higher education.

38 Sec. 14. (a) The state board may employ any staff necessary to  
39 perform the duties imposed by this chapter and fix the  
40 compensation and terms of that employment, subject to approval  
41 by the budget agency.

42 (b) The state board may authorize the department, whenever

HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 practical or necessary, to assist the state board in carrying out the  
2 duties prescribed by this chapter.

3 **Sec. 15. (a)** An emancipated student or the parent of a student  
4 enrolled in a career or technical education course may voluntarily  
5 release information, on a form prescribed by the department,  
6 pertaining to the student's enrollment in the career and technical  
7 education course to potential employers that contact the school to  
8 recruit students with particular career and technical skills. A  
9 school must provide a copy of the form described in this subsection  
10 to the emancipated student or the parent of the student when the  
11 student enrolls in the career and technical education course.

12 **(b)** If an emancipated student or the parent of a student  
13 described in subsection (a) voluntarily releases information under  
14 subsection (a), the school shall also provide the department of  
15 workforce development a copy of the student's voluntarily released  
16 enrollment information. The department of workforce  
17 development may provide the student's voluntarily released  
18 enrollment information to potential employers that contact the  
19 department of workforce development to recruit students with  
20 particular career and technical skills.

21 **(c)** The form prescribed in subsection (a) must comply with the  
22 federal Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (20 U.S.C. 1232g  
23 et seq.).

24 **Sec. 16.** The state board may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 as  
25 necessary to carry out the duties imposed by this chapter.

26 **Chapter 11. Insurance Coverage for Work Based Learning**

27 **Sec. 1.** As used in this chapter, "work based learning course"  
28 has the meaning set forth in IC 20-43-8-0.7.

29 **Sec. 2. (a)** The department shall maintain a:

- 30 (1) contract with a company to provide; or  
31 (2) memorandum of understanding:

32 (A) with a statewide entity that represents business  
33 interests in multiple industries; and

34 (B) that provides that the entity agrees to facilitate the  
35 procurement of;

36 adequate employer liability and worker's compensation insurance  
37 coverage for an employer described in section 3 of this chapter.

38 **(b)** The total amount of funds that the department may expend  
39 to implement this section must be less than one hundred thousand  
40 dollars (\$100,000).

41 **Sec. 3. (a)** Subject to subsection (b), an employer that employs  
42 a student in a work based learning course may purchase employer

HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 liability and worker's compensation insurance coverage described  
2 in section 2 of this chapter for the student.

3 (b) An employer is responsible for any costs associated with  
4 the purchase of employer liability and worker's compensation  
5 insurance coverage under this chapter.

6 Sec. 4. If the department is unable to maintain a contract or  
7 memorandum of understanding under section 2(a) of this chapter,  
8 the department is not required to maintain a contract with a  
9 company or a memorandum of understanding as provided under  
10 section 2 of this chapter.

11 Sec. 5. The employer liability and worker's compensation  
12 insurance coverage provided under this chapter must be approved  
13 by the department of insurance.

14 Sec. 6. The department may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to  
15 implement this chapter.

16 **Chapter 12. Operational Efficiency Reviews**

17 Sec. 1. A school corporation shall submit to the department  
18 any information the department determines is necessary to:

- 19 (1) evaluate the school corporation's current operations; and  
20 (2) recommend operational efficiencies and financial savings  
21 for the school corporation.

22 **Chapter 13. Restraint and Seclusion Commission**

23 Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "behavioral intervention plan"  
24 means a plan that is agreed upon by the case conference committee  
25 (as defined in IC 20-35-9-3) and incorporated into a student's  
26 individualized education program (as defined in IC 20-18-2-9) and  
27 that describes the following:

- 28 (1) The pattern of behavior that impedes the student's  
29 learning or the learning of others.  
30 (2) The purpose or function of the behavior as identified in  
31 a functional behavioral assessment.  
32 (3) The positive interventions and supports, and other  
33 strategies, to:  
34 (A) address the behavior; and  
35 (B) maximize consistency of implementation across  
36 people and settings in which the student is involved.  
37 (4) If applicable, the skills that will be taught and monitored  
38 in an effort to change a specific pattern of behavior of the  
39 student.

40 The behavioral intervention plan seeks to maximize consistency of  
41 implementation across people and settings in which the student is  
42 involved.

HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1           **Sec. 2.** As used in this chapter, "chemical restraint" means the  
2 administration of a drug or medication to manage a student's  
3 behavior or restrict a student's freedom of movement that is not a  
4 standard treatment and dosage for the student's medical or  
5 psychiatric condition.

6           **Sec. 3.** As used in this chapter, "commission" refers to the  
7 commission on seclusion and restraint in schools established by  
8 section 11 of this chapter.

9           **Sec. 4. (a)** As used in this chapter, "mechanical restraint"  
10 means the use of:

- 11           (1) a mechanical device;
- 12           (2) a material; or
- 13           (3) equipment;

14 attached or adjacent to a student's body that the student cannot  
15 remove and that restricts the freedom of movement of all or part  
16 of the student's body or restricts normal access to the student's  
17 body.

18           **(b)** The term does not include:

- 19           (1) mechanical devices;
- 20           (2) a material; or
- 21           (3) equipment;

22 used as prescribed by a doctor.

23           **Sec. 5. (a)** As used in this chapter, "physical restraint" means  
24 physical contact between a school employee and a student:

- 25           (1) in which the student unwillingly participates; and
- 26           (2) that involves the use of a manual hold to restrict freedom  
27 of movement of all or part of a student's body or to restrict  
28 normal access to the student's body.

29           **(b)** The term does not include:

- 30           (1) briefly holding a student without undue force in order to  
31 calm or comfort the student, or to prevent unsafe behavior,  
32 such as running into traffic or engaging in a physical  
33 altercation;
- 34           (2) physical escort; or
- 35           (3) physical contact intended to gently assist or prompt a  
36 student in performing a task or to guide or assist a student  
37 from one (1) area to another.

38           **Sec. 6.** As used in this chapter, "positive behavior intervention  
39 and support" means a systematic approach that:

- 40           (1) uses evidence based practices and data driven decision  
41 making to improve school climate and culture; and
- 42           (2) includes a range of systematic and individualized

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1 strategies to reinforce desired behavior and diminish  
 2 reoccurrence of problem behavior;  
 3 to achieve improved academic and social outcomes and increase  
 4 learning for all students.

5 Sec. 7. As used in this chapter, "school corporation" includes  
 6 a charter school that is not a virtual charter school.

7 Sec. 8. As used in this chapter, "school employee" means an  
 8 individual employed by a school corporation or a state accredited  
 9 nonpublic school.

10 Sec. 9. As used in this chapter, "seclusion" means the  
 11 confinement of a student alone in a room or area from which the  
 12 student physically is prevented from leaving. The term does not  
 13 include a supervised time-out or scheduled break, as described in  
 14 a student's individualized education program, in which an adult is  
 15 continuously present in the room with the student.

16 Sec. 10. As used in this chapter, "time-out" means a behavior  
 17 reduction procedure in which access to reinforcement is withdrawn  
 18 for a certain period of time. Time-out occurs when the ability of a  
 19 student to receive normal reinforcement in the school environment  
 20 is restricted. The term does not include a supervised time-out or  
 21 scheduled break, as described in a student's individualized  
 22 education program.

23 Sec. 11. (a) The commission on seclusion and restraint in  
 24 schools is established.

25 (b) The commission has the following ten (10) members:

26 (1) The designee of the secretary of education, who serves at  
 27 the pleasure of the secretary of education.

28 (2) A representative of the Autism Society of Indiana, chosen  
 29 by the organization, who serves a two (2) year term.

30 (3) A representative of the Arc of Indiana, chosen by the  
 31 organization, who serves a two (2) year term.

32 (4) A representative of the Indiana Council of  
 33 Administrators of Special Education, chosen by the  
 34 organization, who serves a two (2) year term.

35 (5) A representative of Mental Health America of Indiana,  
 36 chosen by the organization, who serves a two (2) year term.

37 (6) A parent of a student with a disability, nominated by a  
 38 member described in subdivisions (2), (3), and (5) and  
 39 approved by a majority of the members described in  
 40 subdivisions (1) through (5) and (8) through (10), who serves  
 41 a two (2) year term.

42 (7) A parent of a student who does not have a disability,

HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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nominated by a member described in subdivisions (2), (3), and (5) 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.

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.

Sec. 13. (a) The commission 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.

(B) The prevention of the use of types of restraint or

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seclusion that may harm a student, a school employee, a school volunteer, or the educational environment of the school.

(C) Requirements for notifying parents.

(D) Training regarding the use of restraint and seclusion, including the frequency of training and what employees must be trained.

(E) The distribution of the seclusion and restraint policy to parents and the public.

(F) Requirements for the reporting of incidents of restraint and seclusion in the annual school performance report, including incidents of restraint and seclusion involving school resource officers (as defined in IC 20-26-18.2-1).

(G) Circumstances that may require more timely incident reporting and the requirements for such reporting.

(2) To develop, maintain, and revise a model restraint and seclusion plan for schools that includes the following elements:

(A) A statement on how students will be treated with dignity and respect and how appropriate student behavior will be promoted and taught.

(B) A statement ensuring that the school will use prevention, positive behavior intervention and support, and conflict de-escalation to eliminate or minimize the need for use of any of the following:

- (i) Seclusion.
- (ii) Chemical restraint.
- (iii) Mechanical restraint.
- (iv) Physical restraint.
- (v) Time-out.

(C) A statement ensuring that any behavioral intervention used will be consistent with the student's most current behavioral intervention plan, or individualized education program, if applicable.

(D) Definitions for restraint and seclusion, as defined in this chapter.

(E) A statement ensuring that if a procedure listed in clause (B) is used, the procedure will be used:

- (i) as a last resort safety procedure, employed only after another, less restrictive procedure has been

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implemented without success; and  
(ii) in a situation in which there is an imminent risk of injury to the student, other students, school employees, or visitors to the school.

(F) An indication that restraint or seclusion may be used only for a short time period, or until the imminent risk of injury has passed.

(G) A documentation and recording requirement governing instances in which procedures listed in clause (B) are used, including:

- (i) how every incident will be documented and debriefed;
- (ii) how responsibilities will be assigned to designated employees for evaluation and oversight; and
- (iii) designation of a school employee to be the keeper of such documents.

(H) A requirement that the student's parent must be notified as soon as possible when an incident involving the student occurs that includes use of procedures listed in clause (B).

(I) A requirement that a copy of an incident report must be sent to the student's parent after the student is subject to a procedure listed in clause (B).

(J) Required recurrent training for appropriate school employees on the appropriate use of effective alternatives to physical restraint and seclusion, including the use of positive behavioral intervention and support and conflict de-escalation. The training must include the safe use of physical restraint and seclusion in incidents involving imminent danger or serious harm to the student, school employees, or others. Consideration must be given to available school resources and the time commitments of school employees.

(3) To accept and review reports from the public and make nonbinding recommendations to the department of any suggested action to be taken.

(4) To biannually provide a report to the state advisory council on the education of children with disabilities appointed under IC 20-35-3-1 regarding the:

(A) execution of the commission's duties under this section; and

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**(B) review of incident reports under section 15 of this chapter.**

**(b) The model policy developed by the commission must take into consideration that implementation and reporting requirements for state accredited nonpublic schools may vary, and the model plan must provide state accredited nonpublic schools flexibility with regards to accountability under and implementation of the plan adopted by a state accredited nonpublic school under section 16 of this chapter.**

**Sec. 14. If the department has been advised of a discrepancy in a report under section 13(a)(3) of this chapter, the department shall require the school to provide a written explanation of the discrepancy to the department which must comply with the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (20 U.S.C. 1232g and 34 CFR Part 99).**

**Sec. 15. (a) The department shall biannually review incident reports under rules established by the commission under IC 4-22-2 and submit summary findings to the commission in compliance with the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (20 U.S.C. 1232g and 34 CFR Part 99).**

**(b) The commission 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 under subsection (b), the department shall provide the commission a response with regard to the commission's recommendation in a manner prescribed by the department within a reasonable time after the department receives the recommendation from the commission.**

**Sec. 16. (a) A school corporation or state accredited nonpublic school shall adopt a restraint and seclusion plan that incorporates, at a minimum, the elements of the model plan developed under section 13 of this chapter. The school corporation's or state accredited nonpublic school's plan must become effective not later than July 1, 2014.**

**(b) The department has the authority to require schools to submit plans developed in accordance with section 13 of this chapter.**

**Sec. 17. (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,**

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1 whether or not the school employee has received training under  
2 this chapter.

3 (b) This chapter may not be construed to give rise to a cause  
4 of action, either civil or criminal, against the state, the department,  
5 a school corporation, a state accredited nonpublic school, the  
6 commission, or a member of the commission.

7 (c) In all matters relating to the plan adopted under section 16  
8 of this chapter, school corporation or state accredited nonpublic  
9 school personnel have qualified immunity with respect to an action  
10 taken to promote student conduct under a plan adopted under  
11 section 16 of this chapter if the action is taken in good faith and is  
12 reasonable.

13 Sec. 18. The commission shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to  
14 carry out the purposes of this chapter.

15 Chapter 14. Dual Language Pilot Program

16 Sec. 1. The department, with the approval of the state board,  
17 shall establish and maintain a dual language immersion program  
18 to provide grants, in an amount not to exceed fifty thousand dollars  
19 (\$50,000), to school corporations and charter schools that establish  
20 dual language immersion programs in:

- 21 (1) Chinese;
- 22 (2) Spanish;
- 23 (3) French; or
- 24 (4) any other language approved by the department.

25 Sec. 2. A school corporation or charter school may be eligible  
26 to receive a grant under this chapter if:

- 27 (1) the school corporation or charter school uses an  
28 instructional model that provides at least fifty percent (50%)  
29 of its instruction in English and fifty percent (50%) of its  
30 instruction in a language described in section 1 of this  
31 chapter;
- 32 (2) the program that uses an instructional model described  
33 in subdivision (1) begins either in kindergarten or in grade  
34 1; and
- 35 (3) the program described in subdivision (2) meets any other  
36 requirements established by the department, with the  
37 approval of the state board.

38 Sec. 3. A school corporation or charter school desiring to  
39 receive a grant under this chapter shall apply to the department  
40 for a grant in the manner and on a form prescribed by the  
41 department.

42 Sec. 4. (a) The dual language immersion program fund is

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1 established to be used to provide grants under this chapter.  
 2 (b) The fund consists of:  
 3 (1) appropriations made by the general assembly; and  
 4 (2) gifts and donations to the fund.  
 5 (c) The fund shall be administered by the department.  
 6 (d) The expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from  
 7 money in the fund.  
 8 (e) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not  
 9 revert to the state general fund.  
 10 (f) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not  
 11 currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same  
 12 manner as other public funds may be invested.  
 13 Sec. 5. The state board may establish rules necessary to  
 14 administer this chapter.  
 15 Chapter 15. System for Teacher and Student Advancement  
 16 Grant Fund and Program  
 17 Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "fund" refers to the system for  
 18 teacher and student advancement grant fund established by section  
 19 3 of this chapter.  
 20 Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "program" refers to a teacher  
 21 performance model program described in section 4 of this chapter.  
 22 Sec. 3. (a) The system for teacher and student advancement  
 23 grant fund is established for the purpose of providing grants to  
 24 school corporations and charter schools to implement programs  
 25 described in section 4 of this chapter.  
 26 (b) The fund consists of the following:  
 27 (1) Appropriations made by the general assembly.  
 28 (2) Gifts, grants, devises, or bequests made to the commission  
 29 for higher education to achieve the purposes of the fund.  
 30 (c) The state board, in consultation with the department, shall  
 31 administer the fund.  
 32 (d) The expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from  
 33 money in the fund.  
 34 (e) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not  
 35 currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same  
 36 manner as other public funds may be invested. Interest that  
 37 accrues from these investments shall be deposited in the fund.  
 38 (f) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not  
 39 revert to the state general fund.  
 40 Sec. 4. (a) As used in this section, "literacy coach" has the  
 41 meaning set forth in IC 20-20.5-20-4.  
 42 (b) A school corporation or charter school may receive a grant

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to implement the following:

- (1) The System for Teacher and Student Advancement (TAP) teacher performance model program.
- (2) The Opportunity Culture teacher performance model.
- (3) A model teacher performance program approved by a national school employee organization.
- (4) A teacher performance model program that includes the implementation of all the following elements:
  - (A) A comprehensive pay progression for teacher leaders based on demonstrated skill development, escalating levels of responsibility and duties, and demonstrated academic leadership.
  - (B) A quality teacher assessment system that measures the effectiveness of teachers' practice.
  - (C) A pay system that supports early career educators by incentivizing the following:
    - (i) Mentoring and coaching.
    - (ii) Reducing teaching loads or providing release time for teacher leaders to support professional learning.
    - (iii) Reviewing professional portfolios and student performance.
  - (D) Eligibility for all teachers rated effective and highly effective.
  - (E) Connection to high quality professional development, including release time for teacher leaders providing professional development and instructional coaching, that provides teachers with the knowledge and skills needed to advance student learning.
  - (F) A rigorous and transparent advancement criterion that is locally developed and implemented with teacher involvement.
  - (G) A pay system providing competitive base pay.
  - (H) Evidence of teacher support for the proposed teacher leadership and pay system, including support from the local school employee organization (if applicable).
  - (I) Plans for ongoing evaluation of the pay system.
  - (J) A sustainable pay system.
  - (K) A plan for how teacher leadership positions and ongoing training for teacher leaders will improve student achievement.

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- 1           **(5) A literacy coaching model program that includes and**  
 2 **implements the following elements:**  
 3           **(A) A system that supports literacy coaches by**  
 4 **incentivizing the following:**  
 5               **(i) Mentoring and training of literacy coaches.**  
 6               **(ii) Reducing literacy coaching loads or providing**  
 7 **release time for literacy coaches to support**  
 8 **professional learning.**  
 9               **(iii) Reviewing professional portfolios and student**  
 10 **performance.**  
 11           **(B) Connection to high quality professional**  
 12 **development, including release time for literacy coaches**  
 13 **providing professional development and instructional**  
 14 **coaching, that provides literacy coaches with the**  
 15 **knowledge and skills needed to advance the learning of**  
 16 **teachers, administrators, and students.**  
 17           **(c) To receive a grant, a:**  
 18               **(1) school corporation, in consultation with the school**  
 19 **corporation's school employee organization; or**  
 20               **(2) charter school, in consultation with the charter school's**  
 21 **school employee organization (if applicable);**  
 22 **shall apply for the grant in a manner prescribed by the**  
 23 **department. The department shall establish eligibility**  
 24 **requirements. However, the department may not award grants to**  
 25 **more than thirty (30) school corporations or charter schools during**  
 26 **any school year. When awarding grants under this chapter, the**  
 27 **department shall select a geographically diverse set of school**  
 28 **corporations and charter schools, including school corporations**  
 29 **and charter schools located in urban, suburban, and rural areas.**  
 30           **(d) A school corporation or charter school that is awarded a**  
 31 **grant under this chapter shall receive a grant for three (3)**  
 32 **consecutive school years. The amount of the grant may not exceed**  
 33 **the costs incurred by the school corporation or charter school to**  
 34 **implement the program. A school corporation or charter school**  
 35 **may receive a matching grant from a corporation, foundation, or**  
 36 **any other entity in addition to a grant awarded under this chapter.**  
 37           **Chapter 16. Next Level Computer Science Program**  
 38           **Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "eligible entity" means:**  
 39               **(1) a postsecondary educational institution; or**  
 40               **(2) any organization that provides a nationally recognized**  
 41 **and high quality professional development training program**  
 42 **in computer science education.**

HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1           **Sec. 2.** As used in this chapter, "fund" refers to the next level  
2 computer science fund established by section 7 of this chapter.

3           **Sec. 3.** As used in this chapter, "postsecondary educational  
4 institution" refers to any state educational institution (as defined  
5 in IC 21-7-13-32) or private postsecondary educational institution  
6 that receives state or federal funds.

7           **Sec. 4.** As used in this chapter, "program" refers to the next  
8 level computer science grant program established by section 5 of  
9 this chapter.

10          **Sec. 5.** The next level computer science grant program is  
11 established to provide grants to:

12           (1) eligible entities to develop and implement high quality  
13 teacher professional development programs in computer  
14 science; and

15           (2) state accredited schools to:  
16                (A) provide teachers with high quality teacher  
17 professional development programs in computer  
18 science; and  
19                (B) develop and implement sustainable computer science  
20 curricular programs.

21          **Sec. 6.** The department, in consultation with the governor's  
22 office, shall develop guidelines to award grants to eligible entities  
23 and state accredited schools. The guidelines developed by the  
24 department must include:

25           (1) the ability of an eligible entity to provide effective  
26 training for a teacher who does not have previous exposure  
27 to teaching computer science;

28           (2) the ability of an eligible entity to implement effective  
29 practices for providing professional development in  
30 computer science that include:

31                (A) the eligible entity's ability to provide a teacher with  
32 practical training in teaching computer science that is  
33 founded on evidence based research; and

34                (B) the eligible entity's ability to tailor the professional  
35 development program to the needs of the teacher and  
36 the students the teacher serves; and

37           (3) any other criteria the department considers relevant.

38          **Sec. 7.** The next level computer science fund is established. The  
39 department must use money in the fund to provide grants from the  
40 fund to:

41           (1) eligible entities to develop and implement high quality  
42 teacher professional development programs in computer

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1 science; and  
 2 (2) state accredited schools for the purposes described in  
 3 section 5(2) of this chapter.  
 4 **Sec. 8. (a) The fund consists of the following:**  
 5 (1) Appropriations from the general assembly.  
 6 (2) Gifts to the fund.  
 7 (3) Grants, including grants from private entities.  
 8 (4) Other state funds that are transferred to the fund.  
 9 (b) The expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from  
 10 money in the fund.  
 11 (c) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not  
 12 currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same  
 13 manner as other public money may be invested. Interest that  
 14 accrues from these investments shall be deposited into the fund.  
 15 (d) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not  
 16 revert to the state general fund.  
 17 **Sec. 9. The department shall administer the program and fund.**  
 18 **Sec. 10. Notwithstanding any other law or policy to the**  
 19 **contrary, the secretary of education shall enter into and maintain**  
 20 **a contract for professional development services with an**  
 21 **organization that provides a nationally recognized training**  
 22 **program for professional development in computer science**  
 23 **education from early learning through postsecondary education.**  
 24 **Sec. 11. An eligible entity or state accredited school may apply**  
 25 **to the department to receive a grant from the fund on a form**  
 26 **provided by the department.**  
 27 **Sec. 12. The department may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to**  
 28 **implement this chapter.**  
 29 **Chapter 17. Robotics Competition Program**  
 30 **Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "allowable expenses" means:**  
 31 (1) payment of a stipend for a robotics team mentor;  
 32 (2) fees, kits, and supplies required to:  
 33 (A) establish or maintain a robotics team; or  
 34 (B) participate in a robotics competition; and  
 35 (3) event registrations, materials, transportation costs, travel  
 36 costs, and other expenses associated with a robotics  
 37 competition.  
 38 **Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "eligible school" means a:**  
 39 (1) public school, including a charter school (as defined in  
 40 IC 20-24-1-4);  
 41 (2) state accredited nonpublic school; or  
 42 (3) nonpublic school accredited by a national or regional

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accreditation agency that is recognized by the state board.  
Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "eligible team" means a robotics competition team consisting of:

- (1) students in kindergarten through grade 12 who are:
  - (A) enrolled in an eligible school; or
  - (B) on a community based robotics competition team;
 and
- (2) at least one (1) adult who is a team mentor and team coach.

Sec. 4. As used in this chapter, "fund" refers to the robotics competition program fund established by section 8 of this chapter.

Sec. 5. As used in this chapter, "program" refers to the robotics competition program established by section 7 of this chapter.

Sec. 6. As used in this chapter, "robotics competition" means a competition that:

- (1) requires participating teams to design, construct, program, and operate robots; and
- (2) is sponsored by a nonstock, nonprofit corporation, described under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and exempt from taxation under Section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, that has as one (1) of its organizational purposes the goal of encouraging young people to develop an interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

Sec. 7. The robotics competition program is established to provide grants to eligible teams to expand opportunities to increase interest and improve skills in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) through participation in competitive robotics programs that:

- (1) provide hands on learning experiences;
- (2) establish community partnerships to increase awareness of local workforce and postsecondary opportunities;
- (3) highlight career opportunities through adult mentors; and
- (4) prioritize a connection to manufacturing, machining, and fabrication skills for students in grades 9 through 12.

Sec. 8. The robotics competition program fund is established. The department shall use money in the fund to provide grants to eligible teams to develop and implement competitive robotics programs.

Sec. 9. (a) The fund consists of the following:

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- 1           **(1) Appropriations from the general assembly.**
- 2           **(2) Gifts to the fund.**
- 3           **(3) Grants, including grants from private entities.**
- 4           **(4) Other state funds that are transferred to the fund.**
- 5           **(b) The expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from**
- 6 **money in the fund.**
- 7           **(c) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not**
- 8 **currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same**
- 9 **manner as other public money may be invested. Interest that**
- 10 **accrues from these investments shall be deposited into the fund.**
- 11           **(d) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not**
- 12 **revert to the state general fund.**
- 13           **Sec. 10. Subject to appropriation by the general assembly, the**
- 14 **department shall administer the program and fund.**
- 15           **Sec. 11. (a) An eligible team may apply to the department to**
- 16 **receive a grant from the fund on a form provided by the**
- 17 **department.**
- 18           **(b) To receive a grant, an eligible team must show proof of the**
- 19 **following in its application:**
- 20           **(1) A partnership for the purposes of a robotics competition**
- 21 **with at least one (1) sponsor, business entity, higher**
- 22 **education institution, or technical school.**
- 23           **(2) An adult robotics team mentor.**
- 24           **(3) A spending plan.**
- 25           **(4) A commitment to compete in a robotics competition.**
- 26           **(5) For grades 9 through 12, a commitment to creating an**
- 27 **original, iteratively designed robot.**
- 28           **(6) A local in kind or cash match from other private or local**
- 29 **funds in an amount equal to at least twenty-five percent**
- 30 **(25%) of the amount of the awarded grant.**
- 31           **Sec. 12. (a) The department shall develop guidelines to award**
- 32 **grants to eligible teams for allowable expenses. The guidelines**
- 33 **developed by the department must include a maximum grant**
- 34 **award allotment for each eligible team based on the:**
- 35           **(1) level of programming;**
- 36           **(2) level of competition; and**
- 37           **(3) number of participants;**
- 38 **of various robotics competitions as determined by the department.**
- 39           **(b) The department shall award grants in a manner that**
- 40 **maximizes the number of eligible teams that will be able to receive**
- 41 **funds, with an emphasis on increasing the number of high school**
- 42 **teams, and that expands the geographical distribution of eligible**

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teams.

(c) The department shall award grants under this chapter for each school year not later than August 1 of the applicable school year.

Sec. 13. The department shall establish guidelines to accommodate the participation of students with disabilities on an eligible team or in a robotics competition.

Sec. 14. The department may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to implement this chapter.

Sec. 15. The program and any participation by a team mentor and team coach in the program is not subject to collective bargaining.

**Chapter 18. Connecting Students With Careers Fund**

Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "career fair" means an event at which employers and labor organizations can meet with high school students to discuss future career opportunities.

Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "fund" means the connecting students with careers fund established by section 6 of this chapter.

Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "intermediary" has the meaning set forth in IC 21-18-1-3.5.

Sec. 4. As used in this chapter, "labor organization" has the meaning set forth in IC 22-6-6-5.

Sec. 5. As used in this chapter, "school" means the following:

- (1) A school maintained by a school corporation.
- (2) A charter school.

Sec. 6. The connecting students with careers fund is established. The department must use money in the fund to provide grants to schools for the purpose of hosting career fairs in accordance with IC 20-30-5.6.

Sec. 7. (a) The fund consists of the following:

- (1) Gifts to the fund.
- (2) Grants, including grants from private entities.

(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 the obligations of the fund in the same manner as other public money may be invested. Interest that accrues from these investments shall be deposited into the fund.

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

Sec. 8. The department shall develop guidelines to award grants to schools under section 6 of this chapter.

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1           **Sec. 9.** The department may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to  
2 implement this chapter.

3           **Chapter 19. Teacher Higher Education and Industry**  
4 **Collaboration Grant Program and Fund**

5           **Sec. 1.** As used in this chapter, "approved postsecondary  
6 educational institution" has the meaning set forth in  
7 IC 21-7-13-6(a).

8           **Sec. 2.** As used in this chapter, "approved teacher education  
9 course or program" means a teacher education course or program  
10 that has been approved by the department under section 8 of this  
11 chapter.

12           **Sec. 3.** As used in this chapter, "eligible applicant" means any  
13 of the following:

- 14           (1) A school corporation.
- 15           (2) A public school, including a charter school.
- 16           (3) A state accredited nonpublic school.
- 17           (4) A teacher employed by a:
  - 18           (A) school corporation; or
  - 19           (B) school listed in subdivision (2) or (3).

20           **Sec. 4.** As used in this chapter, "fund" refers to the teacher  
21 higher education and industry collaboration grant program fund  
22 established by section 7 of this chapter.

23           **Sec. 5.** As used in this chapter, "program" refers to the teacher  
24 higher education and industry collaboration grant program  
25 established by section 6 of this chapter.

26           **Sec. 6. (a)** There is established a teacher higher education and  
27 industry collaboration grant program for the purpose of funding  
28 through grants teacher participation in approved teacher  
29 education courses or programs.

30           **(b)** The department shall administer the program.

31           **Sec. 7. (a)** The teacher higher education and industry  
32 collaboration grant program fund is established for the purposes  
33 of implementing the program described in section 6 of this chapter.

34           **(b)** The fund consists of the following:

- 35           (1) Appropriations by the general assembly.
- 36           (2) Interest deposited in the fund under subsection (e).
- 37           (c) The department shall administer the fund.
- 38           (d) The expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from  
39 money in the fund.

40           **(e)** The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not  
41 currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same  
42 manner as other public funds may be invested. Interest that

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accrues from these investments shall be deposited in the fund.  
(f) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year reverts to the state general fund.

Sec. 8. (a) The department, in consultation with the commission for higher education, shall approve teacher education courses or programs that meet the criteria established under subsection (b).

(b) The department may only approve a teacher education course or program under subsection (a) that:

(1) is designed to:

(A) engage teachers with approved postsecondary educational institutions and employers for the purpose of connecting daily classroom lessons with innovations in workplace practices and postsecondary education research; and

(B) improve a teacher's:

(i) content area knowledge; and

(ii) familiarity with the application of the content area in postsecondary education research and the workplace;

(2) is offered:

(A) by an approved postsecondary educational institution;

(B) by an employer; or

(C) jointly, by an approved postsecondary educational institution and employer; and

(3) meets any other requirements established by the department.

Sec. 9. (a) To be eligible for a grant under the program, an eligible applicant must do the following:

(1) Apply to the department in the manner and on a form prescribed by the department.

(2) If the eligible applicant is a school corporation or school described in section 3(1) through 3(3) of this chapter, include in the eligible applicant's application the following:

(A) The number of teachers employed by the eligible applicant who intend to voluntarily participate in an approved teacher education course or program.

(B) The amount of funding that the eligible applicant is requesting for each teacher who intends to voluntarily participate in an approved teacher education course or program.

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(C) The timeline by which teachers will complete the approved teacher education course or program.

(3) Agree to use the grant funds for teacher participation in an approved teacher education course or program.

(4) Meet any other requirements established by the department.

(b) Subject to available funding, the department may award a grant under this chapter to an eligible applicant that meets the requirements under subsection (a) in an amount that does not exceed:

(1) the cost for one (1) or more teachers, as applicable, to enroll in and complete an approved teacher education course or program; plus

(2) a stipend for one (1) or more teachers described in subdivision (1) in an amount determined by the department.

Sec. 10. The successful completion of an approved teacher course or program may count towards professional growth experience points required to renew a practitioner license or an accomplished practitioner license, as determined by the department.

Sec. 11. The department shall establish and maintain an online platform that allows teachers to access and share information regarding connecting daily classroom lessons with innovations in workplace practices and postsecondary education research.

Sec. 12. Not later than July 1 of each year, the department shall:

(1) collect and compile information concerning the program under this chapter; and

(2) submit the report described in subdivision (1) to the following:

(A) The governor.

(B) The legislative council, in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.

Sec. 13. The state board may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 necessary to implement this chapter.

Chapter 20. Science of Reading Grant

Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "charter school" has the meaning set forth in IC 20-24-1-4.

Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "elementary school" means a public elementary school, including a charter school.

Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "grant" refers to a grant awarded under section 7 of this chapter.

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1           **Sec. 4. (a) This subsection applies before July 1, 2027. As used**  
2 **in this chapter, "literacy coach" refers to an individual whose**  
3 **primary responsibility is to provide literacy training and support**  
4 **to administrators and teachers. This subsection expires July 1,**  
5 **2027.**

6           **(b) This subsection applies after June 30, 2027. As used in this**  
7 **chapter, "literacy coach" means an individual:**

- 8           **(1) whose primary responsibility is to provide literacy**
- 9 **training and support to administrators and teachers; and**
- 10          **(2) who has received the literacy endorsement described in**
- 11 **IC 20-28-5-19.7.**

12          **Sec. 5. A literacy coach shall prioritize the following:**

- 13          **(1) Modeling effective instructional strategies for teachers.**
- 14          **(2) Facilitating study groups.**
- 15          **(3) Training teachers in:**
  - 16               **(A) data analysis; and**
  - 17               **(B) using data to differentiate instruction.**
- 18          **(4) Coaching and mentoring colleagues.**
- 19          **(5) Working with teachers to ensure that evidence based**
- 20 **reading programs, which include:**
  - 21               **(A) comprehensive core reading programs;**
  - 22               **(B) supplemental reading programs; and**
  - 23               **(C) comprehensive intervention reading programs;**
- 24          **are implemented with fidelity.**
- 25          **(6) Training teachers to diagnose and address a reading**
- 26 **deficiency.**
- 27          **(7) Working with teachers in applying evidence based**
- 28 **reading strategies in other content areas, including:**
  - 29               **(A) prioritizing time spent on those teachers;**
  - 30               **(B) activities and roles that will have the greatest impact**
  - 31               **on student achievement; and**
  - 32               **(C) prioritizing coaching and mentoring in classrooms.**
- 33          **(8) Helping to increase instructional density to meet the**
- 34 **needs of all students.**
- 35          **(9) Working with students through:**
  - 36               **(A) whole and small group instruction; or**
  - 37               **(B) tutoring;**
- 38          **in the context of modeling and coaching in or outside of a**
- 39 **teacher's classroom.**

40          **Sec. 6. Money allocated for grants under this chapter must be**  
41 **used for the following:**

- 42          **(1) Placing literacy coaches in elementary schools for the**

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purposes of training and supporting teachers and administrators in order to improve instruction related to the science of reading.

(2) Training teachers and school principals in instructional practices aligned with the science of reading.

(3) Increasing instructional time, including summer literacy programs or high-dosage tutoring, for students who have been identified as struggling readers based on a diagnostic screening authorized by the department under IC 20-35.5-2-2.

(4) Elementary schools and school corporations purchasing curricular materials that:

(A) align with science of reading; and

(B) receive approval by the department.

(5) Covering costs for teachers to obtain a literacy endorsement described in IC 20-28-5-19.7.

Sec. 7. (a) Subject to section 8 of this chapter, the department may award a grant under this chapter to a school corporation or charter school that does the following:

(1) Applies for a grant on a form provided by the department.

(2) Submits a detailed description of a plan that:

(A) must include:

(i) placing literacy coaches in elementary schools for the purposes of training and supporting teachers and administrators in order to improve instruction related to the science of reading; and

(ii) training teachers and school principals in instructional practices aligned with the science of reading; and

(B) may include, if the school corporation or charter school is requesting grant funds for the purpose described in section 6(3) or 6(4) of this chapter the following, as applicable:

(i) Increasing instructional time, including summer literacy programs or high-dosage tutoring, for students who have been identified as struggling readers based on a diagnostic screening authorized by the department under IC 20-35.5-2-2.

(ii) Elementary schools and school corporations purchasing curricular materials that align with the science of reading and receive approval by the

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department.

**(3) Submits the following information:**

**(A) Evidence supporting the school corporation's or charter school's plan under subdivision (2).**

**(B) The number of elementary school teachers and literacy coaches employed by the school corporation or charter school.**

**(C) Any other pertinent information required by the department.**

**(b) Any instruction under a plan that includes increasing instructional time as described in subsection (a)(2)(B)(i) must align with the science of reading.**

**Sec. 8. Upon review of applications received under section 7 of this chapter, the department may award grants to school corporations and charter schools subject to available money and in accordance with the following priorities:**

**(1) To the extent possible, to achieve geographic balance throughout Indiana and to include urban, suburban, and rural school corporations.**

**(2) To address a documented need for literacy coaches, additional science of reading training, or compliance with IC 20-26-12-24.5.**

**(3) To provide targeted support for Indiana students experiencing the greatest reading challenges.**

**Sec. 9. The department:**

**(1) may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to implement this chapter; and**

**(2) shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 regarding the following:**

**(A) Distribution of award amounts under this chapter.**

**(B) Prioritizing grants for the purposes described in section 6(1) and 6(2) of this chapter.**

**Chapter 21. Indiana Teacher Recruitment Program**

**Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "program" refers to the Indiana teacher recruitment program established by section 2 of this chapter.**

**Sec. 2. (a) The Indiana teacher recruitment program is established. The purpose of the program is to provide grants to training and recruitment programs for teachers in critical shortage areas, as determined by the department, based on data contained in the educator supply and demand marketplace maintained on the department's website.**

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(b) The department shall administer the program.

**Sec. 3. The department shall do the following:**

- (1) Create an application and approval process for training and recruitment programs.
- (2) Determine guidelines for awarding grants under the program.

**Sec. 4. This chapter expires June 30, 2027.**

**Chapter 22. Centralized School Facilities Pilot Program and Local Boards**

**Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "local board" refers to a:**

- (1) local centralized school facilities board established under section 6(a) of this chapter; or
- (2) if applicable, local centralized school facilities and transportation board established under section 6(e) of this chapter.

**Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "pilot program" means the centralized school facilities pilot program established by section 4 of this chapter.**

**Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "school" means a:**

- (1) charter school; or
- (2) nonpublic school with at least one (1) employee.

**Sec. 4. (a) The centralized school facilities pilot program is established to provide innovative approaches concerning the use, operation, and management of school facilities to promote:**

- (1) enhanced learning environments;
- (2) unique learning opportunities; and
- (3) improved student academic and health outcomes;

**in accordance with the plan submitted to the general assembly by the secretary of education under IC 20-19-3-32 (before its repeal).**

**(b) The pilot program is established for a three (3) year period consisting of the 2026-2027, 2027-2028, and 2028-2029 school years.**

**Sec. 5. (a) A school corporation or school, in partnership with other school corporations, schools, or both other school corporations and schools, may apply to the department to participate in the pilot program.**

**(b) The department:**

- (1) may approve not more than a total of three (3) applications under this section to participate in the pilot program; and
- (2) shall establish the application process and criteria to participate in the pilot program.

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(c) The criteria established under subsection (b)(2) must require that school corporations and schools include information concerning the geographic boundaries of the area to which the application to participate in the pilot program applies.

Sec. 6. (a) Except as provided under subsection (e), not later than October 31, 2025, a local centralized school facilities board is established for participating school corporations and schools.

(b) Each local board must be independent from any school corporation and school.

(c) The local board consists of seven (7) members who:

(1) are proportionately appointed as either representatives of participating school corporations, charter schools, or nonpublic schools described in section 3(2) of this chapter based on:

- (A) the total pupil enrollment of the participating school corporations;
- (B) the total pupil enrollment of participating charter schools; and
- (C) the total pupil enrollment of participating nonpublic schools;

that are partnering under the pilot program; and

(2) are members of the:

- (A) governing body of a participating school corporation;
- (B) charter school board of a participating charter school; or
- (C) equivalent of a governing body for a participating nonpublic school;

described in subdivision (1).

(d) Each local board must collaborate with individuals or entities that have expertise in the following:

- (1) Facility management, construction, or real estate.
- (2) Public finance or public debt issuance.
- (3) Demographic analysis and urban planning.
- (4) Organizational effectiveness, operations management, and implementing best practices.
- (5) Government contracts.
- (6) Budget development and oversight.

(e) If a school corporation or school, in partnership with other school corporations, schools, or both other school corporations and schools, receives approval to participate in the:

(1) pilot program; and

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1           (2) student transportation pilot program under  
 2           IC 20-20.5-23;  
 3           the school corporation or schools may elect to establish, not later  
 4           than October 31, 2025, one (1) local centralized school facilities and  
 5           transportation board consisting of the members described in  
 6           subsection (c) that has the powers and duties and is subject to the  
 7           requirements of a local centralized school facilities board under  
 8           this chapter and local student transportation board under  
 9           IC 20-20.5-23.

10          Sec. 7. Notwithstanding any other state law or rule, each local  
 11          board shall, during the pilot program, provide oversight and  
 12          management of school facilities with a focus on best use and  
 13          upkeep of assets funded by taxpayers.

14          Sec. 8. (a) Each local board shall create and implement a pilot  
 15          program plan that includes measures to:

- 16           (1) determine the:
  - 17                (A) term lengths of the members; and
  - 18                (B) member replacement processes;
- 19           for the local board;
- 20           (2) conduct school facility assessments for all applicable  
 21           school facilities;
- 22           (3) establish a process for the transfer to and receipt of  
 23           funds, as applicable, by the local board from the  
 24           participating school corporations and schools;
- 25           (4) accept and use donations, gifts, or bequests for the  
 26           purposes of this chapter;
- 27           (5) improve the health and safety of students and teachers;
- 28           (6) allow for additional flexibility and creativity in terms of  
 29           what is considered a school facility, including considerations  
 30           surrounding colocation with other schools, governmental  
 31           entities, or community organizations;
- 32           (7) enter into revenue sharing agreements and asset use  
 33           agreements for all school facilities within the geographic  
 34           boundaries described in the application under section 5(c) of  
 35           this chapter for the three (3) year period of the pilot  
 36           program;
- 37           (8) address any existing excess capacity in school facilities;
- 38           (9) inspire opportunities for partnership with other  
 39           governmental entities or local nonprofit organizations to  
 40           transform school facilities into broader community assets for  
 41           residents;
- 42           (10) implement best practices in facilities management and

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



- 1 operations;
- 2 (11) track qualitative and quantitative data to gauge the
- 3 success of the pilot program;
- 4 (12) collect and report data in a manner prescribed by the
- 5 department regarding school facilities included in the pilot
- 6 program; and
- 7 (13) implement a maintenance plan and contract with
- 8 vendors, as needed, for the duration of the pilot program.
- 9 (b) Not later than July 1, 2028, each local board shall develop
- 10 and submit to the department an implementation plan that
- 11 includes the following:
- 12 (1) Whether at the conclusion of the pilot program the:
- 13 (A) participating school corporations and schools, as
- 14 applicable, elect to continue operating with a local
- 15 board; and
- 16 (B) local board established under section 6 of this
- 17 chapter should be maintained or a new local board
- 18 should be established.
- 19 (2) If a new local board should be established, the following
- 20 components:
- 21 (A) The appointment of members to the new local board,
- 22 including the appointing authority for the members.
- 23 (B) The term lengths of the members.
- 24 (C) The member replacement process.
- 25 (3) A process to ensure that the powers and duties under this
- 26 chapter are maintained by the local board or transferred to
- 27 the new local board after completion of the pilot program.
- 28 (4) The transfer of all assets and related funding regarding
- 29 school facilities to the local board or new local board.
- 30 (5) The development and implementation of a long term asset
- 31 management and sustainability plan.
- 32 Sec. 9. Notwithstanding any other state law or rule, beginning
- 33 with the 2026-2027 school year, each local board established under
- 34 section 6 of this chapter:
- 35 (1) shall exercise the full powers and duties provided under
- 36 the pilot program plan created under section 8(a) of this
- 37 chapter; and
- 38 (2) shall make recommendations regarding property tax
- 39 levies approved by the governing bodies of the applicable
- 40 participating school corporations.
- 41 Sec. 10. Each local board may contract with outside
- 42 individuals and entities to create and implement the pilot program

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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plan described in section 8(a) of this chapter.

**Sec. 11. Subject to any agreement entered into by a school corporation or school, a school corporation or school may at any time opt out of participating in the pilot program if the school corporation or school provides notice to all school corporations and schools that the school corporation or school partnered with under this chapter at least one (1) year before the school corporation or school intends to terminate the partnership and its participation under this chapter.**

**Sec. 12. Not later than November 1, 2027, the department of local government finance, in consultation with the department, shall do the following:**

**(1) Prepare a report that includes recommendations regarding legislation and procedures to transfer the duties and powers of a participating school corporation to a local board or new local board as described in section 8(b) of this chapter.**

**(2) Submit the report to the legislative council in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.**

**Sec. 13. Not later than November 1, 2028, the department shall do the following:**

**(1) Prepare a report that includes the following:**

**(A) A summary regarding the:**

**(i) school corporations and schools participating in the pilot program;**

**(ii) implementation of the pilot program by each local board;**

**(iii) results and outcomes regarding the pilot program; and**

**(iv) implementation plans submitted by the local boards under section 8(b) of this chapter.**

**(B) Any recommendations regarding:**

**(i) legislation or procedures to further carry out the purposes of this chapter and an implementation plan submitted under section 8(b) of this chapter; and**

**(ii) whether to extend the pilot program to additional applicants.**

**(C) A plan to adopt best practices from the pilot program statewide.**

**(2) Submit the report to the legislative council in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.**

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1           **Sec. 14.** The department shall waive any state law or rule  
2 requirement necessary to exempt participating school corporations  
3 and schools from requirements for purposes of participation in the  
4 pilot program under this chapter.

5           **Sec. 15.** This chapter shall be liberally construed to effect the  
6 purposes of this chapter.

7           **Sec. 16.** Except as otherwise specifically provided by law, to  
8 the extent the provisions of this chapter are inconsistent with the  
9 provisions of any other general, special, or local law, the provisions  
10 of this chapter are controlling, and compliance with this chapter  
11 shall be treated as compliance with the conflicting law.

12           **Chapter 23. Student Transportation Pilot Program and Local**  
13 **Boards**

14           **Sec. 1.** As used in this chapter, "local board" refers to a:

- 15           (1) local student transportation board established under
- 16           section 6(a) of this chapter; or
- 17           (2) if applicable, local centralized school facilities and
- 18           transportation board established under section 6(e) of this
- 19           chapter.

20           **Sec. 2.** As used in this chapter, "pilot program" refers to the  
21 student transportation pilot program established by section 4 of  
22 this chapter.

23           **Sec. 3.** As used in this chapter, "school" means a:

- 24           (1) charter school; or
- 25           (2) nonpublic school with at least one (1) employee.

26           **Sec. 4.** (a) The student transportation pilot program is  
27 established to provide transportation to all students attending:

- 28           (1) school corporations;
  - 29           (2) charter schools; and
  - 30           (3) nonpublic schools with at least one (1) employee;
- 31 within the geographic boundaries described in the application  
32 under section 5(c) of this chapter.

33           (b) The pilot program is established for a three (3) year period  
34 consisting of the 2026-2027, 2027-2028, and 2028-2029 school  
35 years.

36           **Sec. 5.** (a) A school corporation or school, in partnership with  
37 other school corporations, schools, or both school corporations and  
38 schools, may apply to the department to participate in the pilot  
39 program.

40           (b) The department:  
41           (1) may approve not more than a total of three (3)  
42 applications under this section to participate in the pilot

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- program; and
- (2) shall establish the application process and criteria to participate in the pilot program.
- (c) The criteria established under subsection (b)(2) must require that school corporations and schools include information concerning the geographic boundaries of the area to which the application to participate in the pilot program applies.
- Sec. 6. (a) Except as provided under subsection (e), not later than October 31, 2025, a local student transportation board is established for participating school corporations and schools.
- (b) Each local board must be independent from any school corporation and school.
- (c) The local board consists of seven (7) members who:
  - (1) are proportionately appointed as either representatives of participating school corporations, charter schools, or nonpublic schools described in section 3(2) of this chapter based on:
    - (A) the total pupil enrollment of the participating school corporations;
    - (B) the total pupil enrollment of participating charter schools; and
    - (C) the total pupil enrollment of participating nonpublic schools;
  - that are partnering under the pilot program; and
  - (2) are members of the:
    - (A) governing body of a participating school corporation;
    - (B) charter school board of a participating charter school; or
    - (C) equivalent of a governing body for a participating nonpublic school;
  - described in subdivision (1).
- (d) Each local board must collaborate with individuals or entities that have expertise in the following:
  - (1) Transportation logistics, particularly involving movement of passengers.
  - (2) Finance and business.
  - (3) Organizational effectiveness, operations management, and implementing best practices.
  - (4) Government contracts.
  - (5) Budget development and oversight.
- (e) If a school corporation or school, in partnership with other

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1 school corporations, schools, or both other school corporations and  
2 schools, receives approval to participate in the:

- 3 (1) pilot program; and
- 4 (2) centralized school facilities pilot program under
- 5 IC 20-20.5-22;

6 the school corporation or schools may elect to establish, not later  
7 than October 31, 2025, one (1) local centralized school facilities and  
8 transportation board that has the powers and duties and is subject  
9 to the requirements of a local centralized school facilities board  
10 under IC 20-20.5-22 and local student transportation board under  
11 this chapter.

12 Sec. 7. Notwithstanding any other state law or rule, each local  
13 board shall be responsible for the oversight and management of the  
14 transportation of students described in section 4 of this chapter in  
15 a safe and efficient manner in accordance with the plan submitted  
16 to the general assembly by the secretary of education under  
17 IC 20-19-3-33 (before its repeal).

18 Sec. 8. (a) Each local board shall create and implement a pilot  
19 program plan that includes measures to:

- 20 (1) determine the:
  - 21 (A) term lengths of the members; and
  - 22 (B) member replacement processes;
- 23 for the local board;
- 24 (2) allow for additional flexibility and creativity to  
25 accommodate student needs throughout the school day,  
26 including transportation:
  - 27 (A) to and from school;
  - 28 (B) for before and after school opportunities;
  - 29 (C) for work based learning experiences;
  - 30 (D) for extracurricular activities; and
  - 31 (E) for specialized educational opportunities;
- 32 (3) improve safety and efficiency for students;
- 33 (4) increase collaboration between school corporations,  
34 schools, governmental entities, and community  
35 organizations;
- 36 (5) track qualitative and quantitative data to gauge the  
37 success of the pilot program;
- 38 (6) collect and report data in a manner prescribed by the  
39 department regarding the pilot program;
- 40 (7) provide uninterrupted transportation services for  
41 homeless students or students in foster care as provided by  
42 the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance

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- 1           **Improvements Act (42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq.);**
- 2           **(8) inspire opportunities for public-private partnerships or**
- 3           **partnerships with other governmental entities or local**
- 4           **nonprofit organizations;**
- 5           **(9) enter into revenue sharing agreements and asset use**
- 6           **agreements with participating school corporations and**
- 7           **schools for the duration of the three (3) year period of the**
- 8           **pilot program;**
- 9           **(10) establish a process for the transfer to and receipt of**
- 10           **funds, as applicable, by the local board from the**
- 11           **participating school corporations and schools;**
- 12           **(11) accept and use donations, gifts, or bequests for the**
- 13           **purposes of this chapter; and**
- 14           **(12) implement purchasing and maintenance plans and**
- 15           **contracts with vendors, as needed, for the three (3) year**
- 16           **period of the pilot program.**
- 17           **(b) Not later than July 1, 2028, each local board shall develop**
- 18           **and submit to the department an implementation plan that**
- 19           **includes the following:**
- 20           **(1) Whether at the conclusion of the pilot program the:**
- 21               **(A) participating school corporations and schools, as**
- 22               **applicable, elect to continue operating with a local**
- 23               **board; and**
- 24               **(B) local board established under section 6 of this**
- 25               **chapter should be maintained or a new local board**
- 26               **should be established.**
- 27           **(2) If a new local board should be established, the following**
- 28           **components:**
- 29               **(A) The appointment of members to the new local board,**
- 30               **including the appointing authority for the members.**
- 31               **(B) The term lengths of the members.**
- 32               **(C) The member replacement process.**
- 33           **(3) A process to ensure that the powers and duties under this**
- 34           **chapter are maintained by the local board or transferred to**
- 35           **the new local board after completion of the pilot program.**
- 36           **(4) The transfer of all assets and related funding regarding**
- 37           **school transportation to the local board or new local board.**
- 38           **(5) The development and implementation of a long term asset**
- 39           **management and sustainability plan.**
- 40           **Sec. 9. Notwithstanding any other state law or rule, beginning**
- 41           **with the 2026-2027 school year, each local board established under**
- 42           **section 6 of this chapter:**

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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(1) shall exercise the full powers and duties provided under the pilot program plan created under section 8(a) of this chapter; and

(2) shall make recommendations regarding property tax levies approved by the governing bodies of the applicable participating school corporations.

Sec. 10. Each local board may contract with outside entities to create and implement the pilot program plan described in section 8(a) of this chapter.

Sec. 11. Subject to any agreement entered into by a school corporation or school, a school corporation or school may at any time opt out of participating in the pilot program if the school corporation or school provides notice to all school corporations and schools that the school corporation or school partnered with under this chapter at least one (1) year before the school corporation or school intends to terminate the partnership and its participation under this chapter.

Sec. 12. Not later than November 1, 2027, the department of local government finance, in consultation with the department, shall do the following:

(1) Prepare a report that includes recommendations regarding legislation and procedures to transfer the duties and powers of a participating school corporation to a local board or new local board as described in section 8(b) of this chapter.

(2) Submit the report to the legislative council in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.

Sec. 13. Not later than November 1, 2028, the department shall do the following:

(1) Prepare a report that includes the following:

(A) A summary regarding the:

- (i) school corporations and schools participating in the pilot program;
- (ii) implementation of the pilot program by each local board;
- (iii) results and outcomes regarding the pilot program; and
- (iv) implementation plans submitted by the local boards under section 8(b) of this chapter.

(B) Any recommendations regarding:

(i) legislation or procedures to further carry out the purposes of this chapter and an implementation

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plan submitted under section 8(b) of this chapter;  
and  
(ii) whether to extend the pilot program to additional applicants.

(C) A plan to adopt best practices from the pilot program statewide.

(2) Submit the report to the legislative council in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.

Sec. 14. The department shall waive any state law or rule requirement necessary to exempt participating school corporations and schools from requirements for purposes of participation in the pilot program under this chapter.

Sec. 15. This chapter shall be liberally construed to effect the purposes of this chapter.

Sec. 16. Except as otherwise specifically provided by law, to the extent the provisions of this chapter are inconsistent with the provisions of any other general, special, or local law, the provisions of this chapter are controlling, and compliance with this chapter shall be treated as compliance with the conflicting law.

**Chapter 24. Mastery Based Education Pilot Program**

Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "mastery" means evidenced attainment of predefined, rigorous learning objectives that:

- (1) are transferable; and
- (2) qualify a student for advancement to subsequent educational levels or competencies.

Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "mastery based education" means an innovative, learner centered approach to teaching and learning that focuses on the mastery of specific skills or knowledge areas rather than the amount of time spent in a classroom.

Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "pilot program" refers to the mastery based education pilot program established by section 4 of this chapter.

Sec. 4. (a) The mastery based education pilot program is established to support a school corporation or charter school that is selected by the department under subsection (b) in implementing mastery based education.

- (b) The department:
  - (1) shall administer the pilot program; and
  - (2) may select school corporations and charter schools that meet the requirements under this chapter to participate in the pilot program.

Sec. 5. (a) To apply for participation in the pilot program, a

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**school corporation or charter school shall do the following:**

- (1) Apply on a form and in a manner established by the department.**
- (2) Develop and submit a plan to the department that includes the following:**
  - (A) A description of the following:**
    - (i) The educational programming the school corporation or charter school intends to offer, including specific goals and the measurable student outcomes to be obtained by the school corporation or charter school.**
    - (ii) How mastery based student performance will be used, measured, evaluated, and reported by the school corporation or charter school.**
    - (iii) Any business, postsecondary educational institutions, or community partners with which the school corporation or charter school intends to work.**
  - (B) If the school corporation or charter school intends to suspend any requirements under IC 20-28 as listed in section 8(a)(2) of this chapter, the school corporation's or charter school's criteria and goals for teacher quality, training, and compensation.**
- (b) The department shall do the following:**
  - (1) Subject to subdivision (2), approve or deny an application and plan submitted by a school corporation or charter school under this section.**
  - (2) Approve an application and plan only if the department determines that the plan:**
    - (A) will promote innovative educational approaches to student learning; and**
    - (B) is likely to improve student performance and outcomes.**

**Sec. 6. If a school corporation or charter school participates in the pilot program, the school corporation or charter school shall post the school corporation's or charter school's plan approved by the department under section 5 of this chapter on the school corporation's or charter school's website.**

**Sec. 7. (a) The department may make reasonable requests for information from a school corporation or charter school participating in the pilot program for the purpose of assessing the effectiveness of the plan.**

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1 (b) A school corporation or charter school shall respond to a  
2 request for information under subsection (a) in a form, manner,  
3 and frequency determined by the department.

4 Sec. 8. (a) Any of the following may be suspended for a school  
5 corporation or charter school in accordance with the school  
6 corporation's or charter school's plan approved under section 5 of  
7 this chapter:

8 (1) Any statute or rule that may be suspended under  
9 IC 20-26.5-2-3.

10 (2) Any provision under the following:

11 (A) IC 20-28-4.

12 (B) IC 20-28-11.5.

13 (C) IC 20-30-2-2.

14 (D) IC 20-30-4.

15 (3) Subject to subsection (b), any provisions under the  
16 statewide assessment program under IC 20-32-5.1.

17 (b) A statewide assessment program test requirement may not  
18 be suspended under subsection (a)(3) unless a school corporation  
19 or charter school agrees to administer an assessment that can be  
20 used to compare the performance of students who attend the school  
21 corporation or charter with the performance of students who take  
22 the statewide summative assessment.

23 (c) After a school corporation or charter school has  
24 participated for at least three (3) years in the pilot program, the  
25 department may:

26 (1) revoke the suspension of any statute or rule under  
27 subsection (a) for the school corporation or charter school;  
28 or

29 (2) terminate the participation of the school corporation or  
30 charter school in the pilot program;

31 if the department determines that the school corporation or  
32 charter school has not met the specific goals and the measurable  
33 student outcomes in the school corporation's or charter school's  
34 plan approved under section 5 of this chapter.

35 Sec. 9. This chapter expires June 30, 2035.

36 SECTION 35. IC 20-24-13-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.244-2017,  
37 SECTION 30, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
38 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) An annual grant program is established to  
39 provide funding to a school for the following:

40 (1) Capital improvements for the school, including the  
41 renovation or expansion of a facility, or for debt or lease  
42 payments owed on a facility, including advances from the

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



1 common school fund under IC 20-49-9.  
 2 (2) The purposes for which the school corporation's operations  
 3 fund may be used by a school corporation under IC 20-40-18.  
 4 (3) The purposes for which a technology grant from the Senator  
 5 David C. Ford educational technology fund may be used by a  
 6 school corporation under ~~IC 20-20-13-6~~. **IC 20-20.5-6-3**.  
 7 (b) The program shall be administered by the state board.  
 8 (c) The state board shall establish a written application and  
 9 procedure for providing grants under this chapter to a school described  
 10 in section 5 of this chapter.  
 11 SECTION 36. IC 20-24.2-4-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.214-2025,  
 12 SECTION 67, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 13 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) Except as specifically provided in this  
 14 article and section 4 of this chapter, the following provisions of this  
 15 title and a rule or guideline adopted by the state board under one (1) of  
 16 the following provisions of this title do not apply to a qualified district  
 17 or qualified high school:  
 18 (1) Provisions that do not apply to school corporations in  
 19 general.  
 20 (2) ~~IC 20-20-1~~ **IC 20-20.5** (programs administered by the  
 21 state), except for ~~IC 20-20-1~~ **IC 20-20.5-1** (educational service  
 22 centers).  
 23 (3) IC 20-28 (school teachers), except for IC 20-28-3-4 (teacher  
 24 continuing education), IC 20-28-4-8 (hiring of transition to  
 25 teaching participants; restrictions), IC 20-28-4-11 (transition to  
 26 teaching participants; school corporation or subject area;  
 27 transition to teaching permit), IC 20-28-5-8 (conviction of  
 28 certain felonies or misdemeanors; notice and hearing; permanent  
 29 revocation of license; data base of school employees who have  
 30 been reported), IC 20-28-6 (teacher contracts), IC 20-28-7.5  
 31 (cancellation of teacher contracts), IC 20-28-8 (contracts with  
 32 school administrators), IC 20-28-9 (teacher salary and related  
 33 payments), IC 20-28-10 (conditions of employment), and  
 34 IC 20-28-11.5 (staff performance evaluations).  
 35 (4) IC 20-30 (curriculum), except for IC 20-30-3-2 and  
 36 IC 20-30-3-4 (patriotic commemorative observances),  
 37 IC 20-30-5-13 (human sexuality instructional requirements), and  
 38 IC 20-30-5-19 (personal financial responsibility instruction).  
 39 (5) IC 20-32 (student standards, assessments, and performance),  
 40 except for IC 20-32-4 (graduation requirements), IC 20-32-5  
 41 (Indiana statewide testing for educational progress for a school  
 42 year ending before July 1, 2018), IC 20-32-5.1 (statewide

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 assessment program for a school year beginning after June 30,  
 2 2018), and IC 20-32-8.5 (reading improvement and remediation  
 3 plans).  
 4 (6) IC 20-37 (career and technical education).  
 5 (b) Notwithstanding any other law, a school corporation may not  
 6 receive a decrease in state funding based upon the school corporation's  
 7 status as a qualified district or the status of a high school within the  
 8 school corporation as a qualified high school, or because of the  
 9 implementation of a waiver of a statute or rule that is allowed to be  
 10 waived by a qualified district or qualified high school.  
 11 SECTION 37. IC 20-24.2-4-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.214-2025,  
 12 SECTION 68, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 13 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. The following provisions of this title and rules  
 14 and guidelines adopted under the following provisions of this title  
 15 apply to a qualified district or qualified high school:  
 16 ~~IC 20-20-1~~ **IC 20-20.5-1** (educational service centers).  
 17 IC 20-23 (organization of school corporations).  
 18 IC 20-26 (school corporation general administrative provisions).  
 19 IC 20-27 (school transportation).  
 20 IC 20-28-3-4 (teacher continuing education).  
 21 IC 20-28-4-8 (hiring of transition to teaching participants;  
 22 restrictions).  
 23 IC 20-28-4-11 (transition to teaching participants; school  
 24 corporation or subject area; transition to teaching permit).  
 25 IC 20-28-5-8 (conviction of certain felonies or misdemeanors;  
 26 notice and hearing; permanent revocation of license; data base  
 27 of school employees who have been reported).  
 28 IC 20-28-6 (teacher contracts).  
 29 IC 20-28-7.5 (cancellation of teacher contracts).  
 30 IC 20-28-8 (contracts with school administrators).  
 31 IC 20-28-9 (teacher salary and related payments).  
 32 IC 20-28-10 (conditions of employment).  
 33 IC 20-28-11.5 (staff performance evaluations).  
 34 IC 20-29 (collective bargaining for teachers).  
 35 IC 20-30-3-2 and IC 20-30-3-4 (patriotic commemorative  
 36 observances).  
 37 IC 20-30-5-13 (human sexuality instructional requirements).  
 38 IC 20-30-5-19 (personal financial responsibility instruction).  
 39 IC 20-31 (accountability for school performance and  
 40 improvement).  
 41 IC 20-32-4, IC 20-32-5 (for a school year beginning before July  
 42 1, 2018), IC 20-32-5.1 (assessment), or any other statute, rule, or

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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- 1 guideline related to standardized assessments.
- 2 IC 20-32-8.5 (reading improvement and remediation plans).
- 3 IC 20-33 (students: general provisions).
- 4 IC 20-34-3 (health and safety measures).
- 5 IC 20-35 (special education).
- 6 IC 20-35.5 (dyslexia screening and intervention).
- 7 IC 20-36 (high ability students).
- 8 IC 20-39 (accounting and financial reporting procedures).
- 9 IC 20-40 (government funds and accounts).
- 10 IC 20-41 (extracurricular funds and accounts).
- 11 IC 20-42.5 (allocation of expenditures to student instruction and
- 12 learning).
- 13 IC 20-43 (state tuition support).
- 14 IC 20-44 (property tax levies).
- 15 IC 20-46 (levies other than general fund levies).
- 16 IC 20-47 (related entities; holding companies; lease agreements).
- 17 IC 20-48 (borrowing and bonds).
- 18 IC 20-49 (state management of common school funds; state
- 19 advances and loans).
- 20 IC 20-50 (homeless children and foster care children).

21 SECTION 38. IC 20-24.2-4-5 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
 22 1, 2026]. Sec. 5: (a) A qualified district may display the words "Indiana  
 23 Performance Qualified School District" on the qualified district's  
 24 correspondence, Internet web site, and any other communications  
 25 representing the qualified district.

26 (b) A qualified high school may display the words "Indiana  
 27 Performance Qualified High School" on the high school's  
 28 correspondence, Internet web site, and any other communications  
 29 representing the high school.

30 SECTION 39. IC 20-24.5-2-10, AS AMENDED BY  
 31 P.L.205-2013, SECTION 237, IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 32 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. A laboratory school  
 33 that:

- 34 (1) is operated without an agreement; and
  - 35 (2) has an ADM in the fall count of a school year of not more
  - 36 than seven hundred fifty (750);
- 37 must be treated as a charter school for purposes of funding under  
 38 ~~IC 20-20-33~~ [IC 20-20.5-9](#) and IC 20-43.

39 SECTION 40. IC 20-25-4-20, AS AMENDED BY P.L.155-2020,  
 40 SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 41 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 20. (a) The general school laws of Indiana and all  
 42 laws and parts of laws applicable to the general system of common

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**HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110**



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1 schools in school cities, so far as not inconsistent with this chapter and  
2 other provisions of this article, and unless made inapplicable by this  
3 article, are in full force and effect in a school city to which this chapter  
4 applies.

5 (b) ~~Notwithstanding IC 20-25-13~~; Staff performance evaluation  
6 plans in a school city shall be developed and implemented as provided  
7 in IC 20-28-11.5-4.

8 SECTION 41. IC 20-25-9-3, AS ADDED BY P.L.1-2005,  
9 SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
10 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. The board shall use the student performance  
11 improvement levels established under IC 20-25-11 to:

- 12 (1) implement the board's plan;
- 13 (2) evaluate school performance; **and**
- 14 (3) publish annual reports. ~~and~~
- 15 ~~(4) determine academic receivership under IC 20-25-15.~~

16 SECTION 42. IC 20-25-9-4 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
17 1, 2026]. ~~Sec. 4: The board shall use student performance improvement  
18 levels to determine whether to place a school in academic receivership  
19 under IC 20-25-15.~~

20 SECTION 43. IC 20-25-13 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
21 1, 2026]. (Staff Performance Evaluations).

22 SECTION 44. IC 20-25-15 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
23 1, 2026]. (Academic Receivership).

24 SECTION 45. IC 20-26-4-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.233-2015,  
25 SECTION 93, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
26 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) Regular meetings must be held by each  
27 governing body at a time and place established by resolution of the  
28 board or may be incorporated in the rules provided in IC 20-26-5-4. A  
29 notice need not be given **to** a member for holding or taking any action  
30 at a regular meeting.

31 (b) If a meeting is held according to a procedure set forth by  
32 statute or rule and if publication of notice of the meeting is required,  
33 notice of the meeting is not required and need not be given **to** a  
34 member for holding or taking any action at the meeting contemplated  
35 by the notice. The meeting must be held at the time and place specified  
36 in the published notice.

37 (c) Special meetings of a governing body must be held on call by  
38 the governing body's president or by the superintendent of the school  
39 corporation. The call must be evidenced by a written notice specifying  
40 the date, time, and place of the meeting, delivered to each member  
41 personally or sent by mail or telegram so that each member has at least  
42 seventy-two (72) hours notice of the special meeting. Special meetings

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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- 1 must be held at the regular meeting place of the board.
- 2 (d) All meetings of a governing body must be open to the public
- 3 to the extent required by IC 5-14-1.5. The governing body shall comply
- 4 with IC 5-14-1.5.
- 5 (e) If notice of a meeting is required and each member of a
- 6 governing body has waived notice of the meeting, as provided in this
- 7 subsection, notice of the meeting is not necessary. Waiver of notice of
- 8 a meeting by a member consists of the following:
- 9 (1) The member's presence at the meeting.
- 10 (2) The member's execution of a written notice waiving the date,
- 11 time, and place of the meeting, executed either before or after
- 12 the meeting. If a waiver specifies that the waiver was executed
- 13 before the meeting, third persons are entitled to rely on the
- 14 statement.
- 15 (f) At a meeting of the governing body, a majority of the members
- 16 constitutes a quorum. Action may not be taken unless a quorum is
- 17 present. Except where a larger vote is required by statute or rule with
- 18 respect to any matter, a majority of the members present may adopt a
- 19 resolution or take any action.
- 20 (g) All meetings of the governing body for the conduct of business
- 21 must be held within the school corporation, except as follows:
- 22 (1) Meetings may be held at the administrative offices of the
- 23 school corporation if the offices are outside the geographic limits
- 24 of the school corporation but are within a county where all or a
- 25 part of the school corporation is located.
- 26 (2) Meetings may be held at a place where the statute or rule
- 27 according to which a statutory meeting is held permits meeting
- 28 outside the school corporation. ~~as may occur when the meeting~~
- 29 ~~is held jointly with another governing body.~~
- 30 **(3) Meetings held jointly with another governing body must**
- 31 **be held within the boundaries of one (1) of the school**
- 32 **corporations.**
- 33 (h) A governing body may hold up to two (2) training sessions
- 34 each year outside the school corporation. The sessions may be
- 35 conducted as executive sessions under IC 5-14-1.5.
- 36 SECTION 46. IC 20-26-5-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.135-2025,
- 37 SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 38 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) In carrying out the school purposes of a
- 39 school corporation, the governing body acting on the school
- 40 corporation's behalf has the following specific powers:
- 41 (1) In the name of the school corporation, to sue and be sued and
- 42 to enter into contracts in matters permitted by applicable law.

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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However, a governing body may not use funds received from the state to bring or join in an action against the state, unless the governing body is challenging an adverse decision by a state agency, board, or commission.

(2) To take charge of, manage, and conduct the educational affairs of the school corporation and to establish, locate, and provide the necessary schools, school libraries, other libraries where permitted by law, other buildings, facilities, property, and equipment.

(3) To appropriate from the school corporation's ~~general fund (before January 1, 2019) or the school corporation's operations fund (after December 31, 2018)~~ an amount, not to exceed the greater of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) per budget year or one dollar (\$1) per pupil, not to exceed twelve thousand five hundred dollars (\$12,500), based on the school corporation's ADM of the previous year (as defined in IC 20-43-1-7) to promote the best interests of the school corporation through:

- (A) the purchase of meals, decorations, memorabilia, or awards;
- (B) provision for expenses incurred in interviewing job applicants; or
- (C) developing relations with other governmental units.

(4) To do the following:

(A) Acquire, construct, erect, maintain, hold, and contract for construction, erection, or maintenance of real estate, real estate improvements, or an interest in real estate or real estate improvements, as the governing body considers necessary for school purposes, including buildings, parts of buildings, additions to buildings, rooms, gymnasiums, auditoriums, playgrounds, playing and athletic fields, facilities for physical training, buildings for administrative, office, warehouse, repair activities, or housing school owned buses, landscaping, walks, drives, parking areas, roadways, easements and facilities for power, sewer, water, roadway, access, storm and surface water, drinking water, gas, electricity, other utilities and similar purposes, by purchase, either outright for cash (or under conditional sales or purchase money contracts providing for a retention of a security interest by the seller until payment is made or by notes where the contract, security retention, or note is permitted by applicable law), by exchange, by gift, by devise, by eminent domain, by lease with or without option

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to purchase, or by lease under IC 20-47-2, IC 20-47-3, or IC 20-47-5.

(B) Repair, remodel, remove, or demolish, or to contract for the repair, remodeling, removal, or demolition of the real estate, real estate improvements, or interest in the real estate or real estate improvements, as the governing body considers necessary for school purposes.

(C) Provide for conservation measures through utility efficiency programs or under a guaranteed savings contract as described in IC 36-1-12.5.

(5) To acquire personal property or an interest in personal property as the governing body considers necessary for school purposes, including buses, motor vehicles, equipment, apparatus, appliances, books, furniture, and supplies, either by cash purchase or under conditional sales or purchase money contracts providing for a security interest by the seller until payment is made or by notes where the contract, security, retention, or note is permitted by applicable law, by gift, by devise, by loan, or by lease with or without option to purchase and to repair, remodel, remove, relocate, and demolish the personal property. All purchases and contracts specified under the powers authorized under subdivision (4) and this subdivision are subject solely to applicable law relating to purchases and contracting by municipal corporations in general and to the supervisory control of state agencies as provided in section 6 of this chapter.

(6) To sell or exchange real or personal property or interest in real or personal property that, in the opinion of the governing body, is not necessary for school purposes, in accordance with IC 20-26-7 and IC 20-26-7.1, to demolish or otherwise dispose of the property if, in the opinion of the governing body, the property is not necessary for school purposes and is worthless, and to pay the expenses for the demolition or disposition.

(7) Except as provided under subsections (c) and (d), to lease any school property for a rental that the governing body considers reasonable or to permit the free use of school property for:

- (A) civic or public purposes; or
- (B) the operation of a school age child care program for children who are at least five (5) years of age and less than fifteen (15) years of age that operates before or after the school day, or both, and during periods when school is not in session;

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1 if the school property continues to be used primarily for  
 2 classroom instruction by the school corporation, is not subject to  
 3 closure under IC 20-26-7-47, and is not a covered school  
 4 building that must be made available for lease or purchase under  
 5 IC 20-26-7.1. Under this subdivision, the governing body may  
 6 enter into a lease or use agreement with a nonprofit corporation,  
 7 community service organization, or other governmental entity,  
 8 if the corporation, organization, or other governmental entity will  
 9 use the property to be leased for civic or public purposes or for  
 10 a school age child care program. However, if payment for the  
 11 property subject to a lease or use agreement is made from money  
 12 in the school corporation's debt service fund, all proceeds from  
 13 the lease or use agreement must be deposited in the school  
 14 corporation's debt service fund so long as payment for the  
 15 property has not been made. The governing body may, at the  
 16 governing body's option, use the procedure specified in  
 17 IC 36-1-11-10 in leasing property under this subdivision. If the  
 18 school property is not being used primarily for classroom  
 19 instruction or is subject to closure under IC 20-26-7-47, the  
 20 governing body must first comply with IC 20-26-7 and  
 21 IC 20-26-7.1 before leasing the school property under this  
 22 subdivision.

- 23 (8) To do the following:
- 24 (A) Employ, contract for, and discharge superintendents,  
 25 supervisors, principals, teachers, librarians, athletic coaches  
 26 (whether or not they are otherwise employed by the school  
 27 corporation and whether or not they are licensed under  
 28 IC 20-28-5), business managers, superintendents of  
 29 buildings and grounds, janitors, engineers, architects,  
 30 physicians, dentists, nurses, accountants, teacher aides  
 31 performing noninstructional duties, educational and other  
 32 professional consultants, data processing and computer  
 33 service for school purposes, including the making of  
 34 schedules, the keeping and analyzing of grades and other  
 35 student data, the keeping and preparing of warrants, payroll,  
 36 and similar data where approved by the state board of  
 37 accounts as provided below, and other personnel or services  
 38 as the governing body considers necessary for school  
 39 purposes.
  - 40 (B) Fix and pay the salaries and compensation of persons  
 41 and services described in this subdivision that are consistent  
 42 with IC 20-28-9-1.5.

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**HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110**



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(C) Classify persons or services described in this subdivision and to adopt a compensation plan with a salary range that is consistent with IC 20-28-9-1.5.

(D) Determine the number of the persons or the amount of the services employed or contracted for as provided in this subdivision.

(E) Determine the nature and extent of the duties of the persons described in this subdivision.

The compensation, terms of employment, and discharge of teachers are, however, subject to and governed by the laws relating to employment, contracting, compensation, and discharge of teachers. The compensation, terms of employment, and discharge of bus drivers are subject to and governed by laws relating to employment, contracting, compensation, and discharge of bus drivers.

(9) Notwithstanding the appropriation limitation in subdivision (3), when the governing body by resolution considers a trip by an employee of the school corporation or by a member of the governing body to be in the interest of the school corporation, including attending meetings, conferences, or examining equipment, buildings, and installation in other areas, to permit the employee to be absent in connection with the trip without any loss in pay and to reimburse the employee or the member the employee's or member's reasonable lodging and meal expenses and necessary transportation expenses. To pay teaching personnel for time spent in sponsoring and working with school related trips or activities.

(10) Subject to IC 20-27-13, to transport children to and from school, when in the opinion of the governing body the transportation is necessary, including considerations for the safety of the children. The transportation must be otherwise in accordance with applicable law.

(11) To provide a lunch program for a part or all of the students attending the schools of the school corporation, including the establishment of kitchens, kitchen facilities, kitchen equipment, lunch rooms, the hiring of the necessary personnel to operate the lunch program, and the purchase of material and supplies for the lunch program, charging students for the operational costs of the lunch program, fixing the price per meal or per food item. To operate the lunch program as an extracurricular activity, subject to the supervision of the governing body. To participate in a surplus commodity or lunch aid program.

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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- (12) To:
  - (A) purchase curricular materials and to furnish curricular materials without cost; and
  - (B) assess and collect a reasonable fee for lost or significantly damaged curricular materials.
- (13) To accept students transferred from other school corporations and to transfer students to other school corporations in accordance with applicable law.
- (14) To make budgets, to appropriate funds, and to disburse the money of the school corporation in accordance with applicable law. To borrow money against current tax collections and otherwise to borrow money, in accordance with IC 20-48-1.
- (15) To purchase insurance or to establish and maintain a program of self-insurance relating to the liability of the school corporation or the school corporation's employees in connection with motor vehicles or property and for additional coverage to the extent permitted and in accordance with IC 34-13-3-20. To purchase additional insurance or to establish and maintain a program of self-insurance protecting the school corporation and members of the governing body, employees, contractors, or agents of the school corporation from liability, risk, accident, or loss related to school property, school contract, school or school related activity, including the purchase of insurance or the establishment and maintenance of a self-insurance program protecting persons described in this subdivision against false imprisonment, false arrest, libel, or slander for acts committed in the course of the persons' employment, protecting the school corporation for fire and extended coverage and other casualty risks to the extent of replacement cost, loss of use, and other insurable risks relating to property owned, leased, or held by the school corporation. In accordance with IC 20-26-17, to:
  - (A) participate in a state employee health plan under IC 5-10-8-6.7;
  - (B) purchase insurance; or
  - (C) establish and maintain a program of self-insurance; to benefit school corporation employees, including accident, sickness, health, or dental coverage, provided that a plan of self-insurance must include an aggregate stop-loss provision.
- (16) Enter into agreements with one (1) or more other school corporations for a cooperative program of self-insurance protecting the school corporations and members of the governing bodies, employees, contractors, or agents of the**

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 school corporations from liability, risk, accident, or loss  
 2 related to school property, school contract, school or school  
 3 related activity, including maintenance of a cooperative  
 4 self-insurance program protecting persons described in this  
 5 subdivision against false imprisonment, false arrest, libel, or  
 6 slander for acts committed in the course of the persons'  
 7 employment, protecting the school corporation for fire and  
 8 extended coverage and other casualty risks to the extent of  
 9 replacement cost, loss of use, and other insurable risks  
 10 relating to property owned, leased, or held by the school  
 11 corporations. This subdivision does not authorize a  
 12 governing body to enter into agreements with one (1) or  
 13 more school corporations for the provision of health  
 14 insurance coverage.

15 ~~(16)~~ (17) To make all applications, to enter into all contracts, and  
 16 to sign all documents necessary for the receipt of aid, money, or  
 17 property from the state, the federal government, or from any  
 18 other source.

19 ~~(17)~~ (18) To defend a member of the governing body or any  
 20 employee of the school corporation in any suit arising out of the  
 21 performance of the member's or employee's duties for or  
 22 employment with, the school corporation, if the governing body  
 23 by resolution determined that the action was taken in good faith.  
 24 To save any member or employee harmless from any liability,  
 25 cost, or damage in connection with the performance, including  
 26 the payment of legal fees, except where the liability, cost, or  
 27 damage is predicated on or arises out of the bad faith of the  
 28 member or employee, or is a claim or judgment based on the  
 29 member's or employee's malfeasance in office or employment.

30 ~~(18)~~ (19) To prepare, make, enforce, amend, or repeal rules,  
 31 regulations, and procedures:

32 (A) for the government and management of the schools,  
 33 property, facilities, and activities of the school corporation,  
 34 the school corporation's agents, employees, and pupils and  
 35 for the operation of the governing body; and

36 (B) that may be designated by an appropriate title such as  
 37 "policy handbook", "bylaws", or "rules and regulations".

38 ~~(19)~~ (20) To ratify and approve any action taken by a member of  
 39 the governing body, an officer of the governing body, or an  
 40 employee of the school corporation after the action is taken, if  
 41 the action could have been approved in advance, and in  
 42 connection with the action to pay the expense or compensation

HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 permitted under IC 20-26-1 through IC 20-26-5, IC 20-26-7,  
 2 IC 20-26-12-1, IC 20-40-12, and IC 20-48-1 or any other law.  
 3 ~~(20)~~ **(21)** To exercise any other power and make any expenditure  
 4 in carrying out the governing body's general powers and  
 5 purposes provided in this chapter or in carrying out the powers  
 6 delineated in this section which is reasonable from a business or  
 7 educational standpoint in carrying out school purposes of the  
 8 school corporation, including the acquisition of property or the  
 9 employment or contracting for services, even though the power  
 10 or expenditure is not specifically set out in this chapter. The  
 11 specific powers set out in this section do not limit the general  
 12 grant of powers provided in this chapter except where a  
 13 limitation is set out in IC 20-26-1 through IC 20-26-5,  
 14 IC 20-26-7, IC 20-40-12, IC 20-40-18 (after December 31,  
 15 2018), and IC 20-48-1 by specific language or by reference to  
 16 other law.

17 (b) A superintendent hired under subsection (a)(8):  
 18 (1) is not required to hold a teacher's license under IC 20-28-5;  
 19 and  
 20 (2) is preferred to have obtained at least a master's degree from  
 21 an accredited postsecondary institution.

22 (c) The governing body acting on the school corporation's behalf  
 23 may renew a lease or memorandum of understanding described in  
 24 IC 20-26-7.1-3(d) with a nonprofit organization as described in  
 25 IC 20-26-7.1-3(d).

26 (d) The governing body acting on the school corporation's behalf  
 27 may lease any school property for a rental to one (1) or both of the  
 28 following:

- 29 (1) The Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired  
 30 established by IC 20-21-2-1.
- 31 (2) The Indiana School for the Deaf established by IC 20-22-2-1.

32 This subsection expires June 30, 2030.

33 SECTION 47. IC 20-26-5-10, AS AMENDED BY P.L.9-2024,  
 34 SECTION 389, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 35 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) This section applies to a:

- 36 (1) school corporation;
- 37 (2) charter school; or
- 38 (3) nonpublic school that employs one (1) or more employees.

39 (b) A school corporation, a charter school, and a nonpublic school  
 40 shall adopt a policy concerning criminal history information for  
 41 individuals who:

- 42 (1) apply for:

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**HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110**



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1 (A) employment with the school corporation, charter  
 2 school, or nonpublic school; or  
 3 (B) employment with an entity with which the school  
 4 corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school contracts  
 5 for services;  
 6 (2) seek to enter into a contract to provide services to the school  
 7 corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school; or  
 8 (3) are employed by an entity that seeks to enter into a contract  
 9 to provide services to the school corporation, charter school, or  
 10 nonpublic school;  
 11 if the individuals are likely to have direct, ongoing contact with  
 12 children within the scope of the individuals' employment.  
 13 (c) Except as provided in subsections (f) and (g), a school  
 14 corporation, a charter school, and a nonpublic school shall administer  
 15 a policy adopted under this section uniformly for all individuals to  
 16 whom the policy applies.  
 17 (d) A policy adopted under this section must require that the  
 18 school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school conduct an  
 19 expanded criminal history check concerning each applicant for  
 20 employment who is likely to have direct, ongoing contact with children  
 21 within the scope of the individual's employment before or not later than  
 22 thirty (30) days after the start date of the applicant's employment by the  
 23 school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school. If a vendor  
 24 providing an expanded criminal history check offers more than one (1)  
 25 type of expanded criminal history check, the policy shall require that  
 26 the school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school evaluate all  
 27 available types of criminal history checks and determine whether a  
 28 more comprehensive expanded criminal history check would better  
 29 protect the students.  
 30 (e) A policy adopted under this section:  
 31 (1) must require that the school corporation, charter school, or  
 32 nonpublic school conduct an Indiana expanded child protection  
 33 index check; and  
 34 (2) may require that the school corporation, charter school, or  
 35 nonpublic school conduct an expanded child protection index  
 36 check in other states;  
 37 concerning each applicant for employment who is likely to have direct,  
 38 ongoing contact with children within the scope of the individual's  
 39 employment. An Indiana expanded child protection index check must  
 40 be completed before or not later than sixty (60) days after the start date  
 41 of the applicant's employment by the school corporation, charter  
 42 school, or nonpublic school.

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 (f) A policy adopted under this section must state that the school  
 2 corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school requires an expanded  
 3 criminal history check concerning an employee of the school  
 4 corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school who is likely to have  
 5 direct, ongoing contact with children within the scope of the  
 6 employee's employment. The checks must be conducted every five (5)  
 7 years. A school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school may  
 8 adopt a policy to require an employee to obtain an expanded child  
 9 protection index check every five (5) years.

10 (g) In implementing subsection (f), and subject to subsection (j),  
 11 a school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school may update  
 12 the checks required under subsection (f) for employees who are  
 13 employed by the school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic  
 14 school as of July 1, 2017, over a period not to exceed five (5) years by  
 15 annually conducting updated expanded criminal history checks and  
 16 expanded child protection index checks for at least one-fifth (1/5) of  
 17 the number of employees who are employed by the school corporation,  
 18 charter school, or nonpublic school on July 1, 2017.

19 (h) An applicant or employee may be required to provide a written  
 20 consent for the school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school  
 21 to request an expanded criminal history check and an expanded child  
 22 protection index check concerning the individual before the  
 23 individual's employment by the school corporation, charter school, or  
 24 nonpublic school. The school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic  
 25 school may require the individual to provide a set of fingerprints and  
 26 pay any fees required for the expanded criminal history check and  
 27 expanded child protection index check. Each applicant for employment  
 28 or employee described in subsection (f) may be required:

- 29 (1) at the time the individual applies or updates an expanded
- 30 criminal history check under subsection (f); or
- 31 (2) while an expanded criminal history check or expanded child
- 32 protection index check is being conducted;
- 33 to answer questions concerning the individual's expanded criminal
- 34 history check and expanded child protection index check. The failure
- 35 to answer honestly questions asked under this subsection is grounds for
- 36 termination of the employee's employment.

37 (i) An applicant is responsible for all costs associated with  
 38 obtaining the expanded criminal history check and expanded child  
 39 protection index check unless the school corporation, charter school,  
 40 or nonpublic school agrees to pay the costs. A school corporation,  
 41 charter school, or nonpublic school may agree to pay the costs  
 42 associated with obtaining an expanded criminal history background

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1 check for an employee. An employee of a school corporation, charter  
2 school, or nonpublic school may not be required to pay the costs of an  
3 expanded child protection index check.

4 (j) An applicant or employee may not be required by a school  
5 corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school to obtain an expanded  
6 criminal history check more than one (1) time during a five (5) year  
7 period. However, a school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic  
8 school may obtain an expanded criminal history check or an expanded  
9 child protection index check at any time if the school corporation,  
10 charter school, or nonpublic school has reason to believe that the  
11 applicant or employee:

12 (1) is the subject of a substantiated report of child abuse or  
13 neglect; or

14 (2) has been charged with or convicted of a crime listed in  
15 section 11.2(b) of this chapter or ~~IC 20-28-5-8(c).~~ **[**  
16 **IC 20-28-5-8(b).**

17 (k) As used in this subsection, "offense requiring license  
18 revocation" means an offense listed in ~~IC 20-28-5-8(c).~~ **[**  
19 **IC 20-28-5-8(b).** A policy adopted under this section must prohibit a  
20 school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school from:

21 (1) hiring;

22 (2) continuing the employment of;

23 (3) contracting with; or

24 (4) continuing to contract with;

25 a person who has been convicted of an offense requiring license  
26 revocation, unless the conviction has been reversed, vacated, or set  
27 aside on appeal.

28 (l) Information obtained under this section must be used in  
29 accordance with law.

30 SECTION 48. IC 20-26-5-18 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
31 1, 2026]. ~~Sec. 18: For purposes of section 1 of this chapter and under  
32 the powers of section 4(a)(20) of this chapter, the governing body of  
33 any school corporation may join and associate with groups of other  
34 school corporations within Indiana in regional school study councils to  
35 examine common school problems and exchange educational  
36 information of mutual benefit, and dues to the study councils shall be  
37 paid by the school corporation from the operations fund.~~

38 SECTION 49. IC 20-26-5-19 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
39 1, 2026]. ~~Sec. 19: A governing body under its powers to fix and pay the  
40 salaries and compensation of employees of the school corporation and  
41 to contract for services under section 4(a)(8) of this chapter may  
42 distribute payroll based on contractual and compensation plan~~

HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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commitments instead of payroll estimates approved in advance by the governing body:

SECTION 50. IC 20-26-5-23 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 23: Public school corporations may enter into agreements with postsecondary educational institutions to provide teaching experience for students of the institutions preparing for the educational profession and for the services of persons working jointly for the school corporation and an institution:

SECTION 51. IC 20-26-5-24 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 24: (a) An agreement under section 23 of this chapter must set out the responsibilities and rights of the public school corporations; the institutions; and the students or persons who supervise the students and who are working jointly for a school corporation and an institution:

(b) An agreement must contain:

(1) a provision for the payment of an honorarium for consulting services by the postsecondary educational institution directly to the supervisor;

(2) a provision that, if the sum paid by the institution to the supervisor should ever be lawfully determined to be a wage rather than an honorarium by an instrumentality of the United States, then the postsecondary educational institution shall be considered under the agreement to be the supervisor's part-time employer; and

(3) a provision requiring a student to be supervised by a certificated employee:

(c) The provision required by subsection (b)(3) must be included in an agreement entered into or renewed under this chapter after June 30, 2015. Public school corporations and postsecondary educational institutions shall revise agreements in effect on July 1, 2015, to include the provisions required by subsection (b):

SECTION 52. IC 20-26-5-29 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 29: A school corporation may establish and maintain nursery schools from the same revenue in the same manner as other grades and departments in the common schools of the school corporation are provided for and may apply for and receive from any state or federal governmental agency any funds as may be made available through the agencies for that purpose:

SECTION 53. IC 20-26-5-30 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 30: A school corporation may use funds under IC 36-12-15-4 for the aid, maintenance, and support of nursery schools conducted by an association incorporated to operate a nursery school:

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 SECTION 54. IC 20-26-5-32 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
2 1, 2026]. Sec. 32: The department shall:  
3 (1) create a list of best practices to reduce student discipline; and  
4 (2) post the list on the department's website.

5 SECTION 55. IC 20-26-5-32.4 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE  
6 JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 32.4: The Department of Education shall create a  
7 document explaining aspects of autism including behaviors that  
8 students with autism may exhibit. Said document is to be distributed to  
9 school corporations for distribution to noncertificated employees (as  
10 defined in IC 20-29-2-11).

11 SECTION 56. IC 20-26-5-33 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
12 1, 2026]. Sec. 33: A school corporation may offer classes, instruction,  
13 or programs regarding the potential risks and consequences of creating  
14 and sharing sexually suggestive or explicit materials through cellular  
15 telephones, social networking web sites, computer networks, and other  
16 digital media.

17 SECTION 57. IC 20-26-5-36 ~~<AS>~~ [.5 IS] ADDED ~~<BY~~  
18 ~~P.L.213-2015,>~~ [TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW] SECTION ~~<~~  
19 ~~167, IS AMENDED>~~ TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
20 ~~<JULY>~~ [UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 36.5. (a) Not later than July] 1,  
21 ~~2026<]. Sec. 36. (a) Each school year, the governing body of a~~  
22 ~~school corporation may spend an amount for remediation~~  
23 ~~programs for students enrolled in kindergarten through grade 12~~  
24 ~~not to exceed one percent (1%) of the state tuition support that the~~  
25 ~~school corporation receives for the school year.~~  
26 ~~— (b) (a) A remediation program for any subset of students~~  
27 ~~enrolled in>], the department of education shall develop and~~  
28 ~~provide a survey for each school corporation to provide~~  
29 ~~information concerning the adequacy of existing funding for]~~  
30 ~~kindergarten through grade 12 <must be in writing and adopted at~~  
31 ~~a public hearing of the governing body> [remediation programs.~~  
32 (b) The survey described in subsection (a) shall consist of  
33 multiple choice prompts and open ended responses to assess the  
34 opportunities and barriers that exist for school corporations to  
35 adequately fund remediation programs.  
36 (c) The survey developed by the department shall collect the  
37 following information:  
38 (1) The data each school corporation maintains for  
39 remediation programs, including:  
40 (A) the number of students;  
41 (B) grade level needs;  
42 (C) subject matter needs; and

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(D) demographics.

(2) The amount the school corporation spends on remediation in the aggregate and per student who is in need, per school year and over the last five (5) years.

(3) The gap, if any, that exists in funding received by a school corporation for remediation programs and the amount the school corporation estimates is needed to fully fund remediation programs.

(4) Elements of the school ~~<corporation before the governing body may spend money for the>~~ [corporation's] remediation <program.

~~—(c)(b) After>~~ [programs that] the ~~<governing body of a>~~ school corporation ~~<adopts a>~~ [performs well.

(5) Challenges, other than funding, the school corporation faces in providing] remediation <program under subsection (b), (a), the> [programs.

(d) Each] school corporation shall <promptly file the adopted plan with the department. The department shall review a plan for a remediation program adopted by the governing body of a school corporation and may comment on the plan.> [respond to the survey developed by the department under subsection (a) not later than September 30, 2026.

(e) Not later than December 1, 2026, the department of education shall compile and analyze the results of the survey described in this section and provide the findings in a report to the legislative council in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.

(f) This section expires July 1, 2027.]

SECTION 58. IC 20-26-5-40.5, AS AMENDED BY THE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS BILL OF THE 2026 GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 40.5. (a) ~~Not later than January 1, 2022,~~ Each school corporation and charter school shall adopt and implement an Internet use policy that:

(1) prohibits the sending, receiving, viewing, or downloading of materials that are harmful to minors (as described in IC 35-49-2-2) on computers and other technology related devices owned by the school corporation or charter school;

(2) provides for the use of hardware or installation of software on computers and other technology related devices described in subdivision (1) to filter or block Internet access to materials that are harmful to minors; and

(3) establishes appropriate disciplinary measures to be taken

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1           against persons violating the policy established under this  
2           section.  
3           (b) ~~Not later than January 1, 2022~~; Each school corporation and  
4 charter school shall use hardware or install software on computers and  
5 other technology related devices described in subsection (a)(1) to filter  
6 or block Internet access to materials that are harmful to minors.  
7           (c) ~~Each school corporation and charter school shall post on the~~  
8 ~~school corporation's or charter school's website the Internet use policy~~  
9 ~~established under subsection (a)~~;  
10           SECTION 59. IC 20-26-5-40.7, AS ADDED BY P.L.24-2024,  
11 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
12 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 40.7. (a) As used in this section, "instructional  
13 time" has the meaning set forth in IC 20-30-2-1.  
14           (b) As used in this section, "wireless communication device"  
15 means any portable wireless device that has the capability to provide  
16 voice, messaging, or other data communication between two (2) or  
17 more parties, including a:  
18           (1) cellular telephone;  
19           (2) tablet computer;  
20           (3) laptop computer; or  
21           (4) gaming device.  
22           (c) Each school corporation and charter school shall adopt and  
23 implement a wireless communication device policy that:  
24           (1) except as provided in subdivisions (2) and (3) and subsection  
25 (d), prohibits a student from using a wireless communication  
26 device during instructional time;  
27           (2) authorizes a teacher to allow a student to use a wireless  
28 communication device for educational purposes during  
29 instructional time; and  
30           (3) permits a student to use a wireless communication device in  
31 the event of an emergency or to manage the student's health care.  
32           (d) The policy adopted and implemented under subsection (c) may  
33 not prohibit a student from using a wireless communication device  
34 during instructional time if the use of the wireless communication  
35 device is included in the student's:  
36           (1) individualized education program; or  
37           (2) plan developed under Section 504 of the federal  
38 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. 794.  
39           (c) ~~Each school corporation and charter school shall publish on its~~  
40 ~~website the wireless communication device policy established under~~  
41 ~~subsection (c)~~;  
42           SECTION 60. IC 20-26-5-41, AS AMENDED BY P.L.181-2025,

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 SECTION 8, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
2 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 41. The governing body of a school corporation  
3 **or the equivalent for a charter school** may enter into a public-private  
4 agreement for the construction or renovation of school buildings under  
5 IC 5-23.

6 SECTION 61. IC 20-26-5-42.1 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE  
7 JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 42.1: (a) Not later than April 15 of each year, each  
8 school corporation and charter school shall report to the department the  
9 number of students who meet the following conditions during the  
10 student's expected graduation year (as defined in IC 20-26-13-4):

- 11 (1) The student was enrolled in the school corporation on the fall
- 12 count day of ADM established under IC 20-43-4-3.
- 13 (2) The student successfully completed Indiana high school
- 14 graduation requirements before the day in February fixed by the
- 15 state board for the spring count of students under IC 20-43-4-3.
- 16 (3) The student was not enrolled in the school corporation on the
- 17 day in February fixed by the state board for the spring count of
- 18 students under IC 20-43-4-3.

19 (b) In addition to the number provided under subsection (a), each  
20 school corporation and charter school shall submit information  
21 prescribed by the department that is necessary to verify the number  
22 reported under subsection (a):

23 SECTION 62. IC 20-26-5-43 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
24 1, 2026]. Sec. 43: Each school corporation shall publish on the school  
25 corporation's website the graduation rate for each high school in the  
26 school corporation.

27 SECTION 63. IC 20-26-5-46, AS ADDED BY P.L.165-2025,  
28 SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
29 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 46. (a) Not later than January 1, 2026, each school  
30 corporation shall ensure at least one (1) employee in each school  
31 building that is used for classroom instruction:

- 32 (1) has obtained nonviolent crisis intervention training; and
- 33 (2) is present in the school building during the school year while
- 34 school is in session.

35 (b) An employee described in subsection (a) shall be available:  
36 (1) for de-escalation and to respond to instances where  
37 de-escalation is needed; and  
38 (2) to respond to any use of:

- 39 (A) a chemical restraint (as defined in IC 20-20-40-2); <> [
- 40 IC 20-20.5-13-2);
- 41 (B) a mechanical restraint (as defined in IC 20-20-40-4); <
- 42 > [ IC 20-20.5-13-4);

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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- 1 (C) physical restraint (as defined in ~~IC 20-20-40-5~~); ~~<=>~~ [
- 2 **IC 20-20.5-13-5**];
- 3 (D) seclusion (as defined in ~~IC 20-20-40-9~~); ~~<=>~~ [
- 4 **IC 20-20.5-13-9**]; or
- 5 (E) time-out (as defined in ~~IC 20-20-40-10~~); ~~<=>~~ [
- 6 **IC 20-20.5-13-10**].

7 SECTION 64. IC 20-26-7-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.233-2015,  
 8 SECTION 109, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 9 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. If a ~~common~~ school corporation  
 10 has acquired or acquires any personal property or real estate by gift,  
 11 devise, or bequest concerning which the donor or testator, at the time  
 12 of making the gift, bequest, or devise, does not include conditions or  
 13 directions concerning the gift, bequest, or devise inconsistent with this  
 14 section, the principal of the gifts, devises, and bequests is inviolate, but  
 15 the interest, rents, incomes, issues, and profits thereof may be expended  
 16 by the school corporation.

17 SECTION 65. IC 20-26-7-13, AS ADDED BY P.L.1-2005,  
 18 SECTION 10, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 19 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 13. If:

- 20 (1) the trustees of school corporations of a city or town believe;
  - 21 or
  - 22 (2) the township trustee of a township believes;
- 23 it is necessary to purchase any real estate on which to build a ~~<=>~~ [
- 24 ~~schoolhouse,~~ **school**, or for any other purpose connected with the real
- 25 estate, the township trustee or school trustees, or a majority of them,
- 26 may file a petition in the circuit court of the county asking for the
- 27 appointment of appraisers to appraise and assess the value of the real
- 28 estate.

29 SECTION 66. IC 20-26-7-26, AS ADDED BY P.L.1-2005,  
 30 SECTION 10, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 31 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 26. (a) A ~~common~~ school corporation:

- 32 (1) has the same powers; and
  - 33 (2) is subject to the same duties and liabilities;
- 34 concerning municipal assessments for the cost of public improvements
- 35 affecting the common school corporation's real estate that private
- 36 owners of real estate possess or to which private owners of real estate
- 37 are subject.
- 38 (b) The real estate of a ~~common~~ school corporation is subject to
- 39 liens for municipal assessments for public improvements if the real
- 40 estate:
- 41 (1) had been owned by a private owner; and
  - 42 (2) would have been subject to a lien at the time the lien was

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attached.

(c) A penalty or an attorney's fee concerning a municipal assessment may not be collected from a school corporation.

SECTION 67. IC 20-26-7-36 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 36. Before the governing body exercises power granted by any law to spend more than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) to build, repair, or alter school buildings that would be financed by:

- (1) entering into a lease agreement under IC 20-47-2-11 through IC 20-47-2-14 or IC 20-47-3-9 through IC 20-47-3-12;
- (2) issuing bonds under IC 20-48-1; or
- (3) any other available method;

the governing body may order the preparation and pay the costs of a feasibility study.

SECTION 68. IC 20-26-9-11 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 41. The secretary of education may, to the extent that funds are available and in cooperation with other appropriate agencies and organizations, do the following:

- (1) Conduct studies of methods of improving and expending school lunch programs and promoting nutritional education in the schools.
- (2) Conduct appraisals of the nutritive benefits of school lunch programs.
- (3) Report the findings and recommendations periodically to the governor.

SECTION 69. IC 20-26-10-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.234-2007, SECTION 104, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. As used in sections 2 through 9 of this chapter, "joint program" means the joint employment of personnel, joint purchase of supplies or other material, or joint purchase or lease of equipment, joint lease of land or buildings, or both, or joint construction of, remodeling of, or additions to school buildings, by two (2) or more school corporations, for a particular program or purpose. The term includes the joint investment of money under IC 5-13, data processing operations, career and technical education, psychological services, audiovisual services, guidance services, special education, and joint purchasing related to the acquisition of supplies or equipment that are not to be used jointly.

SECTION 70. IC 20-26-10-2, AS ADDED BY P.L.1-2005, SECTION 10, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. As used in sections 3 through 9 of this chapter, "participating school corporations" means all school corporations engaging in a joint program.

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



1 SECTION 71. IC 20-26-10-5 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
2 1, 2026]. Sec. 5: (a) A teacher employed in a joint program who does  
3 not have existing years of service in one (1) of the member  
4 corporations of the joint program is considered to have been employed  
5 as a teacher by the governing body that is administering the joint  
6 program at the time that the teacher is first employed by the joint  
7 program:

8 (b) The teacher is entitled to the same rights and privileges as set  
9 forth in IC 20-28-6 through IC 20-28-10 as if employed as a regular  
10 teacher by the governing body that is administering the joint program  
11 at the time that the teacher is first employed by the joint program:

12 SECTION 72. IC 20-26-10-6 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
13 1, 2026]. Sec. 6: A teacher who has existing years of service in one (1)  
14 of the member school corporations of the joint program shall retain the  
15 same rights and privileges as set forth in IC 20-28-6 through  
16 IC 20-28-10 as if still employed as a teacher in the school corporation  
17 in which the teacher has already acquired years of service:

18 SECTION 73. IC 20-26-10-7 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
19 1, 2026]. Sec. 7: (a) A teacher who loses the teacher's job in a joint  
20 program because of:

- 21 (1) a reduction in services;
- 22 (2) a reorganization;
- 23 (3) the discontinuance of the joint program; or
- 24 (4) a withdrawal in whole or in part of a participating school  
25 from the joint program;

26 shall be accorded the same rights that are provided under  
27 IC 20-35-5-11 for teachers from special education cooperatives:

- 28 (b) A teacher who:
  - 29 (1) is employed in a joint program under this chapter;
  - 30 (2) loses the teacher's job in the joint program as described in  
31 subsection (a); and
  - 32 (3) subsequently is employed by a participating school  
33 corporation as described in subsection (a);

34 retains the rights and privileges under IC 20-28-6 through IC 20-28-10  
35 that the teacher held at the time the teacher lost the job in the joint  
36 program as described in subdivision (2):

37 SECTION 74. IC 20-26-10-9 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
38 1, 2026]. Sec. 9: (a) The governing bodies of participating school  
39 corporations may pay into a joint fund; to be known as the joint  
40 investment fund; all or part of the money the governing bodies may  
41 otherwise invest under IC 5-13-9. The fund shall be administered by  
42 the governing body of the school corporation designated in the written

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1 agreement under section 3 of this chapter. The designated governing  
2 body shall receive; invest; maintain an account for; and disburse the  
3 fund in the same manner as prescribed for other funds for the  
4 governing body representing money available for investment and in  
5 accordance with the written agreement.

6 (b) With respect to an investment described in IC 5-13-9, quotes  
7 may be solicited and received orally; and the investment shall be made  
8 with the designated depository that submitted the highest quote. If two  
9 (2) or more designated depositories submit the highest quote, the  
10 investment shall be made either:

- 11 (1) by dividing the investment among the depositories so as not
- 12 to lose the benefits of the quotes received; or
- 13 (2) if division is not practicable; by lot.

14 (c) The designated depository holding the investment shall remit  
15 to the governing body administering the joint program any money due  
16 under the investment on the date the investment matures and in the  
17 manner directed by the governing body. A designated depository  
18 participating in an agreement for joint investment of money under  
19 IC 5-13 shall provide a detailed accounting of the transactions as  
20 required for audit purposes by the state board of accounts.

21 SECTION 75. IC 20-26-10-12 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE  
22 JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 12: The purchasing of equipment, supplies, and  
23 materials shall be under the same laws and regulations as the  
24 purchasing would be if it were by a single school corporation.  
25 However, the bids shall be submitted by the superintendent of county  
26 schools to the participating corporations for approval.

27 SECTION 76. IC 20-26-11-10, AS AMENDED BY P.L.2-2007,  
28 SECTION 212, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
29 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) A student who is the child  
30 of a state employee who resides on state owned property; resides on  
31 state owned property; or is the child of a full-time employee of a state  
32 educational institution; who resides on property owned or operated by  
33 the state educational institution and used for educational, research, or  
34 public service programs is considered a transferred student if:

- 35 (1) the student attends a public school in the school corporation
- 36 located nearest to the student's residence within the county in
- 37 which all or a part of either the state owned property; or the
- 38 property owned or operated by the state supported postsecondary
- 39 institution; is located; or
- 40 (2) the state owned property is the Soldiers' and Sailors'
- 41 Children's Home and the student attends a public school in the
- 42 county in which the home is located or in an adjacent county.

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1 Transfer tuition for a student transferred under this subsection shall be  
2 paid by the state. However, this subsection does not apply to children  
3 of state employees residing in student housing on property owned by  
4 any state educational institution.

5 (b) A foreign student visiting in Indiana under any student  
6 exchange program approved by the state board is considered a resident  
7 student with legal settlement in the school corporation where the  
8 foreign exchange student resides. The student may attend a school in  
9 the school corporation in which the family with whom the student is  
10 living resides. A school corporation that receives a foreign student may  
11 not be paid any transfer tuition. The school corporation shall include  
12 the foreign student in computations to determine the amount of state  
13 aid that it is entitled to receive.

14 SECTION 77. IC 20-26-11-15, AS ADDED BY P.L.1-2005,  
15 SECTION 10, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
16 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 15. (a) The state board shall hear the following:

17 ~~(1) AH appeals from an order expelling a child under~~  
18 ~~IC 20-33-8-17.~~

19 ~~(2) (1) All appeals provided in this chapter.~~

20 ~~(3) (2) All disputes on the following:~~

- 21 (A) Legal settlement.
- 22 (B) Right to transfer.
- 23 (C) Right to attend school in any school corporation.
- 24 (D) Amount of transfer tuition.
- 25 (E) Any other matter arising under this chapter.

26 The board shall hold a hearing on the timely written application of any  
27 interested party.

28 (b) The state board shall make its determination under the  
29 following procedure:

- 30 (1) A hearing shall be held on each matter presented.
- 31 (2) Each interested party, including where appropriate, the  
32 parents, the student, the transferor corporation, the transferee  
33 corporation, or the state, shall be given at least ten (10) days  
34 notice of the hearing by certified mail or by personal delivery.
- 35 (3) The date of giving the notice is the date of mailing or  
36 delivery.
- 37 (4) Any interested party may appear at the hearing in person or  
38 by counsel, present evidence, cross-examine witnesses, and  
39 present in writing or orally summary statements of position.
- 40 (5) A written or recorded transcript of the hearing shall be made.
- 41 (6) The hearing may be held by the state board or by a hearing  
42 examiner appointed by it who must be a state employee.

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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- 1 (7) The hearing, at the option of the state board or hearing
- 2 examiner, may be held at any place in Indiana.
- 3 (8) The hearing examiner shall make written findings of fact and
- 4 recommendations.
- 5 (9) The determination of the state board must be made on the
- 6 basis of the record, summaries, and findings, but it is required to
- 7 examine only those parts of the entire record as it considers
- 8 necessary.
- 9 (c) The hearing and proceedings are not governed by IC 4-21.5.
- 10 (d) The determination of the state board is final and binding on the
- 11 parties to the proceeding.
- 12 (e) A notice of the state board's determination shall be mailed to
- 13 each party by certified mail. An action to contest the validity of the
- 14 decision may not be instituted more than thirty (30) days after the
- 15 mailing of the notice.
- 16 SECTION 78. IC 20-26-12-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.214-2025,
- 17 SECTION 94, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 18 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) but
- 19 notwithstanding any other law, each governing body of a school
- 20 corporation and each organizer of a charter school shall purchase from
- 21 a publisher, either individually or through a purchasing cooperative of
- 22 school corporations, as applicable, the curricular materials selected by
- 23 the proper local officials, and shall provide at no cost the curricular
- 24 materials to each student enrolled in the school corporation or charter
- 25 school. Curricular materials provided to a student under this section
- 26 remain the property of the governing body of the school corporation or
- 27 organizer of the charter school.
- 28 (b) This section does not prohibit a governing body of a school
- 29 corporation or an organizer of a charter school from assessing and
- 30 collecting a reasonable fee for lost or significantly damaged curricular
- 31 materials. ~~in accordance with rules established by the state board under~~
- 32 ~~subsection (d):~~ Fees collected under this subsection must be deposited
- 33 in the:
  - 34 (1) education fund of the school corporation; or
  - 35 (2) education fund of the charter school, or, if the charter school
  - 36 does not have an education fund, the same fund into which state
  - 37 tuition support is deposited for the charter school;
  - 38 in which the student was enrolled at the time the fee was imposed.
- 39 (c) This section does not prohibit a governing body of a school
- 40 corporation or an organizer of a charter school from assessing and
- 41 collecting a reasonable fee for supplies and materials that:
  - 42 (1) are not curricular materials; and

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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- 1 (2) supplement the instruction in a particular course of study.
- 2 (d) ~~The state board shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to implement~~
- 3 ~~this section:~~
- 4 SECTION 79. IC 20-26-12-23, AS AMENDED BY P.L.244-2017,
- 5 SECTION 52, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 6 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 23. A school corporation may:
- 7 (1) borrow money to buy ~~curricular materials~~; **student issued**
- 8 **hardware, including laptop computers, that may be**
- 9 **necessary for accessing curriculum**; and
- 10 (2) issue notes, maturing serially in not more than four (4) years
- 11 and payable from its education fund, to secure the loan.
- 12 SECTION 80. IC 20-26-12-24, AS AMENDED BY P.L.243-2023,
- 13 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 14 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 24. (a) Except as provided in section 24.5 of this
- 15 chapter, the superintendent, after approval from the governing body,
- 16 shall establish procedures for adoption of curricular materials.
- 17 (b) Except as provided in section 24.5 of this chapter, the
- 18 governing body, after reviewing any recommendations from the
- 19 superintendent, shall adopt curricular materials for use in teaching each
- 20 subject in the school corporation.
- 21 (c) A special committee of teachers and parents may also be
- 22 appointed to review books, magazines, and audiovisual material used
- 23 or proposed for use in the classroom to supplement state adopted
- 24 curricular materials and may make recommendations to the
- 25 superintendent and the governing body concerning the use of these
- 26 materials.
- 27 (d) The governing body may, if the governing body considers it
- 28 appropriate, retain curricular materials adopted under this section and
- 29 authorize the purchase of supplemental materials to ensure continued
- 30 alignment with academic standards adopted by the state board.
- 31 (e) The superintendent, advisory committee, and governing body
- 32 may consider using the list of curricular materials provided by the
- 33 department under ~~IC 20-20-5.5.~~ **IC 20-20.5-4.**
- 34 (f) A governing body may not purchase curricular materials from
- 35 a publisher unless the publisher agrees, in accordance with Sections
- 36 612(a)(23)(A) and 674(e)(4) of the Individuals with Disabilities
- 37 Education Improvement Act 2004 (20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.), to provide
- 38 or grant a license to the school corporation to allow for the
- 39 reproduction of adopted curricular materials in:
- 40 (1) large type;
- 41 (2) Braille; and
- 42 (3) audio format.

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 SECTION 81. IC 20-26-14-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.142-2020,  
2 SECTION 22, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
3 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) The department shall notify the association  
4 of any license revocation or suspension involving a licensed teacher (as  
5 defined in IC 20-18-2-22) under IC 20-28-5-8 who:

6 (1) has:

7 (A) been convicted of an offense described in  
8 ~~IC 20-28-5-8(c);~~ **IC 20-28-5-8(b)**; or

9 (B) committed misconduct described in IC 20-28-5-7(1) or  
10 IC 20-28-5-7(2); and

11 (2) is also a coach accredited by the association.

12 (b) A school corporation, charter high school, or nonpublic high  
13 school with at least one (1) employee must report to the association, in  
14 a manner prescribed by the association, when a nonteaching or  
15 volunteer coach accredited by the association has been convicted of an  
16 offense described in ~~IC 20-28-5-8(c);~~ **IC 20-28-5-8(b)**.

17 (c) The association shall develop a rule, as soon as practicable, to  
18 suspend or revoke the coaching accreditation of a teacher who has been  
19 reported to the association under subsection (a) for committing  
20 misconduct described in IC 20-28-5-7(1) or IC 20-28-5-7(2).

21 (d) The association shall revoke the accreditation of any coach  
22 who has been convicted of an offense described in IC 20-28-5-8. The  
23 association may, after holding a hearing on the matter, reinstate the  
24 accreditation of an individual whose accreditation has been revoked by  
25 the association if the individual's conviction has been reversed,  
26 vacated, or set aside on appeal.

27 (e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the  
28 association from revoking a coaching accreditation or otherwise  
29 imposing any other form of discipline for misconduct not described in  
30 IC 20-28-5-7(1), IC 20-28-5-7(2), or IC 20-28-5-8.

31 (f) The:

32 (1) association or its employees;

33 (2) department or its employees; or

34 (3) school corporation, charter high school, or nonpublic high  
35 school with at least one (1) employee or its employees;

36 are immune from civil liability for any act done or omitted under this  
37 section or section 9 of this chapter unless the action constitutes gross  
38 negligence or willful or wanton misconduct.

39 SECTION 82. IC 20-26-17-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.143-2016,  
40 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
41 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) The following apply with respect to a school  
42 corporation's employee health coverage program:

**HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110**



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- 1 (1) If the school corporation pays a commission, a bonus, an
- 2 override, a contingency fee, or any other compensation to an
- 3 insurance producer or other adviser in connection with the health
- 4 coverage, the school corporation shall:
  - 5 (A) specify the commission, bonus, override, contingency
  - 6 fee, or other compensation in the school corporation's
  - 7 annual budget fixed under IC 6-1.1-17; and
  - 8 (B) make the information specified under clause (A)
  - 9 available to the public upon request.
- 10 ~~(2) The school corporation may allow:~~
- 11 ~~(A) members of the school corporation's governing body; or~~
- 12 ~~(B) an attorney of the school corporation's governing body;~~
- 13 ~~to be covered under the school corporation's employee health~~
- 14 ~~coverage program.~~
- 15 ~~(3) (2) Except as provided in subsection (b), all individuals~~
- 16 ~~insured under the school corporation's employee health coverage~~
- 17 ~~program:~~
  - 18 (A) are eligible for the same coverage as all other
  - 19 individuals insured under the program; and
  - 20 (B) to the extent allowed by federal law, may pay different
  - 21 amounts for the coverage.
- 22 (b) Except as provided in IC 5-10-8-6.7(b), a school corporation:
- 23 (1) may:
  - 24 (A) make an assignment of wages upon the request of a
  - 25 school corporation employee in accordance with
  - 26 IC 22-2-6-2 to pay the school corporation employee's share
  - 27 of premiums for health insurance that is available to the
  - 28 school corporation employee as a result of a collective
  - 29 bargaining agreement:
    - 30 (i) negotiated with the school corporation by a labor
    - 31 organization; and
    - 32 (ii) under which the school corporation employee is
    - 33 covered; and
  - 34 (B) pay the school corporation's share of premiums for the
  - 35 bargained health insurance; and
- 36 (2) is not required to make the bargained health insurance
- 37 available to all school corporation employees.
- 38 SECTION 83. IC 20-26-18.2-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.92-2020,
- 39 SECTION 39, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 40 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. A school corporation, a state accredited
- 41 nonpublic school, or a charter school shall report all instances of:
- 42 (1) seclusion (as defined in ~~IC 20-20-40-9~~); ←→ [

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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- 1 **IC 20-20.5-13-9);**
- 2 (2) chemical restraint (as defined in ~~IC 20-20-40-2~~); ~~↔~~ [
- 3 **IC 20-20.5-13-2);**
- 4 (3) mechanical restraint (as defined in ~~IC 20-20-40-4~~); ~~↔~~ [
- 5 **IC 20-20.5-13-4);** and
- 6 (4) physical restraint (as defined in ~~IC 20-20-40-5~~); ~~↔~~ [
- 7 **IC 20-20.5-13-5);**
- 8 involving a school resource officer in accordance with the restraint and
- 9 seclusion plan adopted by the school corporation, state accredited
- 10 nonpublic school, or charter school under ~~IC 20-20-40-14~~. ~~↔~~ [
- 11 **IC 20-20.5-13-16.**

12 SECTION 84. IC 20-26-20-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.125-2022,  
 13 SECTION 6, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 14 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) A public school shall conduct an expanded  
 15 criminal history check of a representative of an organization before the  
 16 representative may provide information to students at a public school  
 17 as described in section 4 of this chapter. The representative may be  
 18 required to provide a written consent for the public school to conduct  
 19 the expanded criminal history check. The representative of the  
 20 organization is responsible for all costs associated with obtaining the  
 21 expanded criminal history check.

22 (b) A public school may refuse to allow a representative to provide  
 23 information as described in section 4 of this chapter if the  
 24 representative has been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor listed  
 25 in ~~↔~~ [ **IC 20-28-5-8(b) or IC 20-28-5-8(c). or IC 20-28-5-8(d).**

26 SECTION 85. IC 20-27-5-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.140-2012,  
 27 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 28 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) The governing body of a school corporation  
 29 may provide transportation for students to and from school.

30 (b) If the governing body of a school corporation:  
 31 (1) provides transportation; or  
 32 (2) contracts with an educational service center (as defined by  
 33 ~~IC 20-20-1-2~~) ~~↔~~ [ **IC 20-20.5-1-3**) to provide transportation;  
 34 no fee may be charged to a parent or student for transportation to and  
 35 from school. However, a fee may be charged for transportation to and  
 36 from an athletic, a social, or another school sponsored function.

37 SECTION 86. IC 20-27-6-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.140-2012,  
 38 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 39 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. This chapter does not apply to:

- 40 (1) a nonpublic school or to a nonpublic school bus driver
- 41 contract executed for a nonpublic school; or
- 42 (2) an educational service center (as defined by ~~IC 20-20-1-2~~) ~~↔~~

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1           ➤ ~~IC 20-20.5-1-3~~ or a school bus driver contract executed for  
2           an educational service center.  
3           SECTION 87. IC 20-27-12.1-2, AS AMENDED BY  
4           P.L.162-2024, SECTION 14, IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
5           FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. As used in this  
6           chapter, "career and technical education" refers to:  
7           (1) an apprenticeship program (as defined in IC 20-43-8-0.3);  
8           (2) a career and technical education (as defined in  
9           ~~IC 20-20-38-1~~ **IC 20-20.5-10-1**) program;  
10          (3) a modern youth apprenticeship (as defined in  
11          IC 20-51.4-2-9.5); and  
12          (4) a work based learning course (as defined in IC 20-43-8-0.7).  
13          SECTION 88. IC 20-28-2-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.93-2024,  
14          SECTION 142, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
15          [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. (a) Subject to subsection (c) and  
16          in addition to the powers and duties set forth in this article, the state  
17          board may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to do the following:  
18          (1) Set standards for teacher licensing and for the administration  
19          of a professional licensing and certification process by the  
20          department.  
21          (2) Approve or disapprove teacher preparation programs.  
22          (3) Set fees to be charged in connection with teacher licensing.  
23          (4) Suspend, revoke, or reinstate teacher licenses.  
24          (5) Enter into agreements with other states to acquire reciprocal  
25          approval of teacher preparation programs.  
26          (6) Set standards for teacher licensing concerning new subjects  
27          of study.  
28          (7) Evaluate work experience and military service concerning  
29          postsecondary education and experience equivalency.  
30          (8) Perform any other action that  
31                (A) relates to the improvement of instruction in the public  
32                schools through teacher education and professional  
33                development through continuing education. ~~and~~  
34                (B) attracts qualified candidates for teacher education from  
35                among the high school graduates of Indiana.  
36          (9) Set standards for endorsement of school psychologists as  
37          independent practice school psychologists under IC 20-28-12.  
38          (10) Before July 1, 2011, set standards for sign language  
39          interpreters who provide services to children with disabilities in  
40          an educational setting and an enforcement mechanism for the  
41          interpreter standards.  
42          (b) ~~Notwithstanding subsection (a)(1), an individual is entitled to~~

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 one (1) year of occupational experience for purposes of obtaining an  
2 occupational specialist certificate under this article for each year the  
3 individual holds a license under IC 25-8-6.

4 (e) (b) The state board shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to  
5 establish procedures to expedite the issuance, renewal, or reinstatement  
6 under this article of a license or certificate of a:

- 7 (1) person who; or
  - 8 (2) person whose spouse;
- 9 serves on active duty (as defined in IC 25-1-12-2) and is assigned to a  
10 duty station in Indiana.

11 SECTION 89. IC 20-28-2-11, AS AMENDED BY THE  
12 TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS BILL OF THE 2026 GENERAL  
13 ASSEMBLY, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
14 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 11. The department shall collaborate with  
15 nonprofit entities; the commission for higher education; and state  
16 educational institutions to develop and implement initiatives focusing  
17 on the recruitment and retention of qualified educators from  
18 underrepresented populations. The initiatives should include, but are  
19 not limited to, the following activities:

- 20 (1) Development of a recruitment plan for underrepresented and  
21 teacher shortage areas.
- 22 (2) Production of a web site as a communication tool that  
23 provides resource information and scholarship opportunities.
- 24 (3) Development of a research agenda and network support  
25 system at each state educational institution to remove barriers  
26 and address challenges faced by students of underrepresented  
27 populations in order to recruit, retain, and graduate these  
28 students.

29 SECTION 90. IC 20-28-3-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.37-2015,  
30 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
31 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) An accredited school or department may use  
32 the word "accredited" in advertising approved courses and the types of  
33 teachers the school or department is accredited to prepare. An  
34 accredited school or department may enter into the student teaching  
35 agreements specified in IC 20-26-5-23.

36 (b) The department shall revoke the right to use the word  
37 "accredited" when an accredited school or department refuses to abide  
38 by the advisory board's rules.

39 SECTION 91. IC 20-28-5-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.186-2025,  
40 SECTION 117, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
41 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) This section applies when a  
42 prosecuting attorney knows that a licensed employee of a public school

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



1 or a nonpublic school has been convicted of an offense listed in  
2 subsection ~~(c)~~: **(b)**. The prosecuting attorney shall immediately give  
3 written notice of the conviction to the following:

- 4 (1) The secretary of education.
- 5 (2) Except as provided in subdivision (3), the superintendent of  
6 the school corporation that employs the licensed employee or the  
7 equivalent authority if a nonpublic school employs the licensed  
8 employee.
- 9 (3) The presiding officer of the governing body of the school  
10 corporation that employs the licensed employee, if the convicted  
11 licensed employee is the superintendent of the school  
12 corporation.

13 ~~(b) The superintendent of a school corporation; presiding officer  
14 of the governing body, or equivalent authority for a nonpublic school  
15 shall immediately notify the secretary of education when the individual  
16 knows that a current or former licensed employee of the public school  
17 or nonpublic school has been convicted of an offense listed in  
18 subsection (c); or when the governing body or equivalent authority for  
19 a nonpublic school takes any final action in relation to an employee  
20 who engaged in any offense listed in subsection (c):~~

21 ~~(c)~~ **(b)** Except as provided in section 8.5 of this chapter, the  
22 department shall permanently revoke the license of a person who is  
23 known by the department to have been convicted of any of the  
24 following:

- 25 (1) The following felonies:
  - 26 (A) A sex crime under IC 35-42-4 (including criminal
  - 27 deviate conduct (IC 35-42-4-2) (before its repeal)).
  - 28 (B) Kidnapping (IC 35-42-3-2).
  - 29 (C) Criminal confinement (IC 35-42-3-3).
  - 30 (D) Incest (IC 35-46-1-3).
  - 31 (E) Dealing in or manufacturing cocaine or a narcotic drug
  - 32 (IC 35-48-4-1).
  - 33 (F) Dealing in methamphetamine (IC 35-48-4-1.1).
  - 34 (G) Manufacturing methamphetamine (IC 35-48-4-1.2).
  - 35 (H) Dealing in a schedule I, II, or III controlled substance
  - 36 (IC 35-48-4-2).
  - 37 (I) Dealing in a schedule IV controlled substance
  - 38 (IC 35-48-4-3).
  - 39 (J) Dealing in a schedule V controlled substance
  - 40 (IC 35-48-4-4).
  - 41 (K) Dealing in a counterfeit substance (IC 35-48-4-5).
  - 42 (L) Dealing in marijuana, hash oil, hashish, or salvia as a

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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- felony (IC 35-48-4-10).
- (M) An offense under IC 35-48-4 involving the manufacture or sale of a synthetic drug (as defined in IC 35-31.5-2-321), a synthetic drug lookalike substance (as defined in IC 35-31.5-2-321.5 (before its repeal on July 1, 2019)) under IC 35-48-4-10.5 (before its repeal on July 1, 2019), a controlled substance analog (as defined in IC 35-48-1.1-8), or a substance represented to be a controlled substance (as described in IC 35-48-4-4.6).
- (N) Homicide (IC 35-42-1).
- (O) Voluntary manslaughter (IC 35-42-1-3).
- (P) Reckless homicide (IC 35-42-1-5).
- (Q) Battery as any of the following:
  - (i) A Class A felony (for a crime committed before July 1, 2014) or a Level 2 felony (for a crime committed after June 30, 2014).
  - (ii) A Class B felony (for a crime committed before July 1, 2014) or a Level 3 felony (for a crime committed after June 30, 2014).
  - (iii) A Class C felony (for a crime committed before July 1, 2014) or a Level 5 felony (for a crime committed after June 30, 2014).
- (R) Aggravated battery (IC 35-42-2-1.5).
- (S) Robbery (IC 35-42-5-1).
- (T) Carjacking (IC 35-42-5-2) (before its repeal).
- (U) Arson as a Class A felony or Class B felony (for a crime committed before July 1, 2014) or as a Level 2, Level 3, or Level 4 felony (for a crime committed after June 30, 2014) (IC 35-43-1-1(a)).
- (V) Burglary as a Class A felony or Class B felony (for a crime committed before July 1, 2014) or as a Level 1, Level 2, Level 3, or Level 4 felony (for a crime committed after June 30, 2014) (IC 35-43-2-1).
- (W) Human trafficking (IC 35-42-3.5).
- (X) Dealing in a controlled substance resulting in death (IC 35-42-1-1.5).
- (Y) Attempt under IC 35-41-5-1 to commit an offense listed in this subsection.
- (Z) Conspiracy under IC 35-41-5-2 to commit an offense listed in this subsection.
- (2) Public indecency (IC 35-45-4-1) committed:
  - (A) after June 30, 2003; or

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- 1 (B) before July 1, 2003, if the person committed the offense
- 2 by, in a public place:
- 3 (i) engaging in sexual intercourse or other sexual
- 4 conduct (as defined in IC 35-31.5-2-221.5);
- 5 (ii) appearing in a state of nudity with the intent to
- 6 arouse the sexual desires of the person or another
- 7 person, or being at least eighteen (18) years of age,
- 8 with the intent to be seen by a child less than sixteen
- 9 (16) years of age; or
- 10 (iii) fondling the person's genitals or the genitals of
- 11 another person.

12 ~~(d)~~ (c) The department shall permanently revoke the license of a  
 13 person who is known by the department to have been convicted of a  
 14 federal offense or an offense in another state that is comparable to a  
 15 felony or misdemeanor listed in subsection ~~(c)~~; (b).

16 ~~(e)~~ (d) A license may be suspended by the secretary of education  
 17 as specified in IC 20-28-7.5.

18 ~~(f)~~ (e) The department shall develop a data base of information on  
 19 school corporation employees who have been reported to the  
 20 department under this section.

21 ~~(g)~~ (f) Upon receipt of information from the office of judicial  
 22 administration in accordance with IC 33-24-6-3 concerning persons  
 23 convicted of an offense listed in subsection ~~(c)~~; (b), the department  
 24 shall:

25 (1) cross check the information received from the office of  
 26 judicial administration with information concerning licensed  
 27 teachers (as defined in IC 20-18-2-22(b)) maintained by the  
 28 department; and

29 (2) if a licensed teacher (as defined in IC 20-18-2-22(b)) has  
 30 been convicted of an offense described in subsection ~~(c)~~; (b),  
 31 revoke the licensed teacher's license.

32 SECTION 92. IC 20-28-5-13, AS AMENDED BY P.L.90-2011,  
 33 SECTION 26, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 34 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 13. (a) This section applies to an examination  
 35 required for teacher licensure under this chapter.

36 (b) If an individual does not demonstrate the level of proficiency  
 37 required to receive a license on all or a part of an examination, the  
 38 examination's scorer must provide the individual with the individual's  
 39 test scores, **including subscores for each area tested.**

40 SECTION 93. IC 20-28-5-27, AS AMENDED BY P.L.214-2025,  
 41 SECTION 118, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 42 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 27. (a) In an effort to fill a vacant

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 teaching position, offer a new program or class, or supplement a  
2 program currently being offered, the governing body of a school  
3 corporation or the equivalent authority for a charter school or  
4 nonpublic school may issue an adjunct teacher permit to an individual  
5 if the following minimum requirements are met:

6 (1) The individual has at least four (4) years of experience in the  
7 content area in which the individual intends to teach.

8 (2) The school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school  
9 conducts an expanded criminal history check and expanded child  
10 protection index check concerning the individual as required  
11 under IC 20-26-5-10.

12 (3) The individual has not been convicted of a felony listed in  
13 section ~~8(e)~~ **8(b)** of this chapter or described in section ~~8(d)~~ **8(c)**  
14 of this chapter or the individual's conviction has been reversed,  
15 vacated, or set aside on appeal.

16 However, the governing body or equivalent authority may establish  
17 stricter requirements than the requirements prescribed by this  
18 subsection.

19 (b) If a governing body of a school corporation or the equivalent  
20 authority for a charter school or nonpublic school issues an adjunct  
21 teacher permit to an individual under subsection (a):

22 (1) the school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school  
23 may enter into an employment agreement for employment with  
24 the individual as a part-time or full-time teacher of the school  
25 corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school;

26 (2) the individual who holds the adjunct permit may teach in any  
27 content area, including a career and technical education content  
28 area, in which the school corporation, charter school, or  
29 nonpublic school allows the individual to teach based on the  
30 individual's experience described in subsection (a);

31 (3) the individual must be assigned a teacher mentor for support  
32 in pedagogy; and

33 (4) the individual must complete the following training within  
34 the first ninety (90) days of employment:

- 35 (A) Bullying prevention.
- 36 (B) Child abuse and neglect.
- 37 (C) Youth suicide awareness and prevention.
- 38 (D) Human trafficking.

39 ~~The training described in subdivision (4)(D) may be completed through~~  
40 ~~the online platform described in IC 20-19-3-29.~~

41 (c) An adjunct teacher may not provide special education  
42 instruction.

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



1 (d) The salary of an adjunct teacher under an employment  
 2 agreement described in IC 20-28-6-7.3 is not subject to the  
 3 requirements under IC 20-28-9-1.5 or a local compensation plan  
 4 established by a school corporation as described in IC 20-28-9-1.5.  
 5 (e) Except as otherwise provided in a collective bargaining  
 6 agreement entered into or renewed before July 1, 2022, an employment  
 7 agreement entered into under this section is not subject to a collective  
 8 bargaining agreement entered into under IC 20-29.  
 9 (f) It is not an unfair practice for a school corporation to enter into  
 10 an employment agreement under this section.  
 11 (g) Each school corporation or charter school that hires an adjunct  
 12 teacher under this section shall report to the department the following  
 13 information:  
 14 (1) The number of adjunct teachers who hold a permit issued  
 15 under this section that the school corporation or charter school  
 16 has hired each school year, disaggregated by the grade level and  
 17 subject area taught by the adjunct teacher.  
 18 (2) The following information for each adjunct teacher described  
 19 in subdivision (1):  
 20 (A) The name of the adjunct teacher.  
 21 (B) The subject matter the adjunct teacher is permitted to  
 22 teach.  
 23 (C) A description of the adjunct teacher's experience  
 24 described in subsection (a)(1).  
 25 (D) The adjunct teacher's total salary and any other  
 26 compensation paid to the adjunct teacher during the school  
 27 year.  
 28 (E) The number of previous adjunct teaching employment  
 29 agreements the adjunct teacher has entered into with the  
 30 school corporation or charter school or any other school  
 31 corporation or charter school.  
 32 (h) (g) A school corporation or charter school shall post a vacant  
 33 adjunct teacher position on the department's online adjunct teacher  
 34 portal established under IC 20-19-3-25.  
 35 (i) (h) A school corporation may notify the parents of students  
 36 enrolled in the school corporation of a vacant adjunct teacher position.  
 37 (j) (i) The governing body of a school corporation shall announce  
 38 any vacant adjunct teacher positions at meetings of the governing body.  
 39 SECTION 94. IC 20-28-5.5-1.5 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE  
 40 JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 1-5: After June 30, 2024, if an online platform is  
 41 established or licensed for use under IC 20-19-3-29, the training  
 42 described in any of the following statutes must be provided through the

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 ~~online platform:~~  
2 ~~IC 20-26-5-34.4.~~  
3 ~~IC 20-26-9-8.~~  
4 ~~IC 20-28-3-4.5.~~  
5 ~~IC 20-28-5.5-1.~~  
6 ~~IC 20-34-7-6.~~  
7 ~~IC 20-34-7-7.~~  
8 ~~IC 20-34-8-9.~~  
9 ~~IC 20-35.5.~~  
10 SECTION 95. IC 20-28-6-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.200-2023,  
11 SECTION 12, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
12 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) Except as provided under section 7.3 of this  
13 chapter, a contract entered into by a teacher and a school corporation  
14 must:  
15 (1) be in writing;  
16 (2) be signed by both parties; and  
17 (3) contain the:  
18 (A) beginning date of the school term as determined  
19 annually by the school corporation;  
20 (B) number of days in the school term as determined  
21 annually by the school corporation;  
22 (C) total salary to be paid to the teacher during the school  
23 year; **and**  
24 (D) number of salary payments to be made to the teacher  
25 during the school year. ~~and~~  
26 ~~(E) number of hours per day the teacher is expected to~~  
27 ~~work.~~  
28 (b) The contract may provide for the annual determination of the  
29 teacher's annual compensation based on a local compensation plan  
30 specifying a salary range, which is part of the contract. The  
31 compensation plan may be changed by the school corporation before  
32 the later of May 1 of a year, with the changes effective the next school  
33 year, or the date specified in a collective bargaining agreement  
34 applicable to the next school year. A teacher affected by the changes  
35 shall be furnished with printed copies of the changed compensation  
36 plan not later than thirty (30) days after the adoption of the  
37 compensation plan.  
38 (c) A contract under this section is also governed by the following  
39 statutes:  
40 (1) IC 20-28-9-5 through IC 20-28-9-6.  
41 (2) IC 20-28-9-9 through IC 20-28-9-11.  
42 (3) IC 20-28-9-13.

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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(4) IC 20-28-9-14.

(d) A governing body shall provide the blank contract forms, carefully worded by the secretary of education, and have them signed. The contracts are public records open to inspection by the residents of each school corporation.

(e) An action may be brought on a contract that conforms with subsections (a)(1), (a)(2), and (d).

SECTION 96. IC 20-28-6-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.233-2015, SECTION 206, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. (a) A temporary teacher's contract shall be used only for employing:

- (1) a teacher to serve in the absence of a teacher who has been granted a leave of absence by the school corporation for:
  - (A) engaging in defense service or in service auxiliary to defense service;
  - (B) professional study or advancement;
  - (C) exchange teaching;
  - (D) extended disability to which a licensed physician has attested; or
  - (E) serving in the general assembly; ~~or~~
- (2) a new teacher for a position:
  - (A) that is funded by a grant outside the school funding formula for which funding is available only for a specified period or purpose; or
  - (B) vacated by a teacher who is under a regular contract and who temporarily accepts a teacher position that is funded by a grant outside the school funding formula for which funding is available only for a specified period or purpose;

**or**

- (3) **a teacher who has been issued an emergency permit by the department.**

(b) The temporary teacher's contract must contain:

- (1) the provisions of the regular teacher's contract except those providing for continued tenure of position;
- (2) a blank space for the name of the teacher granted the leave, which may not be used on another temporary teacher's contract for the same leave of absence; and
- (3) an expiration date that:
  - (A) is the date of the return of the teacher on leave; and
  - (B) is not later than the end of the school year.

(c) If a teacher is employed on the temporary teacher's contract for at least sixty (60) days in a school year, the teacher may, on request,

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



1 receive the service credit that the teacher would otherwise receive with  
 2 regard to the Indiana state teachers' retirement fund.

3 (d) A school corporation is not required to use a temporary  
 4 teacher's contract for employing a teacher to serve in the absence of a  
 5 teacher who has been granted a leave of absence.

6 SECTION 97. IC 20-28-6-7.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.214-2025,  
 7 SECTION 122, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 8 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7.5. (a) A teacher who is subject to  
 9 section 8 of this chapter is not subject to this section.

10 (b) A teacher who:  
 11 (1) serves under contract as a teacher in a ~~public~~ school  
 12 corporation;  
 13 (2) is in the teacher's first or second year of full-time teaching in  
 14 a classroom; and  
 15 (3) has not at any time before July 1, 2012, entered into a  
 16 teaching contract for further service with the school corporation;  
 17 shall be considered a probationary teacher.

18 (c) A teacher who:  
 19 (1) is not a probationary teacher under subsection (b); and  
 20 (2) enters into a contract described in section 2 of this chapter;  
 21 becomes a professional teacher.

22 SECTION 98. IC 20-28-7.5-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.200-2023,  
 23 SECTION 14, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 24 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. (a) This chapter applies to a teacher in a school  
 25 corporation (as defined in IC 20-18-2-16(a)).

26 (b) A contract with a teacher may be canceled immediately in the  
 27 manner set forth in sections 2 through 4 of this chapter for any of the  
 28 following reasons:  
 29 (1) Immorality.  
 30 (2) Insubordination, which means a willful refusal to obey the  
 31 state school laws or reasonable rules adopted for the governance  
 32 of the school building or the school corporation.  
 33 (3) Repeated ineffective performance, as determined by the  
 34 school corporation.  
 35 (4) Neglect of duty.  
 36 (5) A conviction of an offense listed in ~~IC 20-28-5-8(c)~~.  $\leftrightarrow$  [  
 37 **IC 20-28-5-8(b)**].  
 38 (6) Other good or just cause.

39 (c) In addition to the reasons set forth in subsection (b), a  
 40 probationary teacher's contract may be canceled for any reason relevant  
 41 to the school corporation's interest in the manner set forth in sections  
 42 2 through 4 of this chapter.

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 (d) ~~After June 30, 2012,~~ The cancellation of teacher's contracts  
2 due to a justifiable decrease in the number of teaching positions shall  
3 be determined on the basis of performance rather than seniority. In  
4 cases where teachers are placed in the same performance category, any  
5 of the items in IC 20-28-9-1.5(b) may be considered.

6 (e) Only the governing body may terminate, cancel, or otherwise  
7 refuse to renew a contract of a superintendent or assistant  
8 superintendent. Notice of the contract cancellation or the refusal to  
9 renew the individual's contract must be provided in the manner  
10 provided in IC 20-28-8-3(a).

11 SECTION 99. IC 20-28-7.5-8 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
12 1, 2026]. Sec. 8: (a) This section does not apply to an individual who  
13 works at a conversion charter school (as defined in IC 20-24-1-5) for  
14 purposes of the individual's employment with the school corporation  
15 that sponsored the conversion charter school.

16 (b) A contract between a school corporation and a teacher is void  
17 if the teacher, at the time of signing the contract, is bound by a previous  
18 contract to teach in a public school and the contract is entered into at  
19 any time during the school year or less than fourteen (14) days before  
20 the day on which the teacher must report for work at that school.  
21 However, another contract may be signed by the teacher that will be  
22 effective if the teacher:

- 23 (1) furnishes the principal a release by the first employer; or
- 24 (2) shows proof that thirty (30) days written notice was delivered  
25 by the teacher to the first employer.

26 (c) A principal may request from a teacher, at the time of  
27 contracting, a written statement as to whether the teacher has signed  
28 another teaching contract. However, the teacher's failure to provide the  
29 statement is not a cause for subsequently voiding the contract.

30 SECTION 100. IC 20-28-8-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.43-2021,  
31 SECTION 92, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
32 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. A contract of employment shall be entered into  
33 between the governing body of the school corporation and a principal  
34 or assistant principal subject to the following conditions:

- 35 (1) The basic contract must be the regular teacher's contract as  
36 prescribed by the secretary of education.
- 37 (2) (1) This subdivision applies to contracts entered into or  
38 renewed after June 30, 2019. The initial contract must be for a  
39 term of at least one (1) year and not more than three (3) years.  
40 However, a contract may be extended for not more than an  
41 additional three (3) years beyond the term of the original  
42 contract.

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1           ~~(3)~~ **(2)** The contract may be altered, modified, or rescinded in  
2 favor of a new contract at any time by mutual consent of the  
3 governing body of the school corporation and the principal or  
4 assistant principal, if the contract, when reduced to writing, is  
5 consistent with this chapter.

6           SECTION 101. IC 20-28-8-10, AS AMENDED BY P.L.43-2021,  
7 SECTION 93, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
8 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. A contract of employment shall be entered  
9 into between the managing body and a local director subject to the  
10 following conditions:

11           ~~(1)~~ **(1)** The basic contract must be the regular teacher's contract as  
12 prescribed by the secretary of education.

13           ~~(2)~~ **(1)** The minimum term of the initial contract must be the  
14 equivalent of two (2) school years.

15           ~~(3)~~ **(2)** The contract may be altered, modified, or rescinded in  
16 favor of a new contract at any time by mutual consent of the  
17 managing body and the local director if the written contract is  
18 consistent with this chapter.

19           SECTION 102. IC 20-28-9-24 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE  
20 JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 24: ~~(a) This section applies to an examination that~~  
21 ~~is required for teacher licensure under this chapter.~~

22           ~~(b) If an individual does not demonstrate the level of proficiency~~  
23 ~~required to receive a license on all or a part of an examination, the~~  
24 ~~examination's scorer must provide the individual with the individual's~~  
25 ~~test scores, including subscores for each area tested.~~

26           SECTION 103. IC 20-28-9-25 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE  
27 JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 25: ~~For purposes of the federal teacher loan~~  
28 ~~forgiveness program provided under 34 CFR 682.216(a)(4), "secondary~~  
29 ~~school" includes any eligible elementary or secondary school at which~~  
30 ~~a highly qualified teacher in a high needs area (as defined in 34 CFR~~  
31 ~~682.216(b)) is employed.~~

32           SECTION 104. IC 20-29-2-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.75-2025,  
33 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
34 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. "Deficit financing" for a budget year

35           ~~(1)~~ means ~~except as provided in subdivision (2),~~ actual  
36 expenditures exceeding the employer's current year actual  
37 education fund revenue and, for a school employer for which the  
38 voters have passed an operating referendum tax levy under  
39 IC 20-46-1 or a school safety referendum tax levy under  
40 IC 20-46-9, the amount of revenue certified by the department of  
41 local government finance, excluding money distributed to a  
42 charter school under IC 20-46-1-21 or IC 20-46-9-22. ~~or~~

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1           (2) means, in the case of any distressed school corporation, the  
 2           Gary Community School Corporation, or the Muncie Community  
 3           school corporation, actual expenditures plus additional payments  
 4           against any outstanding debt obligations exceeding the  
 5           employer's current year actual education fund revenue, and, for  
 6           a school employer for which the voters have passed an operating  
 7           referendum tax levy under IC 20-46-1 or a school safety  
 8           referendum tax levy under IC 20-46-9; excluding money  
 9           distributed to a charter school under IC 20-46-1-21 or  
 10          IC 20-46-9-22, the amount of revenue certified by the  
 11          department of local government finance.

12          Except as provided in IC 20-29-6-3(c), revenue does not include money  
 13          estimated to be or actually transferred from the school corporation's  
 14          operations fund to its education fund. Revenue does not include money  
 15          allocated for supplemental payments in a resolution passed under  
 16          IC 20-29-6-3(d).

17          SECTION 105. IC 20-29-6-4.5, AS AMENDED BY  
 18          P.L.213-2025, SECTION 174, IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 19          FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4.5. (a) For a contract  
 20          entered into after June 30, 2011, a school employer may not bargain  
 21          collectively with the exclusive representative on the following:

- 22           (1) The school calendar.
- 23           (2) Teacher dismissal procedures and criteria.
- 24           (3) Restructuring options available to a school employer under  
 25           federal or state statutes, regulations, or rules because of the  
 26           failure of the school corporation or a school to meet federal or  
 27           state accountability standards.
- 28           (4) The ability of a school employer to contract, partner, or  
 29           operate jointly with an educational entity that provides  
 30           postsecondary credits to students of the school employer or dual  
 31           credits from the school employer and the educational entity.
- 32           (5) Contract costs for curricular materials (as defined in  
 33           IC 20-18-2-2.7).
- 34           **(6) Teacher evaluation procedures and criteria.**
- 35           ~~(6)~~ (7) Any subject not expressly listed in section 4 of this  
 36           chapter.

37          (b) For a contract entered into after January 1, 2015, for a school  
 38          year beginning after June 30, 2015, a school employer may not bargain  
 39          collectively with the exclusive representative for the following:

- 40           (1) A matter described in subsection (a).
- 41           (2) A matter that another statute specifies is not subject to  
 42           collective bargaining, including IC 20-28-9-1.5 and IC 20-43-16.

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1 (c) A subject set forth in subsection (a) or (b) that may not be  
2 bargained collectively may not be included in an agreement entered  
3 into under this article.

4 SECTION 106. IC 20-29-6-4.7, AS ADDED BY P.L.48-2011,  
5 SECTION 16, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
6 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4.7. (a) ~~A school employer may not bargain  
7 collectively with the exclusive representative on teacher evaluation  
8 procedures and criteria after this section has been enacted into law:~~

9 (b) A contract entered into between a school employer and an  
10 exclusive representative ~~after this section has been enacted into law~~  
11 may not extend past the end of a state budget biennium.

12 SECTION 107. IC 20-30-4-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.9-2021,  
13 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
14 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) In consultation with the student's school  
15 counselor, ~~after seeking consultation with each student's parents,~~ and  
16 not later than the date on which the student completes grade 8, each  
17 student shall develop a graduation plan that is a part of the student's  
18 permanent school record and accessible to a parent of the student in  
19 accordance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (20  
20 U.S.C. 1232g et seq.).

21 (b) The graduation plan developed under subsection (a) must  
22 include the following:

- 23 (1) A statement of intent to graduate from high school.
- 24 (2) An acknowledgment of the importance of:
  - 25 (A) good citizenship;
  - 26 (B) school attendance; and
  - 27 (C) diligent study habits.
- 28 (3) The subject and skill areas of interest to the student.
- 29 (4) The postsecondary goals of the student aligned with the  
30 graduation pathway requirements under IC 20-32-4-1.5.
- 31 (5) A program of study under the college/technology preparation  
32 curriculum adopted by the state board under IC 20-30-10-2 for  
33 grades 10, 11, and 12 that meets the interests, aptitude, and  
34 postsecondary goals of the student.
- 35 (6) Assurances that, upon satisfactory fulfillment of the plan, the  
36 student:
  - 37 (A) is entitled to graduate; and
  - 38 (B) will have taken at least the minimum variety and  
39 number of courses necessary to gain admittance to a state  
40 educational institution.
- 41 (7) An indication of assessments (other than the statewide  
42 assessment program and the graduation examination (before July

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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- 1 1, 2018)) that the student plans to take voluntarily during grade
- 2 10 through grade 12 and which may include any of the
- 3 following:
- 4 (A) The SAT Reasoning Test.
- 5 (B) The ACT test.
- 6 (C) Advanced placement exams.
- 7 (D) College readiness exams approved by the department.
- 8 (E) Workforce readiness exams approved by the department
- 9 of workforce development established under IC 22-4.1-2.
- 10 (F) Cambridge International examinations.

11 **(c) A school corporation shall:**

- 12 **(1) provide a copy of a student's graduation plan developed**
- 13 **under this section to a parent of the student; and**
- 14 **(2) provide the parent described in subdivision (1) an**
- 15 **opportunity to consult with the school corporation on the**
- 16 **student's graduation plan.**

17 SECTION 108. IC 20-30-5-5.5, AS AMENDED BY  
18 P.L.214-2025, SECTION 139, IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
19 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5.5. (a) Each public  
20 school shall include in the public school's curriculum age appropriate,  
21 research based instruction as provided under ~~IC 10-21-1-14(d)~~ **[**  
22 **IC 10-21-1-14(e)** focusing on bullying prevention for all students in  
23 grades 1 through 12.

24 (b) The department, in consultation with school safety specialists  
25 and school counselors, shall prepare outlines or materials for the  
26 instruction described in subsection (a). ~~and incorporate the instruction~~  
27 ~~in grades 1 through 12.~~

28 ~~(c) Instruction on bullying prevention may be delivered by a~~  
29 ~~teacher, school safety specialist, school counselor, or any other person~~  
30 ~~with training and expertise in the area of bullying prevention and~~  
31 ~~intervention.~~

32 SECTION 109. IC 20-30-5-5.7, AS AMENDED BY  
33 P.L.214-2025, SECTION 140, IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
34 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5.7. (a) Each public  
35 school, including a charter school, and state accredited nonpublic  
36 school shall include in the school's curriculum age appropriate:

- 37 (1) research and evidence based; or
- 38 (2) research or evidence based;

39 instruction on child abuse and child sexual abuse to students in  
40 kindergarten through grade 12.

41 (b) The department, in consultation with school safety specialists,  
42 school counselors, school social workers, or school psychologists, shall

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1 identify outlines or materials for the instruction described in subsection  
2 (a). ~~and incorporate the instruction in kindergarten through grade 12.~~  
3 (c) Any outlines and materials identified under subsection (b) must  
4 be demonstrated to be effective and promising.  
5 (d) ~~Instruction on child abuse and child sexual abuse may be~~  
6 ~~delivered by a teacher, school safety specialist, school counselor, or any~~  
7 ~~other person with training and expertise in the area of child abuse and~~  
8 ~~child sexual abuse.~~  
9 SECTION 110. IC 20-30-5-11, AS ADDED BY P.L.1-2005,  
10 SECTION 14, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
11 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 11. (a) ~~For kindergarten through grade 12;~~ The  
12 governing body of each school corporation shall provide **at least two**  
13 **(2) times in kindergarten through grade 8 and one (1) time in**  
14 **grades 9 through 12** instruction concerning the effects that:  
15 (1) alcoholic beverages;  
16 (2) tobacco, **including tobacco alternatives and nicotine**  
17 **products;**  
18 (3) prescription drugs; and  
19 (4) controlled substances;  
20 have on the human body and society at large.  
21 (b) The state board shall make available to all school corporations  
22 a list of appropriate available instructional material on the matters  
23 described in subsection (a).  
24 (c) The department shall develop curriculum guides to assist  
25 teachers assigned to teach the material described in subsection (a).  
26 (d) The state board shall approve drug education curricula for  
27 ~~every grade from kindergarten through grade 12.~~ **instruction required**  
28 **under subsection (a).**  
29 (e) ~~The department shall provide assistance to each school~~  
30 ~~corporation to train at least one (1) teacher in the school corporation in~~  
31 ~~drug education.~~  
32 SECTION 111. IC 20-30-5-12, AS AMENDED BY P.L.56-2023,  
33 SECTION 180, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
34 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 12. (a) Each school corporation  
35 shall:  
36 (1) include in the school corporation's curriculum instruction  
37 concerning the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV); and  
38 (2) integrate this effort to the extent possible with instruction on  
39 other serious communicable diseases.  
40 (b) Literature that is distributed to school children and young  
41 adults under this section must include information required by  
42 IC 20-34-3-17.

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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- 1 (c) The department **shall do the following:**
- 2 (1) In consultation with the Indiana department of health, ~~shall~~
- 3 develop HIV educational materials.
- 4 (2) ~~The department shall~~ Make the materials ~~developed under~~
- 5 ~~this section described in subdivision (1)~~ available to school
- 6 corporations.
- 7 SECTION 112. IC 20-30-5-23, AS AMENDED BY P.L.150-2024,
- 8 SECTION 32, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 9 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 23. (a) Each public high school, including each
- 10 charter school, shall offer at least one (1) computer science course as
- 11 a one (1) semester elective in the public high school's curriculum at
- 12 least once each school year for high school students. This subsection
- 13 expires July 1, 2028.
- 14 (b) After June 30, 2028, each public high school, including each
- 15 charter school, shall offer at least once each school year at least one (1)
- 16 computer science course as a separate subject in the public high
- 17 school's curriculum that:
- 18 (1) satisfies the computer science instruction content
- 19 requirements; and
- 20 (2) beginning in 2029, enables high school students to
- 21 successfully complete instruction on computer science to be
- 22 eligible to graduate from high school under the requirements;
- 23 set forth in IC 20-32-4-18.
- 24 (c) Each public school, including each charter school, shall
- 25 include computer science in the public school's curriculum for students
- 26 in kindergarten through grade 12. Before July 1, 2028, a public high
- 27 school fulfills the requirements under this subsection by meeting the
- 28 requirements under subsection (a). After June 30, 2028, a public high
- 29 school fulfills the requirements under this subsection by meeting the
- 30 requirements under subsection (b).
- 31 (d) If a public school fails to comply with this section, the
- 32 department shall assist the public school in meeting the requirements
- 33 under this section.
- 34 (e) The department shall:
- 35 (1) prepare an annual report concerning the implementation of
- 36 computer science courses in public schools, including charter
- 37 schools, that includes the information described in subsection
- 38 (f); and
- 39 (2) submit, before December 1 of each year, the report to the
- 40 following:
- 41 (A) The state board.
- 42 (B) The general assembly.

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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- 1 (C) The commission for higher education.
- 2 The department shall submit the written report to the general assembly
- 3 in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.
- 4 (f) The report under subsection (e) must include the following
- 5 information:
- 6 (1) The total number and percentage of computer science unique
- 7 student course enrollments and course completions for each:
- 8 (A) public elementary school, including each charter
- 9 school, for students in grade 8; and
- 10 (B) public high school, including each charter school;
- 11 by each course title approved by the department.
- 12 (2) The number and percentage of unique student enrollments
- 13 and course completions in a computer science course by each
- 14 course title approved by the department and disaggregated by:
- 15 (A) race;
- 16 (B) gender;
- 17 (C) grade;
- 18 (D) ethnicity;
- 19 (E) limited English language proficiency;
- 20 (F) free or reduced price lunch status; and
- 21 (G) eligibility for special education.
- 22 (3) The number of computer science instructors at each school
- 23 disaggregated by:
- 24 (A) gender;
- 25 (B) certification, if applicable; and
- 26 (C) academic degree.
- 27 **(4) The number of public schools, including charter schools,**
- 28 **that offer courses in digital literacy.**
- 29 ~~(4)~~ **(5) Any other pertinent matters.**
- 30 (g) The department shall post the report described in subsections
- 31 (e) and (f) on the department's website.
- 32 SECTION 113. IC 20-30-5-25 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE
- 33 JULY 1, 2026]. ~~Sec. 25. (a) This section applies to a high school that~~
- 34 ~~is:~~
- 35 ~~(1) a public school, including a charter school;~~
- 36 ~~(2) a state accredited nonpublic school; or~~
- 37 ~~(3) an eligible school (as defined in IC 20-51-1-4.7).~~
- 38 ~~(b) Each high school shall do one (1) of the following:~~
- 39 ~~(1) Beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, offer the Indiana~~
- 40 ~~college core developed under IC 21-42-3 in the high school's~~
- 41 ~~curriculum for high school students.~~
- 42 ~~(2) Not later than October 1, 2024, submit an implementation~~

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 plan to the commission for higher education, in a manner  
2 prescribed by the commission for higher education; to offer the  
3 Indiana college core developed under IC 21-42-3 in the high  
4 school's curriculum for high school students by the 2025-2026  
5 school year.

6 (3) Not later than October 1, 2024, submit a detailed  
7 implementation plan to the commission for higher education; in  
8 a manner prescribed by the commission for higher education; to  
9 offer the Indiana college core developed under IC 21-42-3 in the  
10 high school's curriculum for high school students by the  
11 2026-2027 school year.

12 (4) Not later than October 1, 2024, submit an Indiana college  
13 core feasibility report to the commission for higher education in  
14 accordance with IC 21-42-3-6 if the high school does not plan to  
15 offer the Indiana college core by the 2026-2027 school year.

16 (c) This section expires July 1, 2026.

17 SECTION 114. IC 20-30-6.1-4, AS ADDED BY P.L.150-2024,  
18 SECTION 33, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
19 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) As used in this section, "online challenge"  
20 means an Internet trend that encourages individuals to copy behaviors  
21 or actions that may cause harm to the individual.

22 (b) Each school corporation may:  
23 (1) include instruction regarding Internet safety in the school  
24 corporation's curriculum; **and**  
25 (2) **offer instruction or programs regarding the potential**  
26 **risks and consequences of creating and sharing sexually**  
27 **suggestive or explicit materials through cellular telephones,**  
28 **social networking websites, computer networks, and other**  
29 **digital media.**

30 (c) Not later than July 1, 2025, the department shall approve  
31 previously developed curricula for use by school corporations under  
32 subsection (b).

33 (d) Each curriculum approved under subsection (c) must include  
34 age appropriate instruction regarding the following:

35 (1) Thinking critically about the possible provenance, reliability,  
36 and intended effect of online information before acting on the  
37 information.

38 (2) Acting ethically in the student's interactions with others  
39 online, and reacting appropriately to unethical behavior such as:

- 40 (A) cyberbullying (as described in IC 20-19-3-11.5); and
- 41 (B) promotion of dangerous behavior, including self-harm  
42 or participation in an online challenge;

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- 1 that is directed at the student by others online.
- 2 (3) Considering the uncertainties inherent in interacting with
- 3 others online, particularly with regard to the ability of an
- 4 individual to misrepresent the individual's identity online.
- 5 (4) Recognizing the economics of providing Internet content and
- 6 social media services, including:
  - 7 (A) the economic relationship between:
    - 8 (i) users; and
    - 9 (ii) providers;
  - 10 of Internet content and social media services;
  - 11 (B) the economic incentives of a provider to influence the
  - 12 behavior of a user when the user is interacting with the
  - 13 provider's content or services; and
  - 14 (C) methods used by providers to influence user behavior.
- 15 (5) Practicing cybersecurity, including recognizing:
  - 16 (A) the danger of:
    - 17 (i) identity theft; and
    - 18 (ii) financial fraud;
  - 19 when interacting with others online, accessing Internet
  - 20 content, or using social media services; and
  - 21 (B) the potential for information shared online to remain
  - 22 accessible to others in perpetuity.

23 SECTION 115. IC 20-30-8-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.286-2013,  
 24 SECTION 96, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 25 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. The program organizer may request the  
 26 approval from the department for the following:

- 27 (1) To receive the grant for alternative education programs under
- 28 ~~IC 20-20-33.~~ **IC 20-20.5-9.**
- 29 (2) To be granted waivers from rules adopted by the state board
- 30 that may otherwise interfere with the objectives of the alternative
- 31 education program, including waivers of:
  - 32 (A) certain high school graduation requirements;
  - 33 (B) the length of the student instructional day as set forth in
  - 34 IC 20-30-2-2;
  - 35 (C) required curriculum and curricular materials;
  - 36 (D) teacher certification requirements; and
  - 37 (E) physical facility requirements.

38 SECTION 116. IC 20-30-8-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.2-2006,  
 39 SECTION 145, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 40 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) Before a program organizer  
 41 is eligible for the funding under ~~IC 20-20-33,~~ **IC 20-20.5-9,** a program  
 42 organizer must have the grant for the program approved by both:

**HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110**



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- 1 (1) the department; and
- 2 (2) the budget agency after review by the budget committee.
- 3 (b) A school corporation may initiate the program and waiver
- 4 approval process under section 7 of this chapter and the grant approval
- 5 process under this section by submitting an application for the
- 6 proposed alternative education program, on forms developed by the
- 7 department, to the department. The application must include the
- 8 following information:
- 9 (1) The number of eligible students expected to participate in the
- 10 alternative education program.
- 11 (2) A description of the proposed alternative education program,
- 12 including a description of the nature of the alternative education
- 13 program curriculum.
- 14 (3) The extent to which the manner of instruction at the
- 15 alternative education program differs from the manner of
- 16 instruction available in the traditional school setting.
- 17 (4) A description of specific progressive disciplinary procedures
- 18 that:
- 19 (A) are reasonably designed to modify disruptive behavior
- 20 in the traditional school learning environment without
- 21 necessitating admission to an alternative education
- 22 program; and
- 23 (B) will be used before admitting a disruptive student to an
- 24 alternative education program.
- 25 (5) Any other pertinent information required by the department.
- 26 (c) The term of a grant may not exceed one (1) school year. If a
- 27 school corporation fails to conduct an alternative education program in
- 28 conformity with:
- 29 (1) this chapter;
- 30 (2) the rules adopted by the state board; or
- 31 (3) the terms of the approved grant;
- 32 the department or the budget agency, after review by the budget
- 33 committee, may terminate funding for the alternative education
- 34 program before the grant expires.
- 35 SECTION 117. IC 20-31-8-5.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.9-2024,
- 36 SECTION 395, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
- 37 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5.5. (a) Not later than July 1, 2024,
- 38 the state board shall do the following:
- 39 (1) Establish a compilation of longitudinal data indicating school
- 40 performance success in various selected and enumerated
- 41 program areas.
- 42 (2) Present the data described in subdivision (1) for each school

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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- 1 in a manner that:
- 2 (A) can be conveniently and easily accessed from a single
- 3 web page on the state board's website; and
- 4 (B) is commonly known as an Internet dashboard.
- 5 (b) The dashboard must include the following:
- 6 (1) Indicators of student performance in elementary school,
- 7 including schools for grades 6 through 8, and high school.
- 8 (2) The school's graduation rate, as applicable.
- 9 (3) The percentage of high school graduates who earned college
- 10 credit before graduating, as applicable.
- 11 (4) The pass rate of the statewide assessment program tests (as
- 12 defined in IC 20-32-2-2.3), as applicable.
- 13 (5) The growth data of the statewide assessment program tests
- 14 (as defined in IC 20-32-2-2.3), as applicable.
- 15 (6) The attendance rate.
- 16 (7) State, national, and international comparisons for the
- 17 indicators, if applicable.
- 18 (8) The school's grade 3 reading proficiency rate, as applicable.
- 19 (9) The school's disciplinary incident data.
- 20 (10) Data regarding the school's socioeconomic status and
- 21 poverty rate.
- 22 (11) The school's proportion of fully licensed teachers.
- 23 (c) The dashboard may include any other data indicating school
- 24 performance success that the state board determines is relevant.
- 25 (d) Each school shall post **conspicuously** on a web page
- 26 maintained on the school's website ~~the exact same data and in a similar~~
- 27 ~~format as the data presented for the school on the state board's website.~~
- 28 ~~However, the school may include custom indicators on the web page~~
- 29 ~~described in this subsection: the link to the school's web page on the~~
- 30 ~~Internet dashboard.~~
- 31 SECTION 118. IC 20-31-8-8, AS AMENDED BY THE
- 32 TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS BILL OF THE 2026 GENERAL
- 33 ASSEMBLY, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 34 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) ~~Before July 1, 2018, the state board shall~~
- 35 ~~establish a definition of a high mobility school for schools with a high~~
- 36 ~~concentration of mobile students.~~
- 37 (b) For each school year, ~~beginning after June 30, 2018,~~ the
- 38 department shall make a report regarding the performance of high
- 39 mobility schools, **as defined by the state board.** The report shall be
- 40 posted on the department's ~~Internet web site~~ **website** each year on a
- 41 date determined by the department.
- 42 SECTION 119. IC 20-31-12-2, AS ADDED BY P.L.286-2013,

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 SECTION 107, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
2 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. The department may not  
3 establish criteria for a **state accredited** nonpublic school **or eligible**  
4 **school (as defined in IC 20-51-1-4.7)** to be eligible for a recognition  
5 program that are different from the criteria established for a public  
6 school of the same grade levels.

7 SECTION 120. IC 20-32-5.1-10, AS AMENDED BY  
8 P.L.150-2024, SECTION 49, IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
9 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) The governing  
10 body of each school corporation or the equivalent authority for each  
11 charter school, eligible school (as defined in IC 20-51-1-4.7), or state  
12 accredited nonpublic school is entitled to acquire at no charge from the  
13 department:

- 14 (1) the assessments under the statewide assessment program; and
- 15 (2) the scoring reports used by the department.

16 (b) A state accredited nonpublic school or an eligible school (as  
17 defined in IC 20-51-1-4.7) shall

- 18 (1) ~~administer the statewide assessment program's assessment or~~  
19 ~~assessments, as applicable, to its students at the same time or~~  
20 ~~times that school corporations administer the program's~~  
21 ~~assessment or assessments, as applicable, under section 7 of this~~  
22 ~~chapter; and~~
- 23 (2) ~~make available to the department the results of the statewide~~  
24 ~~assessment program's assessment or assessments, as applicable.~~

25 SECTION 121. IC 20-32-7-3 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
26 1, 2026]. Sec. 3: ~~The department shall make available to schools~~  
27 ~~optional student diagnostic tools such as actual assessment instruments~~  
28 ~~or computer banks containing appropriate essential skills items to assist~~  
29 ~~schools in implementing the diagnostic assessments.~~

30 SECTION 122. IC 20-32-7-4 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
31 1, 2026]. Sec. 4: ~~After a governing body holds a public hearing on a~~  
32 ~~proposed portfolio program, the governing body may establish a~~  
33 ~~portfolio program to maintain a portfolio of a student's work at grade~~  
34 ~~levels designated by the governing body.~~

35 SECTION 123. IC 20-32-7-5 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
36 1, 2026]. Sec. 5: ~~The governing body shall develop guidelines for the~~  
37 ~~portfolio program, including guidelines governing the appropriate~~  
38 ~~contents of the portfolios.~~

39 SECTION 124. IC 20-33-2-1 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
40 1, 2026]. Sec. 1: ~~The legislative intent for this chapter is to provide an~~  
41 ~~efficient and speedy means of insuring that students receive a proper~~  
42 ~~education whenever it is reasonably possible.~~

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



1 SECTION 125. IC 20-33-2-14, AS AMENDED BY P.L.208-2025,  
 2 SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 3 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 14. ~~(a) This section and sections 15 through 17.8~~  
 4 ~~of this chapter apply to a student who attends either a public school or~~  
 5 ~~a nonpublic school.~~

6 ~~(b) (a)~~ The governing body of each school corporation shall adopt  
 7 a policy:

8 (1) outlining the conditions for excused and unexcused absences;  
 9 and

10 (2) providing for the categorization of excused absences in  
 11 accordance with the categorization framework established by the  
 12 department under IC 20-19-3-12.4.

13 ~~(c) (b)~~ The governing body of each school corporation shall have  
 14 a policy regarding the participation of a habitually truant in  
 15 extracurricular and co-curricular activities.

16 ~~(d) (c)~~ The policy under subsection ~~(b) (a)~~ must include the  
 17 grounds for excused absences required by ~~sections section 15 through~~  
 18 ~~17.8~~ of this chapter or another law.

19 ~~(e) (d)~~ Any absence that results in a person not attending at least  
 20 one hundred eighty (180) days in a school year must be in accordance  
 21 with the governing body's policy under subsection ~~(b) (a)~~ to qualify as  
 22 an excused absence.

23 ~~(f) Service as a page for or as an honoree of the general assembly~~  
 24 ~~is a lawful excuse for a student to be absent from school, when verified~~  
 25 ~~by a certificate of the secretary of the senate or the chief clerk of the~~  
 26 ~~house of representatives. A student excused from school attendance~~  
 27 ~~under this section may not be recorded as being absent on any date for~~  
 28 ~~which the excuse is operative and may not be penalized by the school~~  
 29 ~~in any manner.~~

30 SECTION 126. IC 20-33-2-15, AS ADDED BY P.L.1-2005,  
 31 SECTION 17, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 32 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 15. (a) ~~The governing body of a Each~~ school  
 33 corporation, ~~charter school,~~ and the chief administrative official of a  
 34 ~~accredited~~ nonpublic secondary school system shall authorize the  
 35 absence and excuse of each secondary school student who serves:

36 ~~(1) on the precinct election board; or~~

37 ~~(2) as a helper to a political candidate or to a political party on~~  
 38 ~~the date of each general, city or town, special, and primary~~  
 39 ~~election at which the student works.~~

40 ~~(b) Before the date of the election, the student must submit a~~  
 41 ~~document signed by one (1) of the student's parents giving permission~~  
 42 ~~to participate in the election as provided in this section, and the student~~

HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 must verify to school authorities the performance of services by  
 2 submitting a document signed by the candidate, political party  
 3 chairman, campaign manager, or precinct officer generally describing  
 4 the duties of the student on the date of the election. A student excused  
 5 from school attendance under this section may not be recorded as being  
 6 absent on any date for which the excuse is operative and may not be  
 7 penalized by the school in any manner. is absent for any of the  
 8 following:

9 (1) The student serves as a page for or as an honoree of the  
 10 general assembly.

11 (2) The student serves on the precinct election board.

12 (3) The student works as a helper to a political candidate or  
 13 to a political party on the date of each general, city or town,  
 14 special, and primary election at which the student works.

15 (4) The student appears in court in response to a subpoena to  
 16 appear in court as a witness in a judicial proceeding.

17 (5) The student is:

18 (A) not a habitual truant; and

19 (B) ordered to active duty with the armed forces of the  
 20 United States, including their reserve components, or  
 21 the Indiana National Guard for not more than fifteen

22 (15) instructional days in a school year.

23 However, the school corporation, charter school, or  
 24 accredited nonpublic school may authorize additional  
 25 excused absences for a student ordered to active duty.

26 (6) The student is:

27 (A) a member of the Indiana wing of the civil air patrol;  
 28 and

29 (B) participating in a civil air patrol:

30 (i) international air cadet exchange program for the  
 31 length of the program; or

32 (ii) emergency service operation for not more than  
 33 five (5) instructional days in a school year.

34 (7) The student participates or exhibits in the Indiana state  
 35 fair for educational purposes. However, the number of  
 36 excused absences a student may receive under this  
 37 subdivision may not exceed five (5) instructional days in a  
 38 school year.

39 (8) The student participates in a scheduled competition,  
 40 exhibition, or event offered by:

41 (A) the National FFA Organization;

42 (B) the Indiana FFA Association; or

HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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**(C) a 4-H club.**

However, the number of excused absences a student may receive under this subdivision may not exceed a total of six (6) instructional days in a school year.

**(b) If a school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school authorizes the absence and excuse of a student for a nonclassroom related activity that is organized or facilitated by the school, the school shall send, at least one (1) full school day before the nonclassroom related activity occurs, a parent of the student a written notification regarding the nonclassroom related activity that includes:**

- (1) a description of the activity; and**
- (2) the anticipated date and time that the activity is scheduled to occur.**

**(c) For a student to receive an excused absence under subsection (a)(6) through (a)(8), the student must be in good academic standing, as determined by the school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school.**

**(d) A student excused from school attendance under this subsection (a) may not be recorded as being absent on any date for which the excuse is operative and may not be penalized by the school in any manner.**

**(e) The appropriate school authority shall request relevant documentation verifying a student's participation in an activity listed in subsection (a).**

SECTION 127. IC 20-33-2-16 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 16: The governing body of a school corporation or the chief administrative officer of a nonpublic school system shall authorize the absence and excuse of a student who is issued a subpoena to appear in court as a witness in a judicial proceeding. A student excused under this section shall not be recorded as being absent on any date for which the excuse is operative and shall not be penalized by the school in any manner. The appropriate school authority may require that the student submit the subpoena to the appropriate school authority for verification.

SECTION 128. IC 20-33-2-17 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 17: The governing body of a school corporation; the organizer of a charter school; or the chief administrative officer of a nonpublic school system shall authorize the absence and excuse of each secondary school student who is:

- (1) not a habitual truant (as defined in IC 20-18-2-6.5); and**
- (2) ordered to active duty with the armed forces of the United**

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1 States, including their reserve components, or the Indiana  
 2 National Guard for at least fifteen (15) days in a school year.  
 3 However, the governing body of a school corporation, the organizer of  
 4 a charter school, or the chief administrative officer of a nonpublic  
 5 school system may authorize additional excused absences for  
 6 additional military training. For verification, the student must submit  
 7 to school authorities a copy of the orders to active duty and a copy of  
 8 the orders releasing the student from active duty. A student excused  
 9 from school attendance under this section may not be recorded as being  
 10 absent on any date for which the excuse is operative and may not be  
 11 penalized by the school in any manner.

12 SECTION 129. IC 20-33-2-17.2 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE  
 13 JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 17.2: The governing body of a school corporation  
 14 or the chief administrative officer of a nonpublic school system shall  
 15 authorize the absence and excuse of each secondary school student who  
 16 is a member of the Indiana wing of the civil air patrol and who is  
 17 participating in a civil air patrol:

- 18 (1) international air cadet exchange program, for the length of  
 19 the program; or
- 20 (2) emergency service operation, including:
  - 21 (A) search and rescue missions designated by the Air Force  
 22 Rescue Coordination Center;
  - 23 (B) disaster relief, when requested by the Federal  
 24 Emergency Management Agency or the department of  
 25 homeland security established by IC 10-19-2-1;
  - 26 (C) humanitarian services, when requested by the Federal  
 27 Emergency Management Agency or the department of  
 28 homeland security established by IC 10-19-2-1;
  - 29 (D) United States Air Force support designated by the First  
 30 Air Force, North American Aerospace Defense Command;  
 31 or
  - 32 (E) United States Air Force military flights, if the flights are  
 33 not available on days when school is not in session;

34 for not more than five (5) days in a school year;  
 35 if the student submits to school authorities appropriate documentation  
 36 from the Indiana wing of the civil air patrol detailing the reason for the  
 37 student's absence. A student excused from school attendance under this  
 38 section may not be recorded as being absent on any date to which the  
 39 excuse applies and may not be penalized by the school in any manner.

40 SECTION 130. IC 20-33-2-17.5 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE  
 41 JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 17.5: (a) The governing body of a school  
 42 corporation may authorize the absence and excuse of a student who

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 attends any educationally related nonclassroom activity. Any  
2 educationally related nonclassroom activity and nonclassroom activity  
3 must meet all the following conditions:

- 4 (1) Is consistent with and promotes the educational philosophy
- 5 and goals of the school corporation and the state board.
- 6 (2) Facilitates the attainment of specific educational objectives.
- 7 (3) Is a part of the goals and objectives of an approved course or
- 8 curriculum.
- 9 (4) Represents a unique educational opportunity.
- 10 (5) Cannot reasonably occur without interrupting the school day.
- 11 (6) Is approved in writing by the school principal.

12 (b) A student excused from school attendance under this section  
13 may not be recorded as being absent on any date for which the excuse  
14 is operative and may not be penalized by the school in any manner.

15 SECTION 131. IC 20-33-2-17.7 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE  
16 JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 17-7: (a) Except as provided in subsection (b); the  
17 governing body of a school corporation or the chief administrative  
18 officer of a nonpublic school system shall authorize the absence and  
19 excuse of each school student if the student or a member of the  
20 student's household participates or exhibits in the Indiana state fair for  
21 educational purposes; as evidenced in writing by the student's parent  
22 and as approved in writing by the student's school principal. The  
23 number of excused absences a student may receive under this section  
24 may not exceed five (5) instructional days in a school year. A student  
25 excused from school attendance under this section may not be recorded  
26 as being absent on any date for which the excuse is operative and may  
27 not be penalized by the school in any manner.

28 (b) In order for a student to receive an excused absence under  
29 subsection (a); the student must be in good academic standing; as  
30 determined by the school corporation.

31 SECTION 132. IC 20-33-2-17.8 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE  
32 JULY 1, 2026]. Sec. 17-8: (a) Except as provided in subsections (b) and  
33 (c); the governing body of a school corporation or the chief  
34 administrative officer of a nonpublic school system shall authorize the  
35 absence and excuse of each school student if the student participates in  
36 a scheduled competition, exhibition, or event offered by:

- 37 (1) the National FFA Organization;
- 38 (2) the Indiana FFA Association; or
- 39 (3) a 4-H club;

40 for educational purposes as evidenced in writing by the student's parent  
41 and as approved in writing by the student's school principal. A student  
42 excused from school attendance under this section may not be recorded

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1 as being absent on any date for which the excuse is operative and may  
2 not be penalized by the school in any manner.

3 (b) The number of excused absences a student may receive under  
4 subsection (a) may not exceed six (6) instructional days in a school  
5 year.

6 (c) In order for a student to receive an excused absence under  
7 subsection (a), the student must be in good academic standing, as  
8 determined by the school corporation or nonpublic school.

9 SECTION 133. IC 20-33-8-16, AS AMENDED BY P.L.233-2015,  
10 SECTION 261, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
11 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 16. (a) As used in this section,  
12 "firearm" has the meaning set forth in IC 35-47-1-5.

13 (b) As used in this section, "deadly weapon" has the meaning set  
14 forth in IC 35-31.5-2-86. The term does not include a firearm or  
15 destructive device.

16 (c) As used in this section, "destructive device" has the meaning  
17 set forth in IC 35-47.5-2-4.

18 (d) Notwithstanding section 20 of this chapter, a student who is:

19 (1) identified as bringing a firearm or destructive device to  
20 school or on school property; or

21 (2) in possession of a firearm or destructive device on school  
22 property;

23 must be expelled for at least one (1) calendar year, with the return of  
24 the student to be at the beginning of the first school semester after the  
25 end of the one (1) year period.

26 (e) The superintendent **or principal of the applicable school** may,  
27 on a case by case basis, modify the period of expulsion under  
28 subsection (d) for a student who is expelled under this section.

29 (f) Notwithstanding section 20 of this chapter, a student who is:

30 (1) identified as bringing a deadly weapon to school or on school  
31 property; or

32 (2) in possession of a deadly weapon on school property;

33 may be expelled for not more than one (1) calendar year.

34 (g) A superintendent or the superintendent's designee shall  
35 immediately notify the appropriate law enforcement agency having  
36 jurisdiction over the property where the school is located if a student  
37 engages in a behavior described in subsection (d). ~~The superintendent~~  
38 ~~may give similar notice if the student engages in a behavior described~~  
39 ~~in subsection (f).~~ Upon receiving notification under this subsection, the  
40 law enforcement agency shall begin an investigation and take  
41 appropriate action.

42 (h) A student with a disability (as defined in IC 20-35-1-8) who

HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 possesses a firearm on school property is subject to procedural  
2 safeguards under 20 U.S.C. 1415.

3 SECTION 134. IC 20-33-8-17 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE  
4 JULY 1, 2026]. ~~Sec. 17: A student may be expelled from school if the  
5 student's legal settlement is not in the attendance area of the school  
6 corporation where the student is enrolled.~~

7 SECTION 135. IC 20-33-8-23, AS ADDED BY P.L.1-2005,  
8 SECTION 17, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
9 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 23. The superintendent or the person designated  
10 by the superintendent under section 19(a) of this chapter may continue  
11 suspension of a student for more than the ten (10) school day period of  
12 the principal's suspension and until the time of the expulsion decision  
13 under section 19 of this chapter if the superintendent or the designated  
14 person determines that the student's continued suspension will prevent  
15 or substantially reduce the risk of:

- 16 (1) interference with an educational function or school purposes;
- 17 or
- 18 (2) a physical injury to the student, other students, school
- 19 employees, or visitors to the school.

20 However, a student may not be suspended from school pending a  
21 meeting on a student's proposed expulsion if the expulsion is ordered  
22 under section 17 of this chapter.

23 SECTION 136. IC 20-33-8-30, AS AMENDED BY P.L.233-2015,  
24 SECTION 263, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
25 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 30. (a) This section applies to the  
26 following:

- 27 (1) A student who:
  - 28 (A) is expelled from a school corporation or charter school
  - 29 under this chapter; or
  - 30 (B) withdraws from a school corporation or charter school
  - 31 to avoid expulsion.
- 32 (2) A student who:
  - 33 (A) is required to separate for disciplinary reasons from a
  - 34 nonpublic school or a school in a state other than Indiana by
  - 35 the administrative authority of the school; or
  - 36 (B) withdraws from a nonpublic school or a school in a state
  - 37 other than Indiana in order to avoid being required to
  - 38 separate from the school for disciplinary reasons by the
  - 39 administrative authority of the school.

40 (b) The student referred to in subsection (a) may enroll in another  
41 school corporation or charter school during the period of the actual or  
42 proposed expulsion or separation if:

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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- 1 (1) the student's parent informs the school corporation in which
- 2 the student seeks to enroll and also:
- 3 (A) in the case of a student withdrawing from a charter
- 4 school that is not a conversion charter school to avoid
- 5 expulsion, the conversion charter school; or
- 6 (B) in the case of a student withdrawing from a conversion
- 7 charter school to avoid expulsion:
- 8 (i) the conversion charter school; and
- 9 (ii) the school corporation that sponsored the
- 10 conversion charter school;
- 11 of the student's expulsion, separation, or withdrawal to avoid
- 12 expulsion or separation;
- 13 (2) the school corporation (and, in the case of a student
- 14 withdrawal described in subdivision (1)(A) or (1)(B), the charter
- 15 school) consents to the student's enrollment; and
- 16 (3) the student agrees to the terms and conditions of enrollment
- 17 established by the school corporation (or, in the case of a student
- 18 withdrawal described in subdivision (1)(A) or (1)(B), the charter
- 19 school or conversion charter school).
- 20 (c) If:
- 21 (1) a student's parent fails to inform the school corporation of the
- 22 expulsion or separation or withdrawal to avoid expulsion or
- 23 separation; or
- 24 (2) a student fails to follow the terms and conditions of
- 25 enrollment under subsection (b)(3);
- 26 the school corporation or charter school may withdraw consent and
- 27 prohibit the student's enrollment during the period of the actual or
- 28 proposed expulsion or separation.
- 29 ~~(d) This section does not apply to a student who is expelled under~~
- 30 ~~section 17 of this chapter.~~
- 31 SECTION 137. IC 20-34-8-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.232-2025,
- 32 SECTION 17, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 33 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. (a) This section applies to:
- 34 (1) a head coach or assistant coach who coaches an athletic
- 35 activity;
- 36 (2) a marching band leader;
- 37 (3) a drama or musical leader; or
- 38 (4) a leader of an extracurricular activity in which students have
- 39 an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest activity as determined
- 40 by the department in consultation with an organization that
- 41 specializes in the prevention of sudden cardiac arrest.
- 42 (b) An individual described in subsection (a) shall complete the

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 sudden cardiac arrest training course offered by a provider approved by  
2 the department in a manner specified by the state board under  
3 IC 20-28-5.5-1 or IC 20-28-5.5-1.5.

4 (c) An individual described in subsection (a) who complies with  
5 this section and provides coaching or leadership services in good faith  
6 is not personally liable for damages in a civil action as a result of a  
7 sudden cardiac arrest incurred by an applicable student participating in  
8 an event in which students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac  
9 arrest for which the head coach, assistant coach, marching band leader,  
10 drama or musical leader, or other applicable leader provided coaching  
11 or leadership services, except for an act or omission by the individual  
12 described in subsection (a) that constitutes gross negligence or willful  
13 or wanton misconduct.

14 (d) An individual described in subsection (a) shall ensure that an  
15 operational automated external defibrillator (AED) is present:

16 (1) at each event events in which students have an increased risk  
17 of sudden cardiac arrest for which the individual described in  
18 subsection (a) is providing coaching or leadership; and

19 (2) as specified in the venue specific emergency action plan  
20 for sudden cardiac arrest developed by a school corporation,  
21 charter school, or state accredited nonpublic school under  
22 subsection (f).

23 (e) At each event in which students have an increased risk of  
24 sudden cardiac arrest, an individual described in subsection (a) shall  
25 inform all individuals who are coaching or providing leadership at the  
26 event in which students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest  
27 of the location of the automated external defibrillator (AED).

28 (f) A school corporation, charter school, and state accredited  
29 nonpublic school shall do the following:

30 (1) Develop a venue specific emergency action plan for sudden  
31 cardiac arrest that includes:

32 (A) elements recommended by the American Heart  
33 Association, Heart Safe Schools Program, or another similar  
34 nationally recognized evidence based program; and

35 (B) the number and location of automated external  
36 defibrillators (AED) that are required to be present at  
37 events in which students have an increased risk of  
38 sudden cardiac arrest.

39 (2) Share the plan described in subdivision (1) with each  
40 individual described in subsection (a).

41 (3) Before the beginning of the season of each event in which  
42 students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest, share

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1 the plan described in subdivision (1) with all applicable students.  
2 (g) A school corporation, a charter school, a state accredited  
3 nonpublic school or an accredited nonpublic school (as defined in  
4 IC 10-21-1-1) may apply for a grant under IC 10-21-1-2(a)(1)(C)(viii)  
5 to purchase an automated external defibrillator (AED) if the school  
6 corporation, charter school, state accredited nonpublic school or  
7 accredited nonpublic school develops a venue specific emergency  
8 action plan for sudden cardiac arrest.

9 SECTION 138. IC 20-34-9 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
10 1, 2026]. (Student and Parent Support Services Grant Program).

11 SECTION 139. IC 20-35-5-17, AS ADDED BY P.L.1-2005,  
12 SECTION 19, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
13 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 17. (a) A teacher who:

- 14 (1) has not retained a status as a semipermanent, permanent, or  
15 nonpermanent teacher with a participating school corporation;  
16 and
- 17 (2) loses the teacher's job in a special education cooperative  
18 because of a reduction in services or discontinuance of the  
19 cooperative;

20 shall be considered for any job opening for which the teacher is  
21 qualified that occurs in any of the participating school corporations in  
22 the school year immediately following the reduction in services or  
23 discontinuance of the cooperative.

24 (b) A teacher employed under this section has the same rights and  
25 privileges as teachers employed under IC 20-26-10-5 and  
26 IC 20-26-10-6.

27 SECTION 140. IC 20-38-2-6 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
28 1, 2026]. Sec. 6. On or before July 1, 2027, and July 1 biennially  
29 thereafter, the education commission of the states shall submit a report  
30 to the executive director of the legislative services agency, in an  
31 electronic format under IC 5-14-6, for review by the interim committee  
32 on government in accordance with IC 1-1-15.5-4 and IC 2-5-1.3-13(g).  
33 The report shall describe:

- 34 (1) official action taken; and
  - 35 (2) actionable items considered;
- 36 by the education commission of the states during the preceding two (2)  
37 years:

38 SECTION 141. IC 20-40-1 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
39 1, 2026]. (Funds Established Outside IC 20-40).

40 SECTION 142. IC 20-40-18-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.214-2025,  
41 SECTION 198, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
42 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) This section sets forth an

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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- 1 exclusive list of the expenditures that may be made from the operations
- 2 fund under section 5(1) of this chapter, as set forth in the school
- 3 corporation's plan or amended plan.
- 4 (b) Subject to the expenditures that are identified in the school
- 5 corporation's plan or amended plan, the operations fund shall be used
- 6 for the following:
- 7 (1) Site acquisition.
- 8 (2) Site development.
- 9 (3) Building acquisition, construction, replacement, renovation,
- 10 remodeling, improvement, and maintenance, including building
- 11 materials and employment services described in subsection (c).
- 12 (4) Rental of real estate, buildings, facilities, and equipment.
- 13 However, the fund may not be used for payments authorized
- 14 under IC 20-47-2 and IC 20-47-3.
- 15 (5) To repair and replace buildings and to repair and replace
- 16 building fixtures that are:
- 17 (A) owned or leased by the school corporation; and
- 18 (B) of a type constituting loss capable of being covered by
- 19 casualty insurance.
- 20 (6) Purchase, lease, repair, or maintenance of equipment,
- 21 including maintenance vehicles to be used by the school
- 22 corporation. However, the fund may not be used to pay for the
- 23 following:
- 24 (A) The purchase, lease, repair, or maintenance of vehicles
- 25 that are not maintenance vehicles.
- 26 (B) Except as provided in subdivision (7), equipment to be
- 27 used primarily for interscholastic or extracurricular
- 28 activities.
- 29 (7) Service contracts for janitorial and custodial services,
- 30 maintenance services, snow and ice removal services, trash
- 31 removal services, mowing and lawn care services, pest control
- 32 services, and any other routine services normally required in the
- 33 maintenance or upkeep of school facilities.
- 34 (8) Repair, replacement, or site acquisition that is necessitated by
- 35 an emergency.
- 36 (9) Construction, repair, replacement, remodeling, or
- 37 maintenance of a school sports facility. However, the maximum
- 38 expenditures under this subdivision in a calendar year may not
- 39 exceed two and seven-tenths percent (2.7%) of the property tax
- 40 revenues levied for the fund in the calendar year.
- 41 (10) Utilities.
- 42 (11) Property and casualty insurance.

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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- (12) Purchase, lease, upgrade, maintain, or repair technology that will not be allocated to student instruction and learning under IC 20-42.5, including the following:
  - (A) Computer hardware, computer software, wiring and computer networks, and communication access systems used to connect with computer networks or electronic gateways.
  - (B) Services of full-time or part-time computer maintenance employees.
  - (C) Conducting nonrecurring inservice technology training of school employees.
  - (D) Implementing the technology preparation curriculum.
  - (E) Participating in a program to provide educational technologies, including
    - (i) ~~computers in the homes of students (commonly referred to as "the buddy system project") under IC 20-20-13-6;~~
    - (ii) ~~the 4R's technology program;~~ or
    - (iii) any ~~other~~ program under the educational technology program described in ~~IC 20-20-13-~~ **IC 20-20.5-6.**
  - (F) Obtaining any combination of equipment or services described in clauses (D) and (E).
- (13) To pay advances, together with interest on the advances, from the common school fund for educational technology programs under IC 20-49-4.
- (14) To pay for energy saving contracts entered into by a school corporation under IC 36-1-12.5.
- (15) To maintain a joint school established with a school corporation in an adjacent state under IC 20-23-11 as is otherwise provided by law for maintaining the public schools in Indiana.
- (16) To pay a judgment rendered against the school corporation, or rendered against an officer or employee of the school corporation for which the school corporation is liable under IC 34-13-2, IC 34-13-3, or IC 34-13-4 (or IC 34-4-16.5, IC 34-4-16.6, or IC 34-4-16.7 before their repeal).
- (17) To pay a claim or settlement for which the school corporation is liable under IC 34-13-2, IC 34-13-3, or IC 34-13-4 (or IC 34-4-16.5, IC 34-4-16.6, or IC 34-4-16.7 before their repeal).
- (18) To pay a premium, management fee, claim, or settlement for

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 which the school corporation is liable under a federal or state  
 2 statute, including IC 22-3 and IC 22-4.  
 3 (19) To pay a settlement or claim for which insurance coverage  
 4 is permitted under IC 20-26-5-4(a)(15).  
 5 (20) All other lawful expenses that are not expenses described in  
 6 IC 20-40-2-4.  
 7 (21) To pay for expenses incurred as a result of unusual  
 8 circumstances.  
 9 (c) The fund shall be used to pay for services of school corporation  
 10 employees who perform services considered to be a skilled trade by the  
 11 United States Department of Labor, Employment and Training  
 12 Administration. For purposes of this subsection, skilled trade services  
 13 do not include janitorial or comparable routine services normally  
 14 provided in the daily operation of school facilities or equipment.  
 15 Payment may be made for employee services only if the employees  
 16 perform:  
 17 (1) construction of;  
 18 (2) renovation of;  
 19 (3) remodeling of;  
 20 (4) repair of; or  
 21 (5) maintenance on;  
 22 the facilities and equipment of the school corporation.  
 23 SECTION 143. IC 20-40-18-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.162-2024,  
 24 SECTION 24, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 25 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) A school corporation shall use the  
 26 operations fund to pay the transportation costs attributable to  
 27 transportation of school children as specified in subsection (b).  
 28 (b) Only the following costs are payable from the fund:  
 29 (1) Salaries paid to bus drivers, transportation supervisors,  
 30 mechanics and garage employees, clerks, and other  
 31 transportation related employees.  
 32 (2) Contracted transportation services.  
 33 (3) Wages of independent contractors.  
 34 (4) Contracts with common carriers.  
 35 (5) Student fares.  
 36 (6) Transportation related insurance.  
 37 (7) Transportation of school children to:  
 38 (A) an apprenticeship program (as defined in  
 39 IC 20-43-8-0.3);  
 40 (B) a career and technical education (as defined in  
 41 ~~IC 20-20-38-1~~ IC 20-20.5-10-1) program;  
 42 (C) a modern youth apprenticeship (as defined in

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 IC 20-51.4-2-9.5); and  
2 (D) a work based learning course (as defined in  
3 IC 20-43-8-0.7).

4 (8) Other expenses of operating the school corporation's  
5 transportation service, including gasoline, lubricants, tires,  
6 repairs, contracted repairs, parts, supplies, equipment, and other  
7 related expenses.

8 (c) Percentages or parts of salaries of teaching personnel or  
9 principals are not attributable to transportation. However, parts of  
10 salaries of instructional aides who are assigned to assist with the school  
11 transportation program are attributable to transportation. The costs  
12 described in this subsection (other than instructional aide costs) may  
13 not be budgeted for payment or paid from the fund.

14 (d) Costs for a calendar year are those costs attributable to  
15 transportation for students during the school year ending in the  
16 calendar year.

17 SECTION 144. IC 20-40-18-10.5, AS AMENDED BY  
18 P.L.68-2025, SECTION 214, IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
19 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10.5. (a) This section  
20 applies only to eligible charter schools that receive amounts distributed  
21 under IC 20-46-8-11.2 or IC 20-46-8-12.

22 (b) For purposes of this section, "charter board" means the  
23 governing body of the organizer (as defined in IC 20-24-1-7) of an  
24 eligible charter school.

25 (c) The operations fund may be used only to do the following:  
26 (1) Carry out a capital projects plan under the following  
27 conditions:

28 (A) The plan must include all proposed expenditures that  
29 exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) and are for:

- 30 (i) capital assets; or
- 31 (ii) projects that are considered capital in nature,  
32 including technology related projects.

33 (B) If a charter school wants to use money in the operations  
34 fund during the year to pay for any items listed in clause (E)  
35 that are considered capital in nature, the charter board must  
36 approve a plan following a public hearing. The charter  
37 school shall post the proposed plan or proposed amended  
38 plan on the charter school's website before the hearing. The  
39 charter school shall submit the proposed capital projects  
40 plan to the department of local government finance's  
41 computer gateway at least ten (10) days before the public  
42 hearing. The department of local government finance shall

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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make the proposed plan available at least ten (10) days before the hearing, through the department's computer gateway. If an amendment to a capital projects plan is proposed, the charter board must declare the nature of and need for the amendment in the plan amendment.

(C) If a charter board adopts a plan under clause (B), the charter school must then submit the plan to the department of local government finance for inclusion on the department's computer gateway not later than thirty (30) days after adoption of the plan. The department of local government finance shall immediately make the proposed plan available through the gateway website.

(D) This clause applies to an amendment to a plan that is required because of an emergency that results in costs that exceed the amount accumulated in the fund for repair, replacement, or site acquisition that is necessitated by an emergency. The charter board is not required to comply with clause (C). If the charter board determines that an emergency exists, the governing body may adopt an amendment to the plan. An amendment to a plan is not subject to the deadline and procedures for adoption of a plan described in this subdivision.

(E) This clause sets forth an exclusive list of the expenditures that may be made from the operations fund under clause (B), as set forth in the charter board's plan or amended plan. Subject to the expenditures that are identified in the charter school's plan or amended plan, the operations fund shall be used for the following:

- (i) Site acquisition.
- (ii) Site development.
- (iii) Building acquisition, construction, replacement, renovation, remodeling, improvement, and maintenance, including building materials and employment services.
- (iv) Rental of real estate, buildings, facilities, and equipment.
- (v) To repair and replace buildings and to repair and replace building fixtures that are owned or leased by the charter school and of a type constituting loss capable of being covered by casualty insurance.
- (vi) Purchase, lease, repair, or maintenance of equipment, including maintenance vehicles to be used

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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by the charter school. However, the fund may not be used to pay for the purchase, lease, repair, or maintenance of vehicles that are not maintenance vehicles, or equipment to be used primarily for interscholastic or extracurricular activities.

(vii) Service contracts for janitorial and custodial services, maintenance services, snow and ice removal services, trash removal services, mowing and lawn care services, pest control services, and any other routine services normally required in the maintenance or upkeep of charter school facilities.

(viii) Repair, replacement, or site acquisition that is necessitated by an emergency.

(ix) Construction, repair, replacement, remodeling, or maintenance of a school sports facility.

(x) Utilities.

(xi) Property and casualty insurance.

(xii) Purchase, lease, upgrade, maintenance, or repair technology that will not be allocated to student instruction and learning, to include computer hardware, computer software, wiring and computer networks, and communication access systems used to connect with computer networks or electronic gateways; services of full-time or part-time computer maintenance employees; conducting nonrecurring inservice technology training of school employees; implementing the technology preparation curriculum; participating in a program to provide educational technologies, including computers in the homes of students (commonly referred to as "the buddy system project") under IC 20-20-13-6, the 4R's technology program, or any other program under the educational technology program described in IC 20-20-13; <-> [ IIC 20-20.5-6; and obtaining any combination of equipment or services in the preceding two (2) categories of this item.

(xiii) Services of charter school employees who perform services considered to be a skilled trade by the United States Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration. For purposes of this item, skilled trade services do not include janitorial or comparable routine services normally provided in the

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daily operation of school facilities or equipment.  
Payment may be made for employee services only if  
the employees perform construction of, renovation of,  
remodeling of, repair of, or maintenance on the  
facilities and equipment of the charter school.

- (2) Pay transportation costs under the following conditions:
  - (A) A charter school shall use the operations fund to pay the transportation costs attributable to transportation of school children as specified in clause (B).
  - (B) Only the following costs are payable from the fund:
    - (i) Salaries paid to bus drivers, transportation supervisors, mechanics and garage employees, clerks, and other transportation related employees.
    - (ii) Contracted transportation services.
    - (iii) Wages of independent contractors.
    - (iv) Contracts with common carriers.
    - (v) Student fares.
    - (vi) Transportation related insurance.
    - (vii) Other expenses of operating the school corporation's transportation service, including gasoline, lubricants, tires, repairs, contracted repairs, parts, supplies, equipment, and other related expenses.
  - (C) Percentages or parts of salaries of teaching personnel or principals are not attributable to transportation. However, parts of salaries of instructional aides who are assigned to assist with the school transportation program are attributable to transportation. The costs described in this clause (other than instructional aide costs) may not be budgeted for payment or paid from the fund.
  - (D) Costs for a calendar year are those costs attributable to transportation for students during the school year ending in the calendar year.
- (3) Carry out a school bus replacement plan approved by the charter school board under the following conditions:
  - (A) Before a charter school may use money in the operations fund for replacing school buses, a resolution approving the school bus replacement plan or amended plan must be submitted to the department of local government finance.
  - (B) The department of local government finance shall prescribe the format of the plan. A plan must apply to at least the five (5) budget years immediately following the

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year the plan is adopted and include at least an estimate for each year to which it applies of the nature and amount of proposed expenditures from the fund, and if the school corporation is seeking to acquire or contract for transportation services that will provide additional school buses or school buses with a larger seating capacity as compared with the number and type of school buses from the prior school year, evidence of a demand for increased transportation services within the school corporation. However, the evidence requirement regarding a contract for transportation services does not apply if contracted transportation services are not paid from the fund.

(C) If the charter school is seeking to require a contractor to replace a school bus, evidence that the need exists for the replacement of the school bus. This clause does not apply if contracted transportation services are not paid from the operations fund.

(D) Evidence that the charter school that seeks to acquire additional school buses under this subdivision is acquiring or contracting for the school buses only for the purposes specified in clause (B) or for replacement purposes.

(E) If a charter school wants to use money in the operations fund during the year to pay for school bus replacement, the governing body must adopt a resolution approving the bus replacement plan or amended plan. The charter school shall post the proposed plan or proposed amended plan on the charter school's website before the hearing. The governing body must hold a hearing on the adoption of the plan. The charter school shall submit the proposed school bus replacement plan or amended plan to the department of local government finance's computer gateway at least ten (10) days before the hearing on the adoption of the plan. The department of local government finance shall make the proposed plan available to taxpayers, at least ten (10) days before the hearing, through the department's computer gateway. If an amendment to a bus replacement plan is being proposed, the charter school must declare the nature of and the need for the amendment in the resolution to adopt the amendment to the plan.

(4) Pay expenses that are allocated to overhead and operational expenditures.

(5) Establish, maintain, and equip a public playground.

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 SECTION 145. IC 20-42.5-2-0.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.126-2017,  
2 SECTION 6, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
3 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 0.5. As used in this chapter, "applicable nonpublic  
4 school" has the meaning set forth in ~~IC 20-20-1-0.5.~~ **IC 20-20.5-1-1.**

5  
6 SECTION 146. IC 20-42.5-2-4, AS AMENDED BY  
7 P.L.126-2017, SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
8 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) Educational service centers  
9 established under ~~IC 20-20-1~~ **IC 20-20.5-1** shall support and facilitate  
10 actions by school corporations and charter schools under this article,  
11 including by the use of an educational service center's existing  
12 cooperative agreements.

13 (b) School corporations, charter schools, and educational service  
14 centers may use the division of finance of the department and the office  
15 of management and budget to provide technical assistance under this  
16 article.

17 (c) Not later than August 31 of each year, the educational service  
18 centers shall report to the state board the results of the efforts of the  
19 educational service centers under this article during the preceding  
20 school year.

21 SECTION 147. IC 20-42.5-3-5, AS AMENDED BY  
22 P.L.130-2018, SECTION 90, IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
23 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) For each school  
24 year using the 2005-2006 school year as a baseline:

25 (1) the office of management and budget shall analyze and report  
26 to the state board, the governor, and the general assembly ~~concerning the progress or lack of progress of each school  
27 corporation, of all school corporations in each educational  
28 service center's area; and in Indiana as a whole in improving the  
29 ratio of student instructional expenditures to all other  
30 expenditures for the previous school year; and~~

31 ~~(2) the state board shall recognize publicly each school  
32 corporation and educational service center that has an improved  
33 ratio of student instructional expenditures to all other  
34 expenditures during the previous school year;~~

35 ~~(3) the office of management and budget and the division of  
36 finance of the department shall be available to consult with and  
37 provide technical assistance to each school corporation that did  
38 not have an improved ratio of student instructional expenditures  
39 to all other expenditures during the previous school year; and~~

40 ~~(4) (2) each school corporation shall submit a report or make  
41 available to the department in a form and manner~~  
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1 **determined by the department** the following information to the  
2 public in the school corporation's annual performance report and  
3 to the members of the general assembly whose districts include  
4 the school corporation:

5 (A) the percentage of resources spent by the school  
6 corporation during the previous school year on each of the  
7 following categories of expenditures:

- 8 (i) (A) Student academic achievement expenditures.
- 9 (ii) (B) Student instructional support expenditures.
- 10 (iii) (C) Overhead and operational expenditures.
- 11 (iv) (D) Nonoperational expenditures.

12 (B) The trend line for each category described in clause (A):

13 (C) Whether the school corporation did or did not make  
14 progress in improving the ratio of student instructional  
15 expenditures to all other expenditures during the previous  
16 school year:

17 (b) The reports to the general assembly under subsection (a)(1)  
18 and to individual members of the general assembly under subsection  
19 (a)(4) must be submitted to the executive director of the legislative  
20 services agency in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.

21 SECTION 148. IC 20-42.5-3-7, AS AMENDED BY  
22 P.L.130-2018, SECTION 91, IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
23 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) The chart of  
24 accounts used by school corporations must:

- 25 (1) coincide with the categories of expenditures described in  
26 section ~~5(a)(4)(A)~~ **5(a)(2)** of this chapter; and
- 27 (2) provide the ability to determine expenditures made at and for  
28 each individual school building of a school corporation.

29 Each school corporation shall ~~on January 1, 2019, begin using~~ **use** the  
30 chart of accounts developed under this section.

31 (b) The state board of accounts may, in consultation with the  
32 department and the office of management and budget, modify the chart  
33 of accounts as necessary to make the chart of accounts coincide with  
34 the categories of expenditures described in section ~~5(a)(4)(A)~~ **5(a)(2)**  
35 of this chapter.

36 SECTION 149. IC 20-42.5-4 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
37 1, 2026]. (Emergency Measures to Maintain Instruction and Learning  
38 Programs).

39 SECTION 150. IC 20-43-8-7.5, AS AMENDED BY THE  
40 TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS BILL OF THE 2026 GENERAL  
41 ASSEMBLY, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
42 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7.5. (a) The department of workforce development

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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- 1 shall designate each career and technical education program as:
- 2 (1) an apprenticeship program;
- 3 (2) a cooperative education program;
- 4 (3) a work based learning program;
- 5 (4) a high value program;
- 6 (5) a moderate value program;
- 7 (6) a less than moderate value program;
- 8 (7) an introductory program; or
- 9 (8) a foundational career and technical education course.

10 The designation of career and technical education programs by the  
 11 department of workforce development under this section must be  
 12 reviewed and approved by the state board as provided in this section.

13 (b) Not later than December 1, 2019, and each December 1  
 14 thereafter, the department of workforce development shall designate  
 15 each career and technical education program as:

- 16 (1) an apprenticeship program;
- 17 (2) a work based learning program;
- 18 (3) a high value level 1 program;
- 19 (4) a high value level 2 program;
- 20 (5) a moderate value level 1 program;
- 21 (6) a moderate value level 2 program;
- 22 (7) a less than moderate value level 1 program;
- 23 (8) a less than moderate value level 2 program;
- 24 (9) a planning for college and career course; or
- 25 (10) an introductory program.

26 The designation of career and technical education programs by the  
 27 department of workforce development under this section must be  
 28 reviewed and approved by the state board as provided in this section.

29 (c) If a new career and technical education program is created by  
 30 rule, the department of workforce development shall determine the  
 31 category in which the program is designated under subsection (a) or  
 32 (b). A career and technical education program must be approved by the  
 33 department of workforce development in order for a school corporation  
 34 to be eligible to receive a grant amount for the career and technical  
 35 education program under section 15 of this chapter.

36 (d) Not later than December 1 of each year, the department of  
 37 workforce development shall provide a report to the state board that  
 38 includes the following information:

- 39 (1) A list of the career and technical education courses for the  
 40 next school year that are designated by the department of  
 41 workforce development under this section.
- 42 (2) The labor market demand used to designate each career and

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- 1 technical education program under this section.
- 2 (3) The average wage level used to designate each career and
- 3 technical education program under this section.
- 4 (4) If applicable, the labor market demand and average wage
- 5 level data for specific regions, counties, and municipalities.
- 6 (5) Any other information pertinent to the methodology used by
- 7 the department of workforce development to designate each
- 8 career and technical education program under this section.
- 9 (e) Not later than January 1 of each year, the state board shall
- 10 review and approve the report provided by the department of workforce
- 11 development under subsection (d) at a public meeting to ensure that the
- 12 list of courses is in compliance with the long range state plan
- 13 developed under ~~IC 20-20-38-4~~ [IC 20-20.5-10-4](#). Not later than
- 14 January 1 of each year, the state board shall send its determination to
- 15 the department of workforce development. Upon receipt of the state
- 16 board's determination, the department of workforce development shall
- 17 provide the approved report to the department.
- 18 (f) The department of workforce development shall publish the
- 19 approved report under subsection (e) on the department of workforce
- 20 development's ~~Internet web site~~, **website**, including the following:
- 21 (1) The list of career and technical education programs that are
- 22 designated by the department of workforce development under
- 23 this section.
- 24 (2) The labor market demand used to designate each career and
- 25 technical education program under this section.
- 26 (3) The average wage level used to designate each career and
- 27 technical education program under this section.
- 28 (4) If applicable, the labor market demand and average wage
- 29 level data for specific regions, counties, and municipalities.
- 30 (5) Any other information pertinent to the methodology used by
- 31 the department of workforce development to designate each
- 32 career and technical education program under this section.
- 33 In addition, the department shall notify all school corporations of the
- 34 state board's approval of the report under subsection (e) and provide a
- 35 link within the notice to the approved report published on the
- 36 department of workforce development's ~~Internet web site~~ **website** under
- 37 this subsection.
- 38 SECTION 151. IC 20-49-4-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.189-2023,
- 39 SECTION 44, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 40 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. The state board may advance money to school
- 41 corporations and charter schools to be used for:
- 42 (1) school building construction programs; and

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 (2) ~~subject to IC 20-20-13-7~~, educational technology programs;  
2 as provided in this chapter.

3 SECTION 152. IC 21-13-1-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.232-2025,  
4 SECTION 20, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
5 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. "Fund":

6 (1) for purposes of IC 21-13-2, refers to the William A.  
7 Crawford minority teacher scholarship fund established by  
8 IC 21-13-2-1;

9 (2) for purposes of IC 21-13-4, refers to the National Guard  
10 tuition supplement program fund established by IC 21-13-4-1;

11 (3) for purposes of IC 21-13-5, refers to the National Guard  
12 scholarship extension fund established by IC 21-13-5-1;

13 ~~(4) for purposes of IC 21-13-6, refers to the primary care~~  
14 ~~physician loan forgiveness fund established by IC 21-13-6-3;~~

15 ~~(5) (4)~~ for purposes of IC 21-13-6.5, refers to the medical  
16 residency education fund established by IC 21-13-6.5-1; and

17 ~~(6) (5)~~ for purposes of IC 21-13-12, refers to the county deputy  
18 prosecuting attorney and public defender scholarship fund  
19 established by IC 21-13-12-6.

20 SECTION 153. IC 21-13-6 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
21 1, 2026]. (Primary Care Physician Loan Forgiveness Program).

22 SECTION 154. IC 21-18-21-3, AS ADDED BY P.L.213-2025,  
23 SECTION 251, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
24 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. The commission shall biennially  
25 prepare a plan for implementing postsecondary career and technical  
26 education programming after considering the long range state plan  
27 developed under ~~IC 20-20-38-4~~. **IC 20-20.5-10-4**. The commission  
28 shall submit the plan to the state board for its review and  
29 recommendations. The commission shall specifically report on how the  
30 plan addresses preparation for employment.

31 SECTION 155. IC 21-18-21-5, AS ADDED BY P.L.213-2025,  
32 SECTION 251, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
33 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. The commission may make  
34 recommendations to the state board concerning the legislative budget  
35 requests prepared under ~~IC 20-20-38-12~~ **IC 20-20.5-10-12** by  
36 state educational institutions for state funds for career and technical  
37 education.

38 SECTION 156. IC 21-18.5-6-9 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE  
39 JULY 1, 2026]. ~~Sec. 9: The cost of performing a team onsite~~  
40 ~~investigation for purposes of section 8 of this chapter shall be paid by~~  
41 ~~the applicant postsecondary credit bearing proprietary educational~~  
42 ~~institution. However, the total cost of an inspection, including room,~~

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 board, and mileage that does not require travel outside Indiana, may not  
 2 exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for any one (1) postsecondary  
 3 credit bearing proprietary educational institution.  
 4 SECTION 157. IC 21-38-1-9 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
 5 1, 2026]. Sec. 9: "Endowment" refers to an endowment described in  
 6 IC 21-38-8-2.  
 7 SECTION 158. IC 21-38-1-13, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2007,  
 8 SECTION 279, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 9 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 13. "Fund",  
 10 > (1) for purposes of IC 21-38-7, refers to the Indiana state  
 11 teachers' retirement fund established by IC 5-10.4-2-1. and  
 12 (2) for purposes of IC 21-38-8, refers to the Indiana excellence  
 13 in teaching endowment established under IC 21-38-8-2.  
 14 SECTION 159. IC 21-38-1-14, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2007,  
 15 SECTION 279, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 16 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 14. "Fund member", for purposes  
 17 of IC 21-38-7, means an individual who qualifies for membership in  
 18 the fund described in section 13(1) 13 of this chapter under  
 19 IC 5-10.4-4-1.  
 20 SECTION 160. IC 21-38-8 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
 21 1, 2026]. (Indiana Excellence in Teaching Endowment).  
 22 SECTION 161. IC 21-42-3-6, AS ADDED BY P.L.94-2024,  
 23 SECTION 10, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 24 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. (a) The definitions in IC 20-18-2 apply  
 25 throughout this section.  
 26 (b) This section applies to a high school that is:  
 27 (1) a public school, including a charter school;  
 28 (2) a state accredited nonpublic school; or  
 29 (3) an eligible school (as defined in IC 20-51-1-4.7).  
 30 (c) If a high school submits to the commission for higher  
 31 education an Indiana college core feasibility report under  
 32 IC 20-30-5-25, the high school shall submit the report, in a manner  
 33 prescribed by the commission for higher education, not later than  
 34 October 1, 2024.  
 35 (d) (c) The commission for higher education, in collaboration with  
 36 the department, shall:  
 37 (1) review each feasibility report submitted by each high school;  
 38 and  
 39 (2) provide guidance to the applicable high school on removing  
 40 any barriers that prevent or hinder the high school from offering  
 41 the Indiana college core.  
 42 (e) Not later than December 1, 2025, the commission for higher

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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education shall do the following:

(1) Prepare a report regarding the following:

(A) The number of high schools that offer and the number of high schools that do not offer the Indiana college core.

(B) The outcomes of students who earn the Indiana college core.

(2) Submit the report prepared under subdivision (1) to the:

(A) governor; and

(B) legislative council in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.

SECTION 162. IC 31-16-6-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.263-2019, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. (a) The duty to support a child under this chapter, which does not include support for educational needs, ceases when the child becomes nineteen (19) years of age unless any of the following conditions occurs:

(1) The child is emancipated before becoming nineteen (19) years of age. In this case the child support, except for the educational needs outlined in section 2(a)(1) of this chapter, terminates at the time of emancipation, although an order for educational needs may continue in effect until further order of the court.

(2) The child is incapacitated. In this case the child support continues during the incapacity or until further order of the court.

(3) The child:

(A) is at least eighteen (18) years of age;

(B) has not attended a secondary school or postsecondary educational institution for the prior four (4) months and is not enrolled in a secondary school or postsecondary educational institution; and

(C) is or is capable of supporting himself or herself through employment.

In this case the child support terminates upon the court's finding that the conditions prescribed in this subdivision exist. However, if the court finds that the conditions set forth in clauses (A) through (C) are met but that the child is only partially supporting or is capable of only partially supporting himself or herself, the court may order that support be modified instead of terminated.

(4) The child is a full-time student in a secondary school (as defined in ~~IC 20-18-2-18(a)~~ **IC 20-18-2-18** and a parent or guardian of the child files notice under subsection (c) advising

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1 the court that the child continues or will continue to be enrolled  
2 in secondary school. In this case, the child support:  
3 (1) continues until; and  
4 (2) terminates upon;  
5 the child's graduation from secondary school.  
6 (b) For purposes of determining if a child is emancipated under  
7 subsection (a)(1), if the court finds that the child:  
8 (1) is on active duty in the United States armed services;  
9 (2) has married; or  
10 (3) is not under the care or control of:  
11 (A) either parent; or  
12 (B) an individual or agency approved by the court;  
13 the court shall find the child emancipated and terminate the child  
14 support.  
15 (c) Notice under subsection (a)(4) must:  
16 (1) be filed with the court and provided to each party to the child  
17 support proceeding:  
18 (A) not earlier than the date on which the child becomes  
19 seventeen (17) years of age; and  
20 (B) not later than the date on which the child becomes  
21 nineteen (19) years of age; and  
22 (2) include:  
23 (A) proof of the child's enrollment; and  
24 (B) the child's expected graduation date.  
25 (d) If:  
26 (1) a parent or guardian files a notice under subsection (a)(4);  
27 and  
28 (2) an objection or request for a hearing is not filed by a party to  
29 the child support proceeding not later than thirty (30) days after  
30 the party receives the notice;  
31 the court may, without holding a hearing, issue an order continuing  
32 child support through the date on which the child is expected to  
33 graduate.  
34 (e) If a court has established a duty to support a child in a court  
35 order issued before July 1, 2012, the:  
36 (1) parent or guardian of the child; or  
37 (2) child;  
38 may file a petition for educational needs until the child becomes  
39 twenty-one (21) years of age.  
40 (f) If a court has established a duty to support a child in a court  
41 order issued after June 30, 2012, the:  
42 (1) parent or guardian of the child; or

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 (2) child;  
2 may file a petition for educational needs until the child becomes  
3 nineteen (19) years of age.

4 (g) If:  
5 (1) an order was issued after June 30, 2012, that denied support  
6 for educational needs to a child who was less than twenty-one  
7 (21) years of age at the time the petition for educational needs  
8 was filed; and

9 (2) support for educational needs was denied based on the fact  
10 that the child was older than eighteen (18) years of age;  
11 notwithstanding any other law, a parent or guardian of the child or the  
12 child may file with the court a subsequent petition for educational  
13 needs. The court shall consider the petition on the merits in accordance  
14 with this section and may not consider the absence of subsection (e)  
15 from law at the time of the initial filing.

16 SECTION 163. IC 33-24-6-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.77-2025,  
17 SECTION 10, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
18 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) The office of judicial administration shall  
19 do the following:

20 (1) Examine the administrative and business methods and  
21 systems employed in the offices of the clerks of court and other  
22 offices related to and serving the courts and make  
23 recommendations for necessary improvement.

24 (2) Collect and compile statistical data and other information on  
25 the judicial work of the courts in Indiana. All justices of the  
26 supreme court, judges of the court of appeals, judges of all trial  
27 courts, and any city or town courts, whether having general or  
28 special jurisdiction, court clerks, court reporters, and other  
29 officers and employees of the courts shall, upon notice by the  
30 chief administrative officer and in compliance with procedures  
31 prescribed by the chief administrative officer, furnish the chief  
32 administrative officer the information as is requested concerning  
33 the nature and volume of judicial business. The information must  
34 include the following:

35 (A) The volume, condition, and type of business conducted  
36 by the courts.

37 (B) The methods of procedure in the courts.

38 (C) The work accomplished by the courts.

39 (D) The receipt and expenditure of public money by and for  
40 the operation of the courts.

41 (E) The methods of disposition or termination of cases.

42 (3) Prepare and publish reports, not less than one (1) or more

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**HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110**



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than two (2) times per year, on the nature and volume of judicial work performed by the courts as determined by the information required in subdivision (2).

(4) Serve the judicial nominating commission and the judicial qualifications commission in the performance by the commissions of their statutory and constitutional functions.

(5) Administer the civil legal aid fund as required by IC 33-24-12.

(6) Administer the court technology fund established by section 12 of this chapter.

(7) By December 31, 2013, develop and implement a standard protocol for sending and receiving court data:

(A) between the protective order registry, established by IC 5-2-9-5.5, and county court case management systems;

(B) at the option of the prosecuting attorney, for:

(i) a prosecuting attorney's case management system;

(ii) a county court case management system; and

(iii) a county court case management system developed and operated by the office of judicial administration;

to interface with the electronic traffic tickets, as defined by IC 9-30-3-2.5; and

(C) between county court case management systems and the case management system developed and operated by the office of judicial administration.

The standard protocol developed and implemented under this subdivision shall permit private sector vendors, including vendors providing service to a local system and vendors accessing the system for information, to send and receive court information on an equitable basis and at an equitable cost, and for a case management system developed and operated by the office of judicial administration, must include a searchable field for the name and bail agent license number, if applicable, of the bail agent or a person authorized by the surety that pays bail for an individual as described in IC 35-33-8-3.2.

(8) Establish and administer an electronic system for receiving information that relates to certain individuals who may be prohibited from possessing a firearm for the purpose of:

(A) transmitting this information to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for inclusion in the NICS; and

(B) beginning July 1, 2021, compiling and publishing certain statistics related to the confiscation and retention of firearms as described under section 14 of this chapter.

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(9) Establish and administer an electronic system for receiving drug related felony conviction information from courts. The office of judicial administration shall notify NPLEx of each drug related felony entered after June 30, 2012, and do the following:

- (A) Provide NPLEx with the following information:
  - (i) The convicted individual's full name.
  - (ii) The convicted individual's date of birth.
  - (iii) The convicted individual's driver's license number, state personal identification number, or other unique number, if available.
  - (iv) The date the individual was convicted of the felony.

Upon receipt of the information from the office of judicial administration, a stop sale alert must be generated through NPLEx for each individual reported under this clause.

- (B) Notify NPLEx if the felony of an individual reported under clause (A) has been:
  - (i) set aside;
  - (ii) reversed;
  - (iii) expunged; or
  - (iv) vacated.

Upon receipt of information under this clause, NPLEx shall remove the stop sale alert issued under clause (A) for the individual.

(10) After July 1, 2018, establish and administer an electronic system for receiving from courts felony or misdemeanor conviction information for each felony or misdemeanor described in ~~IC 20-28-5-8(e)~~. **IC 20-28-5-8(b)**. The office of judicial administration shall notify the department of education at least one (1) time each week of each felony or misdemeanor described in ~~IC 20-28-5-8(e)~~ **IC 20-28-5-8(b)** entered after July 1, 2018, and do the following:

- (A) Provide the department of education with the following information:
  - (i) The convicted individual's full name.
  - (ii) The convicted individual's date of birth.
  - (iii) The convicted individual's driver's license number, state personal identification number, or other unique number, if available.
  - (iv) The date the individual was convicted of the felony or misdemeanor.
- (B) Notify the department of education if the felony or

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- 1                   misdemeanor of an individual reported under clause (A) has
- 2                   been:
- 3                   (i) set aside;
- 4                   (ii) reversed; or
- 5                   (iii) vacated.
- 6                   (11) Perform legal and administrative duties for the justices as
- 7                   determined by the justices.
- 8                   (12) Provide staff support for the judicial conference of Indiana
- 9                   established in IC 33-38-9.
- 10                  (13) Work with the United States Department of Veterans
- 11                  Affairs to identify and address the needs of veterans in the court
- 12                  system.
- 13                  (14) If necessary for purposes of IC 35-47-16-1, issue a retired
- 14                  judicial officer an identification card identifying the retired
- 15                  judicial officer as a retired judicial officer.
- 16                  (15) Establish and administer the statewide juvenile justice data
- 17                  aggregation plan established under section 12.5 of this chapter.
- 18                  (16) Create and make available an application for detention to be
- 19                  used in proceedings under IC 12-26-5 (mental health detention,
- 20                  commitment, and treatment).
- 21                  (17) Create and make available a uniform form to assist a court
- 22                  in making an indigency determination under IC 35-33-7-6.5.
- 23                  (18) Before July 1, 2025, establish and administer an electronic
- 24                  system for:
- 25                   (A) receiving a request for a chronological case summary
- 26                   from; and
- 27                   (B) transmitting a chronological case summary to;
- 28                  the state police department for purposes of expungement or
- 29                  sealing of records.
- 30                  (b) All forms to be used in gathering data must be approved by the
- 31                  supreme court and shall be distributed to all judges and clerks before
- 32                  the start of each period for which reports are required.
- 33                  (c) The office of judicial administration may adopt rules to
- 34                  implement this section.
- 35                  SECTION 164. IC 34-13-3-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.186-2025,
- 36                  SECTION 182, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
- 37                  [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) A governmental entity or an
- 38                  employee acting within the scope of the employee's employment is not
- 39                  liable if a loss results from the following:
- 40                   (1) The natural condition of unimproved property.
- 41                   (2) The condition of a reservoir, dam, canal, conduit, drain, or
- 42                  similar structure when used by a person for a purpose that is not

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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- 1           foreseeable.
- 2           (3) The temporary condition of a public thoroughfare or extreme
- 3           sport area that results from weather.
- 4           (4) The condition of an unpaved road, trail, or footpath, the
- 5           purpose of which is to provide access to a recreation or scenic
- 6           area.
- 7           (5) The design, construction, control, operation, or normal
- 8           condition of an extreme sport area, if all entrances to the extreme
- 9           sport area are marked with:
- 10           (A) a set of rules governing the use of the extreme sport
- 11           area;
- 12           (B) a warning concerning the hazards and dangers
- 13           associated with the use of the extreme sport area; and
- 14           (C) a statement that the extreme sport area may be used
- 15           only by persons operating extreme sport equipment.
- 16           This subdivision shall not be construed to relieve a governmental
- 17           entity from liability for the continuing duty to maintain extreme
- 18           sports areas in a reasonably safe condition.
- 19           (6) The initiation of a judicial or an administrative proceeding.
- 20           (7) The performance of a discretionary function; however, the
- 21           provision of medical or optical care as provided in
- 22           IC 34-6-2.1-54 shall be considered as a ministerial act.
- 23           (8) The adoption and enforcement of or failure to adopt or
- 24           enforce:
- 25           (A) a law (including rules and regulations); or
- 26           (B) in the case of a public school or charter school, a policy;
- 27           unless the act of enforcement constitutes false arrest or false
- 28           imprisonment.
- 29           (9) An act or omission performed in good faith and without
- 30           malice under the apparent authority of a statute which is invalid
- 31           if the employee would not have been liable had the statute been
- 32           valid.
- 33           (10) The act or omission of anyone other than the governmental
- 34           entity or the governmental entity's employee.
- 35           (11) The issuance, denial, suspension, or revocation of, or failure
- 36           or refusal to issue, deny, suspend, or revoke any permit, license,
- 37           certificate, approval, order, or similar authorization, where the
- 38           authority is discretionary under the law.
- 39           (12) Failure to make an inspection, or making an inadequate or
- 40           negligent inspection, of any property, other than the property of
- 41           a governmental entity, to determine whether the property
- 42           complied with or violates any law or contains a hazard to health

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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- 1 or safety.
- 2 (13) Entry upon any property where the entry is expressly or
- 3 impliedly authorized by law.
- 4 (14) Misrepresentation if unintentional.
- 5 (15) Theft by another person of money in the employee's official
- 6 custody, unless the loss was sustained because of the employee's
- 7 own negligent or wrongful act or omission.
- 8 (16) Injury to the property of a person under the jurisdiction and
- 9 control of the department of correction if the person has not
- 10 exhausted the administrative remedies and procedures provided
- 11 by section 7 of this chapter.
- 12 (17) Injury to the person or property of a person under
- 13 supervision of a governmental entity and who is:
- 14 (A) on probation;
- 15 (B) assigned to an alcohol and drug services program under
- 16 IC 12-23, a minimum security release program under
- 17 IC 11-10-8, a pretrial conditional release program under
- 18 IC 35-33-8, or a community corrections program under
- 19 IC 11-12; or
- 20 (C) subject to a court order requiring the person to be
- 21 escorted by a county police officer while on or in a
- 22 government building (as defined in IC 36-9-13-3) owned by
- 23 a county building authority under IC 36-9-13, unless the
- 24 injury is the result of an act or omission amounting to:
- 25 (i) gross negligence;
- 26 (ii) willful or wanton misconduct; or
- 27 (iii) intentional misconduct.
- 28 (18) Design of a highway (as defined in IC 9-13-2-73), toll road
- 29 project (as defined in IC 8-15-2-4(4)), tollway (as defined in
- 30 IC 8-15-3-7), or project (as defined in IC 8-15.7-2-14) if the
- 31 claimed loss occurs at least twenty (20) years after the public
- 32 highway, toll road project, tollway, or project was designed or
- 33 substantially redesigned; except that this subdivision shall not be
- 34 construed to relieve a responsible governmental entity from the
- 35 continuing duty to provide and maintain public highways in a
- 36 reasonably safe condition.
- 37 (19) Development, adoption, implementation, operation,
- 38 maintenance, or use of an enhanced emergency communication
- 39 system.
- 40 (20) Injury to a student or a student's property by an employee of
- 41 a school corporation if the employee is acting reasonably under
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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 (A) discipline policy adopted under IC 20-33-8-12; or  
 2 (B) restraint and seclusion plan adopted under  
 3 ~~IC 20-20-40-14.~~ **IC 20-20.5-13-16.**  
 4 (21) An act or omission performed in good faith under the  
 5 apparent authority of a court order described in IC 35-46-1-15.1  
 6 or IC 35-46-1-15.3 that is invalid, including an arrest or  
 7 imprisonment related to the enforcement of the court order, if the  
 8 governmental entity or employee would not have been liable had  
 9 the court order been valid.  
 10 (22) An act taken to investigate or remediate hazardous  
 11 substances, petroleum, or other pollutants associated with a  
 12 brownfield (as defined in IC 13-11-2-19.3) unless:  
 13 (A) the loss is a result of reckless conduct; or  
 14 (B) the governmental entity was responsible for the initial  
 15 placement of the hazardous substances, petroleum, or other  
 16 pollutants on the brownfield.  
 17 (23) The operation of an off-road vehicle (as defined in  
 18 IC 14-8-2-185) by a nongovernmental employee, or by a  
 19 governmental employee not acting within the scope of the  
 20 employment of the employee, on a public highway in a county  
 21 road system outside the corporate limits of a city or town, unless  
 22 the loss is the result of an act or omission amounting to:  
 23 (A) gross negligence;  
 24 (B) willful or wanton misconduct; or  
 25 (C) intentional misconduct.  
 26 This subdivision shall not be construed to relieve a governmental  
 27 entity from liability for the continuing duty to maintain highways  
 28 in a reasonably safe condition for the operation of motor vehicles  
 29 licensed by the bureau of motor vehicles for operation on public  
 30 highways.  
 31 (24) Any act or omission rendered in connection with a request,  
 32 investigation, assessment, or opinion provided under  
 33 IC 36-9-28.7.  
 34 (b) This subsection applies to a cause of action that accrues during  
 35 a period of a state disaster emergency declared under IC 10-14-3-12 to  
 36 respond to COVID-19, if the state of disaster emergency was declared  
 37 after February 29, 2020, and before April 1, 2022. A governmental  
 38 entity or an employee acting within the scope of the employee's  
 39 employment is not liable for an act or omission arising from COVID-19  
 40 unless the act or omission constitutes gross negligence, willful or  
 41 wanton misconduct, or intentional misrepresentation. If a claim  
 42 described in this subsection is:

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**HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110**



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1 (1) a claim for injury or death resulting from medical  
 2 malpractice; and  
 3 (2) not barred by the immunity provided under this subsection;  
 4 the claimant is required to comply with all of the provisions of  
 5 IC 34-18 (medical malpractice act).  
 6 SECTION 165. IC 34-30-2.1-269, AS ADDED BY P.L.105-2022,  
 7 SECTION 12, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 8 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 269. ~~IC 20-20-40-15~~ **IC 20-20.5-13-17**  
 9 (Concerning actions taken to promote student conduct under a restraint  
 10 and seclusion plan).  
 11 SECTION 166. IC 35-50-10-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.43-2021,  
 12 SECTION 145, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 13 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. (a) As used in this section,  
 14 "offense requiring license revocation" means an offense listed in  
 15 ~~IC 20-28-5-8(c)~~ **IC 20-28-5-8(b)**.  
 16 (b) If an individual is or was a teacher in a school corporation,  
 17 charter school, or nonpublic school and is convicted of an offense  
 18 requiring license revocation, the judge who presided over the trial or  
 19 accepted a plea agreement shall give written notice of the conviction  
 20 to the secretary of education and the chief administrative officer of the  
 21 school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school, or, if the  
 22 individual is employed in a public school, the superintendent of the  
 23 school district in which the individual is employed.  
 24 (c) Notice under subsection (b) must occur not later than seven (7)  
 25 days after the date the judgment is entered.  
 26 (d) The notification sent to a school or school district under  
 27 subsection (b) must include only the felony for which the individual  
 28 was convicted.  
 29 (e) If a judge later modifies the individual's sentence after giving  
 30 notice under this section, the judge shall notify the school or the school  
 31 district of the modification.  
 32 (f) After receiving a notification under subsection (b), the  
 33 secretary of education shall initiate procedures to revoke the  
 34 individual's license to teach.  
 35 SECTION 167. IC 36-1-7-13 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
 36 1, 2026]. ~~Sec. 13. Whenever an agreement authorized by this chapter~~  
 37 ~~is between school corporations, teachers employed under the~~  
 38 ~~agreement have the same rights and privileges as teachers employed~~  
 39 ~~under IC 20-26-10-5, IC 20-26-10-6, and IC 20-26-10-7.~~  
 40 SECTION 168. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026] (a) **512**  
 41 **IAC 4-1-3(b) is void. The publisher of the Indiana Administrative**  
 42 **Code and Indiana Register shall remove this rule from the Indiana**

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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1 **Administrative Code.**  
2 **(b) This SECTION expires July 1, 2027.**  
3 **SECTION 169. An emergency is declared for this act.**  
4 **SECTION 169. An emergency is declared for this act.**

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HB 1004—LS 6983/DI 110



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