

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY**  
**OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**  
**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6321**

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 1031

**NOTE PREPARED:** Jan 12, 2026

**BILL AMENDED:** Jan 6, 2026

**SUBJECT:** County Coroners.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Rep. Engleman

**BILL STATUS:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading - 1<sup>st</sup> House

**FIRST SPONSOR:**

**FUNDS AFFECTED:**  **GENERAL**  
 **DEDICATED**  
 **FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State & Local

**Summary of Legislation:** This bill makes changes to the blood or tissue retention protocols at a hospital for purposes of conducting a death investigation. The bill also makes changes to the training course requirements for coroners and deputy coroners. It provides that a coroner or deputy coroner who conducts a death investigation or signs a death certificate without completing certain training commits a Class B misdemeanor. It also provides that, if a coroner or deputy coroner fails to complete the required training course within the time required, the county shall reimburse the coroners training board for the cost of the training. The bill provides that the county may recover from an individual the amount the county reimbursed the coroners training board. It also makes technical corrections.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2026.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** *Indiana County Coroner's Training Board:* The bill makes clarifying changes, and its provisions can be completed with existing resources and staff.

**Explanation of State Revenues:** If additional court cases occur and fines are collected, revenue to both the Common School Fund and the state General Fund would increase. The maximum fine for a Class B misdemeanor is \$1,000. Criminal fines are deposited in the Common School Fund. The total fee revenue per case would range between \$113 and \$138. The amount of court fees deposited will vary depending on whether the case is filed in a court of record or a municipal court. The following linked document describes the fees and distribution of the revenue: [Court fees imposed in criminal, juvenile, and civil violation cases](#).

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** *Reimbursement Costs:* Counties may experience a slight increase in fiscal expenditures for reimbursing the coroners training board for the costs of incomplete training courses; however, these costs may be recovered from the individuals who failed to complete the training courses.

**Court Fees:** A Class B misdemeanor is punishable by up to 180 days in jail. The Gateway reports show that in CY 2023, housing offenders in 33 Indiana county jails cost an average of \$56 to \$79 per day.

**Explanation of Local Revenues:** If additional court actions occur and a guilty verdict is entered, more

revenue will be collected by certain local units. If the case is filed in a court of record, the county general fund will receive \$47.40 and qualifying municipalities will receive a share of \$3.60. If the case is filed in a municipal court, the county receives \$30, and the municipality will receive \$46. The following linked document describes the fees and distribution of the revenue: [Court fees imposed in criminal, juvenile, and civil violation cases.](#)

**State Agencies Affected:** Coroner's Training Board.

**Local Agencies Affected:** Trial courts, local law enforcement agencies.

**Information Sources:** Indiana Sheriffs' Association, Indiana Supreme Court, Indiana Trial Court Fee Manual; Department of Corrections; Indiana Gateway for Government Units, 2023 Annual Financial Reports, <https://gateway.ifionline.org/public/download.aspx> Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2023 Annual Survey of Jails Data Series, <https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/NACJD/series/7>.

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