
HOUSE BILL No. 1248

AM124801 has been incorporated into introduced printing.

Synopsis: Advanced DNA testing for cold cases.

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Introduced

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

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

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

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

HOUSE BILL No. 1248

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

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

1 SECTION 1. IC 5-2-27.4 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
2 AS A **NEW CHAPTER** TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3 JULY 1, 2026]:

4 **Chapter 27.4. Advanced DNA Testing for Cold Cases**

5 **Sec. 1. This chapter applies to law enforcement investigations
6 or county coroner investigations concerning the following:**

7 **(1) Homicide (IC 35-42-1).**

8 **(2) A sex offense (as defined by IC 11-8-8-5.2).**

9 **(3) High risk missing persons (as defined in IC 5-2-17-1).**

10 **Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "advanced DNA testing" includes:**

11 **(1) DNA forensics;**

12 **(2) DNA analytics; or**

13 **(3) genetic genealogy.**

14 **Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "cold case" means either:**

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raise funding, to cover the cost of advanced DNA testing under this chapter.

(E) The entity agrees to cover all costs associated with advanced DNA testing without use of state funding, including costs incurred by the state police laboratory in performing advanced DNA testing.

(F) The entity has entered into a memorandum of understanding with a law enforcement agency under section 10 of this chapter.

10 **Sec. 8. As used in this chapter, "testing laboratory" means a**
11 **laboratory that:**

- (1) conducts advanced DNA testing; and
- (2) adheres to the standards described in IC 10-13-6-14.

Sec. 9. As used in this chapter, "victim" means:

- (1) a person who has suffered direct harm as a result of a crime; or
- (2) a high risk missing person (as defined in IC 5-2-17-1).

Sec. 10. (a) A law enforcement agency may enter into a memorandum of understanding with an entity for purposes of funding advanced DNA testing for cold cases under this chapter if the law enforcement agency finds the entity meets all of the requirements under section 8(A) through 8(E) of this chapter.

(b) A law enforcement agency may cancel or suspend the memorandum of understanding if the law enforcement agency has reason to believe that the entity no longer meets all of the requirements under section 8(A) through 8(E) of this chapter.

Sec. 11. The following individuals may submit a request to a qualified entity to determine eligibility for advanced DNA testing:

- (1) The victim of a cold case.**
- (2) An eligible family member of a cold case victim.**
- (3) A county coroner.**
- (4) A law enforcement agency that has entered into a memorandum of understanding with a qualified entity.**

Sec. 12. A qualified entity shall determine eligibility for advanced DNA testing based on the following:

- (1) The order in which the request is received.
- (2) The date of the crime.
- (3) The availability of funds.
- (4) Any other relevant criteria as determined by the qualified entity.

Sec. 13. Upon a determination of eligibility under section 12 of this chapter, the qualified entity shall notify the investigating law

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1 enforcement agency of the determination of eligibility.

2 Sec. 14. Upon notice of eligibility under section 13 of this
3 chapter, the investigating law enforcement agency and a testing
4 laboratory shall collaborate to determine:

5 (1) the amount of DNA evidence available for testing; and
6 (2) the most appropriate advanced DNA testing options.

7 Sec. 15. A testing laboratory that conducts advanced DNA
8 testing shall collect, preserve, and maintain the appropriate chain
9 of custody of any evidence.

10 Sec. 16. The investigating law enforcement agency shall
11 transmit any information concerning a DNA profile to the state
12 police department for inclusion in the Indiana DNA data base and
13 the combined DNA index system (as defined in IC 10-13-6-1).

14 Sec. 17. Nothing in this chapter shall prohibit a law
15 enforcement agency from transferring DNA evidence to a testing
16 laboratory for advanced DNA testing at the law enforcement
17 agency's own expense.

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