



January 22, 2026

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## HOUSE BILL No. 1266

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DIGEST OF HB 1266 (Updated January 21, 2026 5:10 pm - DI 125)

**Citations Affected:** IC 10-21; IC 20-19; IC 20-20; IC 20-28; IC 20-30; IC 20-31; IC 20-32; IC 20-36; IC 20-43; IC 20-46; IC 20-51; IC 20-51.4; IC 21-18; IC 21-18.5; noncode.

**Synopsis:** Department of education and education matters. Makes various changes to education provisions concerning the following: (1) Schools eligible for grants from the Indiana secured school fund, teacher appreciation grants, grants under the robotics competition program, and funding for certain advanced placement examinations and Cambridge International courses. (2) Creating and updating a list of employers that have agreed to provide career support for or interview Indiana residents who graduate with an Indiana diploma with an employment honors plus seal. (3) Creating a teaching and learning framework for the implementation of mathematics academic standards. (4) Development of a data science math pathway. (5) Establishing a process and strategies to support academic and fiscally underperforming schools, development of a plan to intervene, and submission of the process and plan to the general assembly. (6) Evaluating, approving, and publishing high quality curricular materials time lines. (7) Local board membership for a local centralized school facilities board and local student transportation board. (8) Salary differentiation regarding teachers who possess a literacy endorsement. (9) Amounts expended in participating in an interlocal cooperative included in determining amounts school corporations expend on full-time teacher salaries for purposes of teacher salary minimum funding  
(Continued next page)

**Effective:** Upon passage; July 1, 2026.

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### Behning, McGuire, Klinker

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January 6, 2026, read first time and referred to Committee on Education.  
January 8, 2026, amended, reported — Do Pass. Referred to Committee on Ways and Means pursuant to Rule 126.3.  
January 22, 2026, amended, reported — Do Pass.

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HB 1266—LS 6953/DI 110



requirements. (10) Summer school program and reimbursement administration. (11) Criteria required for eligibility of a waiver for conducting four day school weeks. (12) Oversight of career and technical education program designation. (13) Uses of teacher appreciation grants. (14) The calculation of operating referendum distributions and school safety referendum distributions to charter schools with regard to virtual instruction. (15) Petitions regarding reconsidering payments of choice scholarships. (16) Eligibility for teacher appreciation grants by the department of correction. (17) Membership of the board for proprietary education. (18) The effective date regarding the changes to the definition of "eligible choice scholarship student". (19) Career specialist permit eligibility. Provides that an emergency permit may be renewed up to two times to an individual enrolled in an alternative teacher certification program if the program provides documentation verifying the individual's good standing in the program to the department of education. Creates a new qualification option for a transition to teaching program participant who seeks to obtain a license to teach in grades 5 through 12. Provides that: (1) state accredited nonpublic schools; and (2) nonpublic schools that are accredited by a national or regional accreditation agency that is recognized by the state board of education; are eligible to participate in the teacher residency grant pilot program. Removes a provision that provides that the department may not release less than 10 items per subject matter level per grade level regarding the statewide summative assessment. Removes a requirement that for a parent or student to use a career scholarship account (CSA) annual grant amount for costs related to transportation a CSA participating entity must pay a matching amount for the transportation costs. Repeals certain provisions concerning postsecondary career and technical education.



January 22, 2026

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

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

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

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

## HOUSE BILL No. 1266

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 10-21-1-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.150-2023,  
2       SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
3       JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. The following definitions apply throughout this  
4       chapter:  
5       (1) "Accredited nonpublic school" means a nonpublic school that:  
6       (A) has voluntarily become accredited under IC 20-31-4.1; or  
7       (B) is accredited by a national or regional accrediting agency  
8       that is recognized by the state board of education.  
9       (2) "Active event warning system" refers to a system that includes  
10      services and technology that will notify available law enforcement  
11      agencies in the area of a school building of a life threatening  
12      emergency.  
13      (3) "ADM" refers to average daily membership determined under  
14      IC 20-43-4-2. In the case of a school corporation career and  
15      technical education school described in IC 20-37-1-1, "ADM"

**HB 1266—LS 6953/DI 110**



refers to the count on a full-time equivalency basis of students attending the school on the date ADM is determined under IC 20-43-4-2.

(4) "Board" refers to the secured school safety board established by section 3 of this chapter.

(5) "Bullying prevention program" refers to a program that must contain one (1) or more of the following components:

(A) Offers students and school personnel opportunities to develop the skills and strategies to prevent bullying and potential bullying situations in digital and physical spaces, including the usage of research based models.

(B) Enables school personnel, including school safety specialists, safe school committee members, and school resource officers, to identify and acquire the programs, technology software, resources, and training necessary concerning the:

(i) development and implementation of bullying and cyberbullying prevention programs and school violence, human trafficking, and self-harm mitigation programs;

(ii) establishment of bullying and cyberbullying investigation, intervention, and reporting procedures;

(iii) adoption of discipline rules that comply with IC 20-33-8-13.5; and

(iv) integration of the program into wider school efforts, including a school safety plan, to promote educational progress and the physical safety and well-being of school students, families, faculty, and staff.

(6) "County school safety commission" has the meaning set forth in section 12 of this chapter.

(7) "Critical incidence digital mapping" means the digitized mapping of a school building and school grounds to best assist first responders in an emergency that must:

(A) include accurate floor plans overlaid on or current aerial imagery of a school building or school plan with surrounding school grounds;

(B) include site-specific labeling that matches:

(i) the structure of the school building, including room labels, hallway names, room numbers, external doors, interior doors, stairwell numbers, locations of hazardous materials, key utility locations, key boxes, automated external defibrillators, and trauma kits; and

(ii) the school grounds, including parking areas, athletic



- 1 fields, surrounding roads, and neighboring properties;
- 2 (C) be compatible with platforms and applications used by
- 3 local, state, and federal public safety agencies;
- 4 (D) be verified for accuracy through a walk through of a
- 5 school building and school grounds;
- 6 (E) not require the purchase of additional software for use;
- 7 (F) be accessible in a printable format;
- 8 (G) be shared with:
- 9 (i) the law enforcement agency and fire department that
- 10 have jurisdiction over the mapped school building; and
- 11 (ii) the statewide 911 system as described in
- 12 IC 36-8-16.7-22 through the public safety answer point, or
- 13 "PSAP", described in IC 36-8-16.7-20 that has jurisdiction
- 14 over the mapped school building; and
- 15 (H) be kept confidential and withheld from public disclosure.
- 16 (8) "Fund" refers to the Indiana secured school fund established
- 17 by section 2 of this chapter.
- 18 (9) "Law enforcement agency" refers to a state, local, or federal
- 19 agency or department that would respond to an emergency event
- 20 at a school, including both on duty and off duty officers within the
- 21 agency or department.
- 22 (10) "Multi-disciplinary threat assessment team" means a group
- 23 of individuals with expertise in school physical security, school
- 24 administration, educational instruction, youth counseling, mental
- 25 health and behavioral health, and law enforcement established by
- 26 the leadership of the school corporation or charter school that may
- 27 serve one (1) or more schools, that must meet the following
- 28 requirements:
- 29 (A) Be comprised of at least:
- 30 (i) a school safety specialist or an individual designated by
- 31 the school safety committee;
- 32 (ii) a member of a safe school committee;
- 33 (iii) a school building level administrator;
- 34 (iv) a school resource officer, if one (1) is either employed
- 35 by or assigned to the school corporation or charter school;
- 36 (v) an individual with expertise in special education; and
- 37 (vi) a school counselor or social worker.
- 38 (B) Conduct multi-disciplinary threat assessments that shall:
- 39 (i) provide guidance to students, faculty, and staff regarding
- 40 the recognition of threatening or aberrant behavior that may
- 41 represent a threat to the community, school, or self;
- 42 (ii) identify members of the school community to whom



threatening behavior should be reported;

(iii) establish procedures to assess, identify, and intervene with individuals whose behavior may pose a threat to the safety of school students, families, faculty, and staff; and

(iv) inform the adoption, implementation, and updating of policies adopted by the school corporation or charter school, including school safety plans and the policies of a safe school committee for a particular school.

(11) "Safe school committee" means a safe school committee established under section 14 of this chapter.

(12) "School corporation or charter school" refers to:

(A) an individual school corporation;

(B) a school corporation career and technical education school described in IC 20-37-1-1; or

(C) a charter school; ~~but also includes:~~

**(D) a coalition of:**

~~(A) (i) a coalition of school corporations;~~

~~(B) (ii) a coalition of charter schools; or~~

~~(C) (iii) a coalition of both school corporations and charter schools;~~

that intend to jointly employ a school resource officer or to jointly apply for a matching grant under this chapter, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise;

**(E) the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired established by IC 20-21-2-1; or**

**(F) the Indiana School for the Deaf established by IC 20-22-2-1.**

(13) "School official" refers to an employee of a school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school who has access to an active event warning system.

(14) "School resource officer" has the meaning set forth in IC 20-26-18.2-1.

(15) "School safety plan" means the school safety plan described in section 10 of this chapter.

(16) "School safety specialist" means a school safety specialist designated under section 9 of this chapter.

(17) "Site vulnerability assessment" means an examination of the physical safety, security, accessibility, and emergency preparedness of buildings and grounds.

(18) "Student safety management technology" refers to an information technology platform and related services to improve student safety by mitigating cyberbullying, school violence,



human trafficking, and self-harm.

SECTION 2. IC 20-19-3-41 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 41. The department shall create and update annually a list of employers that have agreed to provide career support for or interview Indiana residents who:**

(1) graduate with an Indiana diploma established under IC 20-19-2-21(c); and

(2) meet the diploma designation described in IC 20-19-2-21(e)(1) and the requirements for the designation under 511 IAC 6-7.2-21(b)(4).

SECTION 3. IC 20-19-3-42 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 42. (a) Not later than December 1, 2026, the secretary of education shall develop a data science math pathway that prepares students for emerging workforce demands.**

**(b) This section expires July 1, 2027.**

SECTION 4. IC 20-19-3-44 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 44. (a) Not later than December 1, 2026, the secretary of education shall do the following:**

(1) Establish a process and strategies to support academically and fiscally underperforming schools.

(2) Develop a support plan to intervene, as necessary, regarding schools described in subdivision (1).

(3) Submit a written report regarding the process and plan to the general assembly in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.

**(b) This section expires July 1, 2027.**

SECTION 5. IC 20-20-5.5-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.199-2025, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 2. (a) Not later than July 1, 2027, and each July 1 thereafter, The department shall evaluate, approve, and publish a list of high quality curricular materials for use in the following subjects and on the following timelines:**

(1) Not later than July 1, 2029, and every three (3) years thereafter, science.

(2) Not later than July 1, 2029, and every three (3) years thereafter, technology.

(3) Not later than July 1, 2029, and every three (3) years thereafter, engineering.

(4) Not later than July 1, 2027, and every three (3) years thereafter, math.



(5) **Not later than July 1, 2028, and every three (3) years thereafter,** English/language arts.

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

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

(1) determine the:

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

(B) requirements for curricular materials to be approved and included on the list described in subsection (a); and

(2) collaborate with teachers in evaluating and approving high quality curricular materials in English/language arts under subsection (a).

(c) The department shall publish ~~an annual~~ a report that describes the method used to conduct the evaluation required under subsection (a) and that contains the results of the evaluation. The report must do the following:

(1) Provide a list of each curricular material evaluated and a summary of the evaluation for each curricular material.

(2) Provide a listing and summary review for the high quality curricular materials approved by the department.

(3) Include any clarification or response from the publisher of a curricular material related to the department's summary review provided under subdivision (2).

(4) Include the written, exact, and standard statewide price provided by the publisher of the curricular material under subsection (e) for each high quality curricular material approved by the department under this section.

(d) A governing body and superintendent may use the list approved under subsection (a) in complying with IC 20-26-12-24.

(e) Before the department may approve curricular material for inclusion on the list under subsection (a), the publisher of the curricular material must:

(1) provide the department a written, exact, and standard statewide price for each curricular material; and

(2) enter into a data share agreement with the department in the manner prescribed by the department.

(f) A publisher may request that an update to the publisher's curricular materials and corresponding prices replace the information on the curricular materials set forth in the report under subsection (c).

(g) At a minimum, the process for evaluating curricular materials and the requirements for curricular materials to be approved and





included on the list described in subsection (a) must include the following:

- (1) The availability and use of benchmark, formative, interim, or similar assessments to identify students that require remediation and provide individualized instruction.
- (2) The incorporation of experiential learning opportunities.
- (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.

~~(h) Not later than July 1, 2024, the department shall conduct a statewide survey to determine which curricular materials have been adopted for use in teaching science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in each state accredited school. Each state accredited school shall:~~

- ~~(1) participate in the statewide survey conducted under this subsection; and~~
- ~~(2) provide the information requested by the department as part of the statewide survey;~~

~~in the manner prescribed by the department. This subsection expires January 1, 2025.~~

SECTION 6. IC 20-20-5.5-3, AS AMENDED BY THE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS BILL OF THE 2026 GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (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 ~~Internet web site~~ **website** of the report described in section 2(c) of this chapter, including the ~~Internet web site~~ **website** address where the report is published; and
- (2) updates of the following types of information in the report described in section 2(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 2(c) of this chapter are departmental reviews only; and

(2) each governing body has authority to adopt curricular materials for a school corporation.

SECTION 7. IC 20-20-45.5-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.64-2024, SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "eligible school" means: ~~or~~

(1) **a public school, including a charter school (as defined in IC 20-24-1-4);**

(2) **a state accredited nonpublic school; or**

(3) **a nonpublic school accredited by a national or regional accreditation agency that is recognized by the state board;**

**(4) the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired established by IC 20-21-2-1; or**

**(5) the Indiana School for the Deaf established by IC 20-22-2-1.**

SECTION 8. IC 20-20-52-6, AS ADDED BY P.L.232-2025, SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: 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)~~ **an odd number of not less than five (5)** members:

**(1) who represent a partnering community organization; or**

~~(+)~~ **(2) who are:**

**(A) members or designees of members of the governing body of a participating school corporation, or the equivalent for a participating charter school or nonpublic school; and**

**(B) 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)~~ **(i) the total pupil enrollment of the participating school corporations;**

~~(B)~~ **(ii) the total pupil enrollment of participating charter schools; and**

~~(C)~~ **(iii) 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

(2) student transportation pilot program under IC 20-20-53;

the school corporation or schools may elect to establish ~~not later than October 31, 2025;~~ one (1) local centralized school facilities and transportation board consisting of the members described in subsection (c) that has the powers and duties and is subject to the requirements of a local centralized school facilities board under this chapter and local student transportation board under IC 20-20-53.

SECTION 9. IC 20-20-53-6, AS ADDED BY P.L.232-2025, SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: 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)~~ **an odd number of not less than five (5)** members:

(1) who **represent a partnering community organization; or**

~~(2) who are:~~

(A) **members or designees of members of the governing body of a participating school corporation, or the equivalent for a participating charter school or nonpublic school; and**



(B) 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) (i) the total pupil enrollment of the participating school corporations;

(B) (ii) the total pupil enrollment of participating charter schools; and

(C) (iii) 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 school corporations, schools, or both other school corporations and schools, receives approval to participate in the:

(1) pilot program; and

(2) centralized school facilities pilot program under IC 20-20-52;

the school corporation or schools may elect to establish ~~not later than October 31, 2025;~~ one (1) local centralized school facilities and transportation board that has the powers and duties and is subject to the requirements of a local centralized school facilities board under IC 20-20-52 and local student transportation board under this chapter.

SECTION 10. IC 20-28-4-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.192-2014, SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. An individual who wishes to participate in the program must have one (1) of the following qualifications:

(1) For a program participant who seeks to obtain a license to teach in grades 5 through 12, one (1) of the following:



- 1 (A) A bachelor's degree or the equivalent with a grade point  
 2 average of at least three (3.0) on a four (4.0) point scale from  
 3 an accredited postsecondary educational institution in the  
 4 subject area that the individual intends to teach.  
 5 (B) A graduate degree from an accredited postsecondary  
 6 educational institution in the subject area or a related field that  
 7 the individual intends to teach.  
 8 (C) ~~Both:~~  
 9 ~~(i) A bachelor's degree from an accredited postsecondary~~  
 10 ~~educational institution with a grade point average of at least~~  
 11 ~~two and five-tenths (2.5) on a four (4.0) point scale and~~  
 12 ~~**either:**~~  
 13 ~~**(i) eighteen (18) credit hours in the subject area the**~~  
 14 ~~**individual intends to teach; or**~~  
 15 ~~(ii) five (5) years professional experience in the subject or a~~  
 16 ~~related area that the individual intends to teach.~~  
 17 (D) Both:  
 18 (i) a bachelor's degree from an accredited postsecondary  
 19 educational institution; and  
 20 (ii) proof that the individual has passed the state approved  
 21 content area examination in the subject area that the  
 22 individual intends to teach.  
 23 (2) For a program participant who seeks to obtain a license to  
 24 teach in kindergarten through grade 6, one (1) of the following:  
 25 (A) A bachelor's degree or the equivalent with a grade point  
 26 average of at least three (3.0) on a four (4.0) point scale from  
 27 an accredited institution of higher education.  
 28 (B) Both:  
 29 (i) a bachelor's degree from an accredited postsecondary  
 30 educational institution with a grade point average of at least  
 31 two and five-tenths (2.5) on a four (4.0) point scale; and  
 32 (ii) five (5) years professional experience in an education  
 33 related field, as determined by the department.  
 34 (C) Both:  
 35 (i) a bachelor's degree from an accredited postsecondary  
 36 educational institution; and  
 37 (ii) proof that the individual has passed the state approved  
 38 content area examination in the subject area that the  
 39 individual intends to teach.  
 40 (3) For a program participant who seeks to obtain a license to  
 41 teach in prekindergarten through grade 3, one (1) of the  
 42 following:



(A) A bachelor's degree or the equivalent with a grade point average of at least three (3.0) on a four (4.0) point scale from an accredited institution of higher education.

(B) Both:

(i) a bachelor's degree from an accredited postsecondary educational institution with a grade point average of at least two and five-tenths (2.5) on a four (4.0) point scale; and

(ii) five (5) years professional experience in an education related field, as determined by the department.

(C) Both:

(i) a bachelor's degree from an accredited postsecondary educational institution; and

(ii) proof that the individual has passed the state approved content area examination in the subject area that the individual intends to teach.

SECTION 11. IC 20-28-5-21, AS AMENDED BY P.L.275-2019, SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 21. To be eligible for a career specialist permit to teach in a secondary school, an applicant must meet one (1) of the following:

(1) The applicant:

(A) has a bachelor's degree with a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale (or its equivalent if another grading scale is used) in the content area in which the applicant intends to teach;

(B) has passed the approved content area examination in the content area in which the applicant intends to teach;

(C) demonstrates proficiency in the area of pedagogy under procedures prescribed by the department; and

(D) has, within the immediately preceding five (5) years, at least four thousand (4,000) clock hours of documented occupational experience in the content area in which the applicant intends to teach.

(2) The applicant:

(A) meets the requirements under subdivision (1)(A) or (1)(B);

(B) demonstrates proficiency in the area of pedagogy under procedures prescribed by the department; and

(C) has, within the immediately preceding seven (7) years, at least five thousand (5,000) clock hours of documented occupational experience in the content area in which the applicant intends to teach.

(3) The applicant:



- (A) is at least twenty-one (21) years of age;
- (B) will teach aviation ground instruction; and
- (C) meets at least one (1) of the following conditions:
  - (i) The applicant has passed the Federal Aviation Administration advanced ground instructor and fundamentals of instruction tests and been issued a valid Federal Aviation Administration advanced ground instructor certificate.
  - (ii) The applicant possesses a valid Federal Aviation Administration certified flight instructor or certified flight instructor instrument certificate.

**(4) The applicant:**

- (A) is at least twenty-one (21) years of age;
- (B) will teach flight instruction; and
- (C) possesses a valid Federal Aviation Administration:
  - (i) certified flight instructor; or
  - (ii) certified flight instructor instrument;
 certificate with the appropriate Federal Aviation Administration aircraft ratings for the flight instruction being provided.

SECTION 12. IC 20-28-5-30 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 30. (a) As used in this section, "emergency permit" refers to an emergency permit described in 511 IAC 16-4-1 or its successor rule.**

**(b) An emergency permit may be renewed up to two (2) times to an individual enrolled in an alternative teacher certification program under section 12.5 of this chapter if the program provides documentation verifying the individual's good standing in the program to the department.**

SECTION 13. IC 20-28-9-1.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.214-2025, SECTION 123, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 1.5. (a) This subsection governs salary increases for a teacher employed by a school corporation. Compensation attributable to additional degrees or graduate credits earned before the effective date of a local compensation plan created under this chapter before July 1, 2015, shall continue for school years beginning after June 30, 2015. Compensation attributable to additional degrees for which a teacher has started course work before July 1, 2011, and completed course work before September 2, 2014, shall also continue for school years beginning after June 30, 2015. For school years beginning after June 30, 2022, a school corporation may provide**



1 a supplemental payment to a teacher in excess of the salary specified  
 2 in the school corporation's compensation plan when doing so is in the  
 3 best interest of students. A supplement provided under this subsection  
 4 is not subject to collective bargaining and, under IC 20-29-6-3(d), a  
 5 school corporation may exclude, for this purpose, a portion of the  
 6 revenue available for bargaining from education fund revenues  
 7 included in IC 20-29-2-6. Such a supplement is in addition to any  
 8 increase permitted under subsection (b).

9 (b) Subject to subsection (e), increases or increments in a local  
 10 salary range must be based upon a combination of the following  
 11 factors:

12 (1) A combination of the following factors taken together may  
 13 account for not more than fifty percent (50%) of the calculation  
 14 used to determine a teacher's increase or increment:

15 (A) The number of years of a teacher's experience.

16 (B) The possession of either:

17 (i) additional content area degrees beyond the requirements  
 18 for employment; or

19 (ii) additional content area degrees and credit hours beyond  
 20 the requirements for employment, if required under an  
 21 agreement bargained under IC 20-29.

22 (2) The results of an evaluation conducted under IC 20-28-11.5.

23 (3) The assignment of instructional leadership roles, including the  
 24 responsibility for conducting evaluations under IC 20-28-11.5.

25 (4) The academic needs of students in the school corporation,  
 26 including employment in a high need area such as those identified  
 27 under IC 20-29-3-15(b)(27). This factor may not account for less  
 28 than ten percent (10%) of the calculation used to determine a  
 29 teacher's increase or increment.

30 (c) To provide greater flexibility and options, a school corporation  
 31 may further differentiate the amount of salary increases or increments  
 32 determined for teachers. A school corporation shall base a  
 33 differentiated amount under this subsection on reasons the school  
 34 corporation determines are appropriate, which may include the:

35 (1) subject or subjects taught by a given teacher;

36 (2) importance of retaining a given teacher at the school  
 37 corporation;

38 (3) need to attract an individual with specific qualifications to fill  
 39 a teaching vacancy; and

40 (4) offering of a new program or class.

41 (d) A school corporation may provide differentiated increases or  
 42 increments under subsection (b), and in excess of the percentage





specified in subsection (b)(1), in order to:

- (1) reduce the gap between the school corporation's minimum teacher salary and the average of the school corporation's minimum and maximum teacher salaries; or
- (2) allow teachers currently employed by the school corporation to receive a salary adjusted in comparison to starting base salaries of new teachers.

(e) A school corporation shall differentiate the amount of salary ~~increases or increments~~ for teachers who possess a ~~required~~ literacy endorsement ~~under described in IC 20-28-5-19.7.~~

(f) The Indiana education employment relations board established in IC 20-29-3-1 shall publish a model compensation plan with a model salary range that a school corporation may adopt.

(g) Each school corporation shall submit its local compensation plan to the Indiana education employment relations board. A local compensation plan must specify the range for teacher salaries. The Indiana education employment relations board shall publish the local compensation plans on the Indiana education employment relations board's website.

(h) The Indiana education employment relations board shall review a compensation plan for compliance with this section as part of its review under IC 20-29-6-6.1. The Indiana education employment relations board has jurisdiction to determine compliance of a compensation plan submitted under this section.

(i) This chapter may not be construed to require or allow a school corporation to decrease the salary of any teacher below the salary the teacher was earning on or before July 1, 2015, if that decrease would be made solely to conform to the new compensation plan.

(j) After June 30, 2011, all rights, duties, or obligations established under IC 20-28-9-1 before its repeal are considered rights, duties, or obligations under this section.

(k) An employment agreement described in IC 20-28-6-7.3 between an adjunct teacher and a school corporation is not subject to this section.

SECTION 14. IC 20-28-9-27, AS AMENDED BY P.L.213-2025, SECTION 171, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 27. (a) As used in this section, "funding floor" means the amount a school corporation expended for full-time teacher salaries during a particular state fiscal year.

(b) Subject to subsections (d) and (e), if the amount of state tuition support distributed to a school corporation for a particular state fiscal year is greater than the amount of state tuition support distributed to the



1 school corporation for the preceding state fiscal year, the school  
 2 corporation may not expend an amount for full-time teacher salaries  
 3 during the particular state fiscal year that is less than the funding floor  
 4 for the preceding state fiscal year.

5 (c) For purposes of this section, the amount a school corporation  
 6 expends for full-time teacher salaries shall include the amount the  
 7 school corporation expends for participating in:

- 8 (1) a special education cooperative; ~~or~~
- 9 (2) a career and technical education cooperative; **or**
- 10 (3) **an interlocal cooperative;**

11 that is directly attributable to the salaries of full-time teachers  
 12 employed by the cooperative, as determined by the department.

13 (d) For purposes of this subsection, stipends paid using teacher  
 14 appreciation grants under IC 20-43-16 are not considered. If a school  
 15 corporation has awarded stipends to a majority of the school  
 16 corporation's teachers in each of the two (2) preceding consecutive  
 17 state fiscal years, an amount equal to the lesser of the total amount of  
 18 stipends awarded in each of those state fiscal years shall be added to  
 19 the school corporation's funding floor for the preceding state fiscal year  
 20 described under subsection (b).

21 (e) Beginning after June 30, 2024, for each state fiscal year that a  
 22 school corporation fails to meet the expenditure requirements regarding  
 23 full-time teacher salaries under subsection (b), the department shall  
 24 submit in both a written and an electronic format a notice to the school  
 25 corporation's:

- 26 (1) superintendent;
- 27 (2) school business officer; and
- 28 (3) governing body;

29 that the school corporation failed to meet the requirements set forth in  
 30 subsection (b) for the applicable state fiscal year.

31 (f) If a school corporation's governing body receives a notice from  
 32 the department under subsection (e), the school corporation shall do the  
 33 following:

- 34 (1) Publicly acknowledge receipt of the notice from the  
 35 department at the governing body's next public meeting.
- 36 (2) Enter into the governing body's official minutes for the  
 37 meeting described in subdivision (1) acknowledgment of the  
 38 notice.
- 39 (3) Not later than thirty (30) days after the meeting described in  
 40 subdivision (1), publish on the school corporation's website:
- 41 (A) the department's notice; and
- 42 (B) any relevant individual reports prepared by the



1 department.

2 (g) If the department determines a school corporation that received  
3 one (1) or more notices from the department under subsection (e) has  
4 met the expenditure requirements required under subsection (b) for a  
5 subsequent state fiscal year, the school corporation may remove from  
6 the school corporation's website any:

7 (1) notices the school corporation received under subsection (e);  
8 and

9 (2) relevant individual reports prepared by the department under  
10 subsection (f)(3).

11 SECTION 15. IC 20-30-7-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.201-2025,  
12 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
13 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. (a) Except as provided in subsection (c), the  
14 ~~state board may~~ **department shall** prescribe a program of summer  
15 school education for public schools. Subject to subsection (b), ~~the state~~  
16 ~~board shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to the department shall~~  
17 provide for:

18 (1) summer school programs **guidelines**; and  
19 (2) the state distribution formula for any money appropriated by  
20 the general assembly for summer school education to allow for  
21 funding for approved summer school programs on a per student  
22 basis, which may include differentiated funding based on the  
23 course the student is enrolled in and the length of time of the  
24 summer school program.

25 (b) The ~~state board~~ **department** shall give priority reimbursement  
26 for summer school courses that include curriculum aligned with the  
27 science of reading designated by the department to support students in:

28 (1) grade 2 who are at risk of not being reading proficient; and  
29 (2) grade 3 who are not reading proficient;  
30 as indicated on the determinant evaluation of reading skills approved  
31 by the state board under IC 20-32-8.5-2.

32 (c) A state accredited nonpublic school and an eligible school (as  
33 defined in IC 20-51-1-4.7) shall be eligible for summer school funding  
34 for courses that include curriculum aligned with the science of reading  
35 designated by the department to support students in:

36 (1) grade 2 who are at risk of not being reading proficient; and  
37 (2) grade 3 who are not reading proficient;  
38 as indicated on the determinant evaluation of reading skills approved  
39 by the state board under IC 20-32-8.5-2.

40 SECTION 16. IC 20-31-4.1-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.11-2023,  
41 SECTION 66, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
42 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) Subject to subsection (b) and section 7 of



1 this chapter, a school or group of schools accredited under this chapter  
 2 may submit an application to the state board, in a manner prescribed by  
 3 the state board, requesting flexibility and to waive compliance with any  
 4 provision in this title or 511 IAC in order to do one (1) or more of the  
 5 following:

- 6 (1) Improve student performance and outcomes.
- 7 (2) Offer the applicant flexibility in the administration of
- 8 educational programs or improve the efficiency of school
- 9 operations.
- 10 (3) Promote innovative educational approaches to student
- 11 learning.
- 12 (4) Advance the mission or purpose of the school or group of
- 13 schools.

14 (b) The application submitted under subsection (a) must include the  
 15 following:

- 16 (1) A list of the one (1) or more provisions in this title, 511 IAC,
- 17 or this title and 511 IAC that the school or group of schools is
- 18 requesting that the state board waive.
- 19 (2) The following information:
- 20 (A) The specific goal or outcome or goals or outcomes that the
- 21 school or group of schools intends to achieve by waiving the
- 22 provisions described in subdivision (1).
- 23 (B) How the specific goals or outcomes described in clause
- 24 (A) are likely to be achieved by waiving compliance with the
- 25 provisions described in subdivision (1).
- 26 (3) For an application submitted by:
- 27 (A) the governing body of a school corporation, a copy of the
- 28 resolution adopted by the governing body approving the
- 29 submission of the application;
- 30 (B) a charter school, written authorization by the charter
- 31 school organizer approving the submission of the application;
- 32 or
- 33 (C) a nonpublic school, written authorization by the person or
- 34 agency in active charge and management of the nonpublic
- 35 school approving the submission of the application.

36 **(c) To be eligible to waive IC 20-30-2-3 for the purposes of**  
 37 **conducting a four (4) day school week at a school, a school must**  
 38 **meet the following requirements:**

- 39 **(1) Provide transportation to a school that conducts a five (5)**  
 40 **day school week that serves the same grade level for any**  
 41 **student who would otherwise be assigned to a school that**  
 42 **conducts a four (4) day school week.**



1           **(2) Be placed in the highest performance and improvement**  
 2           **category or designation by the department under IC 20-31-8.**

3           **(3) Meet the minimum teacher salary threshold under**  
 4           **IC 20-28-9-26.**

5           **(4) Provide enrichment and remediation opportunities on the**  
 6           **day that a regular school day is not conducted at no cost to a**  
 7           **parent of a student or student.**

8           SECTION 17. IC 20-32-5.1-13, AS AMENDED BY P.L.150-2024,  
 9           SECTION 51, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 10          JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 13. (a) The proficiency of students under a  
 11          statewide summative assessment must be reported to the state board  
 12          not later than

13           ~~(1) for the 2018-2019 school year, August 15, 2019; and~~

14           ~~(2) for each school year beginning after June 30, 2019;~~ July 1 of  
 15          the year in which the statewide summative assessment is  
 16          administered.

17          (b) Reports of student scores on the statewide summative  
 18          assessment must be:

19           (1) returned to the school corporation, charter school, state  
 20           accredited nonpublic school, or eligible school (as defined in  
 21           IC 20-51-1-4.7) that administered the test; and

22           (2) accompanied by a guide for interpreting scores.

23          (c) Subject to approval by the state board, reports of student results  
 24          on computer scored items under a statewide summative assessment  
 25          may be returned to schools regardless of whether the hand scored items  
 26          are returned.

27          (d) After reports of final student scores on the statewide summative  
 28          assessment are returned to a school corporation, charter school, state  
 29          accredited nonpublic school, or eligible school (as defined in  
 30          IC 20-51-1-4.7), the school corporation or school shall promptly do the  
 31          following:

32           (1) Give each student and the student's parent the student's  
 33           statewide summative assessment test scores, including the  
 34           summary described in section 14.5 of this chapter.

35           (2) Make available for inspection to each student and the student's  
 36           parent the following:

37           (A) A copy of the student's scored responses.

38           (B) A copy of the anchor papers and scoring rubrics used to  
 39           score the student's responses.

40          A student's parent or the student's principal may request a rescoring of  
 41          a student's responses to a statewide summative assessment, including  
 42          a student's essay. A student's final score on a rescored statewide



summative assessment must reflect the student's actual score on the rescored statewide summative assessment regardless of whether the student's score decreased or improved on the rescored assessment.

(e) The department shall develop criteria to provide a student's parent the opportunity to inspect questions in a manner that will not compromise the validity or integrity of a statewide summative assessment.

(f) A student's statewide summative assessment scores may not be disclosed to the public.

(g) The department may not release less than ten (10) items per subject matter per grade level. The state board and department shall:

(1) post:

(A) the questions; and

(B) with the permission of each student's parent, student answers that are exemplary responses to the released questions;

on the websites of the state board and department; and

(2) publicize the availability of the questions and answers to schools, educators, and the public.

A student answer posted under this subsection may not identify the student who provided the answer.

SECTION 18. IC 20-32-6.5-4 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 4. (a) The department shall develop a teaching and learning framework for the implementation of mathematics academic standards created under IC 20-31-3-2.**

**(b) The framework described in subsection (a) must include a kindergarten through grade 5 mathematics:**

**(1) proficiency implementation guide; and**

**(2) daily instruction recommendation that requires a minimum of:**

**(A) sixty (60) minutes for Tier 1 instruction; and**

**(B) twenty (20) minutes for mathematics interventions.**

SECTION 19. IC 20-36-3-2.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 2.5. As used in this chapter, "eligible school" means the following:**

**(1) The Indiana School for the Deaf established by IC 20-22-2-1.**

**(2) The Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired established by IC 20-21-2-1.**

SECTION 20. IC 20-36-3-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.2-2007,



SECTION 234, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
[EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) Each school year:

(1) each school corporation **and eligible school** may provide the  
College Board's science and math advanced placement courses;  
and

(2) each school corporation **and eligible school** may provide  
additional College Board advanced placement courses;  
in secondary schools for students who qualify to take the advanced  
placement courses.

(b) Each school corporation shall provide the College Board's  
science and math advanced placement courses in secondary schools for  
students who qualify to take the advanced placement courses.

(c) In addition to the College Board's math and science advanced  
placement tests, the state board may approve advanced placement  
courses offered by a state educational institution in collaboration with  
a school corporation if the state educational institution and the  
collaborating school corporation demonstrate to the state board that the  
particular advanced placement course satisfies the objectives of this  
chapter.

SECTION 21. IC 20-36-3-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.20-2007,  
SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) Money appropriated to the department to  
implement the program shall be distributed for purposes listed in the  
following order:

(1) To pay the fees for each math or science advanced placement  
examination that is taken by a student who is:

(A) enrolled in a public secondary school, **including schools  
listed in section 2.5 of this chapter**; and

(B) a resident of Indiana.

Priority shall be given to paying the fees for each math or science  
advanced placement examination that is taken by a student in  
grade 11 or 12.

(2) To pay stipends for teachers assigned to teach a math or  
science advanced course to attend the institutes under section 7 of  
this chapter.

(3) To pay school corporations **and eligible schools** for  
instructional materials needed for the math or science advanced  
course.

(4) To pay for or rent equipment that a school corporation **or  
eligible school** may need to develop a math or science advanced  
course.

(5) To pay the fees for the costs incurred in implementing the



advanced placement program for the subjects other than math and science as authorized under section 5 of this chapter.

(b) The department shall establish guidelines concerning the distribution of funds under this chapter, including guidelines to ensure that money distributed under this chapter is distributed as evenly as possible throughout Indiana. In establishing these distribution guidelines, the department shall consider the following factors:

- (1) The number of students and teachers participating in the program.
- (2) Even geographic representation.
- (3) Financial need of students participating in the program.
- (4) Any other factor affecting the distribution of money under this chapter.

(c) The department may seek funding to carry out the purposes of this chapter through the following federal programs:

- (1) The Advanced Placement Incentive Program.
- (2) The Math-Science Partnership Program.

(d) The department may give priority in the distribution of funds to a school that serves a high concentration of low income students.

SECTION 22. IC 20-36-3-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.20-2007, SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. (a) The department shall develop and provide each public middle school, junior high school, and secondary school, **including schools listed in section 2.5 of this chapter**, with curriculum guidelines designed to satisfy the requirements of this chapter.

(b) The guidelines developed under subsection (a) shall include a plan for increasing the:

- (1) availability of advanced placement program in schools with a high concentration of low income students; and
- (2) participation of low income students in advanced placement programs;

through information dissemination through print, electronic, and broadcast media that informs parents and students of the importance of advanced placement and preadvanced placement courses to a student's ability to gain access to and to succeed in postsecondary education.

SECTION 23. IC 20-36-6-2.3 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 2.3. As used in this chapter, "eligible school" means the following:**

- (1) **The Indiana School for the Deaf established by IC 20-22-2-1.**





**(2) The Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired established by IC 20-21-2-1.**

SECTION 24. IC 20-36-6-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.246-2023, SECTION 40, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) The Cambridge International program is established to encourage students to pursue advanced courses.

(b) The program shall be administered by the department.

(c) Subject to appropriation by the general assembly, the department shall provide schools, **including schools listed in section 2.3 of this chapter**, the same per pupil exam fee amounts for international baccalaureate and Cambridge International exams as the per pupil per exam funding amount for a student to take advanced placement exams.

SECTION 25. IC 20-36-6-5, AS ADDED BY P.L.216-2021, SECTION 37, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. Each school year each school corporation, ~~or~~ school, **and eligible school** may provide Cambridge International courses.

SECTION 26. IC 20-36-6-8, AS ADDED BY P.L.216-2021, SECTION 40, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) Money appropriated to the department to implement the program shall be distributed first to pay the fees for each Cambridge International examination that is taken by a student to satisfy Indiana graduation requirements, including Core 40 with academic honors, and who is:

- (1) enrolled in a public or state accredited nonpublic secondary school, **including schools listed in section 2.3 of this chapter**; and
- (2) a resident of Indiana.

Priority under this subsection shall be given to paying fees for each Cambridge International examination that is taken by a student in grade 11 or 12.

(b) After money appropriated for the program is distributed for the purposes described in subsection (a), any remaining money appropriated for the program shall be distributed and prioritized for distribution in the following order:

- (1) To pay stipends for teachers assigned to teach a math, science, or English Cambridge International course to attend the training described in section 7 of this chapter.
- (2) To pay school corporations, ~~or~~ schools, **and eligible schools** for instructional materials needed for a math, science, or English Cambridge International course.
- (3) To pay for or rent equipment that a school corporation, ~~or~~



1 school, **or eligible school** may need to develop a math, science,  
2 or English Cambridge International course.

3 (4) To pay any other stipends, costs, or fees incurred in  
4 implementing the Cambridge International program for subjects  
5 other than math, science, or English as authorized under this  
6 chapter.

7 (c) The department shall establish guidelines concerning the  
8 distribution of funds under this chapter, including guidelines to ensure  
9 that money distributed under this chapter is distributed as evenly as  
10 possible throughout Indiana.

11 (d) The department may also seek funding to carry out the purposes  
12 of this chapter through federal programs.

13 (e) The department may give priority in the distribution of funds to  
14 a school that serves a high concentration of low income students.

15 SECTION 27. IC 20-36-6-9, AS ADDED BY P.L.216-2021,  
16 SECTION 41, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
17 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. (a) The department shall develop and provide  
18 each public and state accredited nonpublic elementary school and high  
19 school, **including schools listed in section 2.3 of this chapter**, with  
20 guidelines designed to satisfy the requirements of this chapter.

21 (b) The guidelines developed under this section and the  
22 dissemination of the guidelines shall be developed and disseminated in  
23 the same manner as other college credit bearing programs.

24 SECTION 28. IC 20-43-8-7.5, AS AMENDED BY THE  
25 TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS BILL OF THE 2026 GENERAL  
26 ASSEMBLY, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
27 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7.5. (a) The ~~department of workforce development~~  
28 **commission for higher education** shall designate each career and  
29 technical education program as:

- 30 (1) an apprenticeship program;
- 31 (2) a cooperative education program;
- 32 (3) a work based learning program;
- 33 (4) a high value program;
- 34 (5) a moderate value program;
- 35 (6) a less than moderate value program;
- 36 (7) an introductory program; or
- 37 (8) a foundational career and technical education course.

38 The designation of career and technical education programs by the  
39 ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher**  
40 **education** under this section must be reviewed and approved by the  
41 state board as provided in this section.

42 (b) Not later than ~~December 1, 2019~~, and each December 1



1 thereafter, of each year, the ~~department of workforce development~~  
 2 **commission for higher education** shall designate each career and  
 3 technical education program as:

- 4 (1) an apprenticeship program;
- 5 (2) a work based learning program;
- 6 (3) a high value level 1 program;
- 7 (4) a high value level 2 program;
- 8 (5) a moderate value level 1 program;
- 9 (6) a moderate value level 2 program;
- 10 (7) a less than moderate value level 1 program;
- 11 (8) a less than moderate value level 2 program;
- 12 (9) a planning for college and career course; or
- 13 (10) an introductory program.

14 The designation of career and technical education programs by the  
 15 ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher**  
 16 **education** under this section must be reviewed and approved by the  
 17 state board as provided in this section.

18 (c) If a new career and technical education program is created by  
 19 rule, the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher**  
 20 **education** shall determine the category in which the program is  
 21 designated under subsection (a) or (b). A career and technical  
 22 education program must be approved by the ~~department of workforce~~  
 23 **development commission for higher education** in order for a school  
 24 corporation to be eligible to receive a grant amount for the career and  
 25 technical education program under section 15 of this chapter.

26 (d) Not later than December 1 of each year, the ~~department of~~  
 27 ~~workforce development~~ **commission for higher education** shall  
 28 provide a report to the state board that includes the following  
 29 information:

- 30 (1) A list of the career and technical education courses for the  
 31 next school year that are designated by the ~~department of~~  
 32 ~~workforce development~~ **commission for higher education** under  
 33 this section.
- 34 (2) The labor market demand used to designate each career and  
 35 technical education program under this section.
- 36 (3) The average wage level used to designate each career and  
 37 technical education program under this section.
- 38 (4) If applicable, the labor market demand and average wage level  
 39 data for specific regions, counties, and municipalities.
- 40 (5) Any other information pertinent to the methodology used by  
 41 the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for**  
 42 **higher education** to designate each career and technical



education program under this section.

(e) Not later than January 1 of each year, the state board shall review and approve the report provided by the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher education** under subsection (d) at a public meeting to ensure that the list of courses is in compliance with the long range state plan developed under IC 20-20-38-4. Not later than January 1 of each year, the state board shall send its determination to the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher education**. Upon receipt of the state board's determination, the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher education** shall provide the approved report to the department.

(f) The ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher education** shall publish the approved report under subsection (e) on the ~~department of workforce development's Internet web site;~~ **commission for higher education's website**, including the following:

- (1) The list of career and technical education programs that are designated by the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher education** under this section.
- (2) The labor market demand used to designate each career and technical education program under this section.
- (3) The average wage level used to designate each career and technical education program under this section.
- (4) If applicable, the labor market demand and average wage level data for specific regions, counties, and municipalities.
- (5) Any other information pertinent to the methodology used by the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher education** to designate each career and technical education program under this section.

In addition, the department shall notify all school corporations of the state board's approval of the report under subsection (e) and provide a link within the notice to the approved report published on the ~~department of workforce development's Internet web site~~ **commission for higher education's website** under this subsection.

SECTION 29. IC 20-43-8-10, AS AMENDED BY P.L.230-2017, SECTION 20, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. If a school corporation determines that the categories of career and technical education programs issued by the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher education** and approved by the state board under section 7.5 of this chapter are not representative of the employment demand in the region surrounding the school corporation, the school corporation may petition the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher**



**education** to recategorize for the school corporation the career and technical education programs offered by the school corporation according to the employment demand in the region surrounding the school corporation. The petition must include information supporting the school corporation's determination that the categories of career and technical education programs by the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher education** under section 7.5 of this chapter are not representative of the employment demand in the region surrounding the school corporation. The state board shall review and approve any course recategorization by the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher education** under this section.

SECTION 30. IC 20-43-8-15, AS AMENDED BY P.L.213-2025, SECTION 189, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 15. (a) This subsection applies to the state fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026. A school corporation's career and technical education enrollment grant for a state fiscal year is the sum of the amounts determined under the following STEPS:

STEP ONE: Determine for each career and technical education program provided by the school corporation:

(A) the number of credit hours of the program (one (1) credit, two (2) credits, or three (3) credits); multiplied by

(B) the number of pupils enrolled in the program; multiplied by

(C) the following applicable amount:

(i) Seven hundred ten dollars (\$710) for a career and technical education program designated by the department of workforce development as a high value level 1 program under section 7.5 of this chapter.

(ii) One thousand sixty-five dollars (\$1,065) for a career and technical education program designated by the department of workforce development as a high value level 2 program under section 7.5 of this chapter.

(iii) Three hundred ninety-eight dollars (\$398) for a career and technical education program designated by the department of workforce development as a moderate value level 1 program under section 7.5 of this chapter.

(iv) Five hundred ninety-seven dollars (\$597) for a career and technical education program designated by the department of workforce development as a moderate value level 2 program under section 7.5 of this chapter.



(v) One hundred ninety-nine dollars (\$199) for a career and technical education program designated by the department of workforce development as a less than moderate value level 1 program under section 7.5 of this chapter.

(vi) Two hundred ninety-eight dollars (\$298) for a career and technical education program designated by the department of workforce development as a less than moderate value level 2 program under section 7.5 of this chapter.

STEP TWO: Determine the number of pupils enrolled in an apprenticeship program or a work based learning program designated under section 7.5 of this chapter multiplied by four hundred ninety-seven dollars (\$497).

STEP THREE: Determine the number of pupils enrolled in an introductory program designated under section 7.5 of this chapter multiplied by two hundred ninety-eight dollars (\$298).

STEP FOUR: Determine the number of pupils enrolled in a planning for college and career course under section 7.5 of this chapter at the school corporation that is approved by the department of workforce development multiplied by one hundred forty-nine dollars (\$149).

STEP FIVE: Determine the number of pupils who travel from the school in which they are currently enrolled to another school to participate in a career and technical education program in which pupils from multiple schools are served at a common location multiplied by one hundred forty-nine dollars (\$149).

(b) This subsection applies to state fiscal years beginning after June 30, 2026. A school corporation's career and technical education enrollment grant for a state fiscal year is the sum of the amounts determined under the following STEPS:

STEP ONE: Determine for each career and technical education program provided by the school corporation:

(A) the number of credit hours of the program (one (1) credit, two (2) credits, or three (3) credits); multiplied by

(B) the number of pupils enrolled in the program; multiplied by

(C) the following applicable amount:

(i) Seven hundred twelve dollars (\$712) for a career and technical education program designated by the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher education** as a high value level 1 program under section 7.5 of this chapter.



(ii) One thousand sixty-nine dollars (\$1,069) for a career and technical education program designated by the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher education** as a high value level 2 program under section 7.5 of this chapter.

(iii) Three hundred ninety-nine dollars (\$399) for a career and technical education program designated by the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher education** as a moderate value level 1 program under section 7.5 of this chapter.

(iv) Five hundred ninety-nine dollars (\$599) for a career and technical education program designated by the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher education** as a moderate value level 2 program under section 7.5 of this chapter.

(v) Two hundred dollars (\$200) for a career and technical education program designated by the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher education** as a less than moderate value level 1 program under section 7.5 of this chapter.

(vi) Two hundred ninety-nine dollars (\$299) for a career and technical education program designated by the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher education** as a less than moderate value level 2 program under section 7.5 of this chapter.

STEP TWO: Determine the number of pupils enrolled in an apprenticeship program or a work based learning program designated under section 7.5 of this chapter multiplied by four hundred ninety-nine dollars (\$499).

STEP THREE: Determine the number of pupils enrolled in an introductory program designated under section 7.5 of this chapter multiplied by Two hundred ninety-nine dollars (\$299).

STEP FOUR: Determine the number of pupils enrolled in a planning for college and career course under section 7.5 of this chapter at the school corporation that is approved by the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher education** multiplied by one hundred fifty dollars (\$150).

STEP FIVE: Determine the number of pupils who travel from the school in which they are currently enrolled to another school to participate in a career and technical education program in which pupils from multiple schools are served at a common location multiplied by one hundred fifty dollars (\$150).



SECTION 31. IC 20-43-8-16, AS ADDED BY P.L.230-2017, SECTION 25, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 16. The ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher education** shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 that are necessary to implement the duties of the ~~department of workforce development~~ **commission for higher education** under this chapter.

SECTION 32. IC 20-43-16-1, AS ADDED BY P.L.213-2025, SECTION 198, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "grant" means a teacher appreciation grant awarded by the department to a school corporation, ~~or charter a school, or the department of correction~~ under this chapter.

SECTION 33. IC 20-43-16-2.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2.5. As used in this chapter, "school" means the following:

(1) A charter school.

(2) The Indiana School for the Deaf established by IC 20-22-2-1.

(3) The Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired established by IC 20-21-2-1.

SECTION 34. IC 20-43-16-3, AS ADDED BY P.L.213-2025, SECTION 198, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) The teacher appreciation grant program is established to provide grants for each state fiscal year to school corporations, ~~and charter schools, and the department of correction~~ to attract, reward, and retain teachers who significantly impact student outcomes.

(b) The department, in consultation with the state board, shall administer the program.

SECTION 35. IC 20-43-16-4, AS ADDED BY P.L.213-2025, SECTION 198, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. To be eligible for a grant under the program, a school corporation, ~~or charter a school, or the department of correction~~ must meet the following:

(1) Apply in a manner prescribed by the department.

(2) Identify not more than twenty percent (20%) of certified teachers as eligible grant recipients annually based on criteria outlined in section 5 of this chapter.

(3) Report how each recipient met the criteria outlined in section 5 of this chapter.





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

SECTION 36. IC 20-43-16-5, AS ADDED BY P.L.213-2025, SECTION 198, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 5. **(a)** A grant received by a school corporation, or charter school, may only be used to pay stipends within the amounts described in section 8 of this chapter to one (1) or more teachers selected by the school corporation or charter school who:

- (1) have instructed students in a school or district for at least one (1) school year prior to the grant distribution year;
- (2) maintain employment at the same school or district at the time of the grant distribution;
- (3) are determined to significantly impact student outcomes using national, state, or local assessment measures; and
- (4) are designated in one (1) of the categories described in section 6 of this chapter.

**(b) A grant received by a school corporation, a school, or the department of correction may be used to pay the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) and Indiana state teachers' retirement fund costs associated with distributing a stipend under this chapter.**

SECTION 37. IC 20-43-16-6, AS ADDED BY P.L.213-2025, SECTION 198, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. (a) Grant amounts distributed to a teacher described in section 5 of this chapter must meet the criteria as set forth in this section for:

- (1) a "recognition" stipend;
- (2) an "exemplary" stipend; or
- (3) an "exemplary plus" stipend.

**(b) A school corporation, ~~or charter~~ a school, or the department of correction must apply the following criteria in evaluating a teacher for a stipend designation under subsection (a):**

- (1) For a recognition stipend designation, whether the teacher demonstrates high performance in teaching based on student outcomes.
- (2) For an exemplary stipend designation, whether the teacher:
  - (A) demonstrates high performance in teaching based on student outcomes; and
  - (B) meets one (1) of the following:
    - (i) Mentors or coaches another teacher to improve student outcomes, or provides instructional leadership to improve student outcomes across multiple classrooms.
    - (ii) Serves in a high need or geographic shortage area as



determined by the department based on educator supply and demand.

(3) For an exemplary plus stipend designation, whether the teacher:

(A) demonstrates high performance in teaching based on student outcomes;

(B) mentors or coaches another teacher to improve student outcomes, or provides instructional leadership to improve student outcomes across multiple classrooms; and

(C) serves in a high need or geographic shortage area as determined by the department based on educator supply and demand.

(c) A school corporation, ~~or charter a school~~, **or the department of correction** may establish additional criteria in evaluating a teacher for a designation under subsection (a).

SECTION 38. IC 20-43-16-7, AS ADDED BY P.L.213-2025, SECTION 198, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) The department shall create a rubric for use by school corporations, ~~and charter schools~~, **and the department of correction** under this chapter.

(b) The rubric must include:

(1) student assessment data if student assessment data is available for the applicable grade level or class; and

(2) expectations for the roles, responsibilities, and duties of a mentor teacher, which include providing professional development and guidance to new teachers.

SECTION 39. IC 20-43-16-8, AS ADDED BY P.L.213-2025, SECTION 198, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. The amount of the stipend that a school corporation, ~~or charter schools a school~~, **or the department of correction** may distribute to a teacher for a state fiscal year under this chapter must be within the following amounts:

(1) For a teacher who receives a stipend for a recognition designation, three thousand five hundred dollars (\$3,500).

(2) For a teacher who receives a stipend for an exemplary designation, five thousand dollars (\$5,000).

(3) For a teacher who receives a stipend for an exemplary plus designation, seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500).

SECTION 40. IC 20-43-16-10, AS ADDED BY P.L.213-2025, SECTION 198, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) The department may award a grant under this chapter each state fiscal year to a school corporation,



1 ~~or charter a school, or the department of correction upon the school~~  
 2 ~~corporation, school, or department of correction meeting that meets~~  
 3 the requirements of this chapter.

4 (b) If the total amount to be distributed as teacher appreciation  
 5 grants for a particular state fiscal year exceeds the amount appropriated  
 6 by the general assembly for teacher appreciation grants for that state  
 7 fiscal year, the total amount to be distributed as teacher appreciation  
 8 grants to school corporations, ~~and charter schools, and the department~~  
 9 ~~of correction~~ shall be proportionately reduced so that the total  
 10 reduction equals the amount of the excess.

11 (c) The department shall distribute all teacher appreciation grants  
 12 awarded for a state fiscal year to the school corporations, ~~and charter~~  
 13 ~~schools, and department of correction awarded the grants~~ before  
 14 April 15 of the applicable state fiscal year.

15 SECTION 41. IC 20-43-16-11, AS ADDED BY P.L.213-2025,  
 16 SECTION 198, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 17 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 11. ~~If a school corporation, or~~  
 18 ~~charter a school, or the department of correction that~~ receives a grant  
 19 for a state fiscal year under this chapter, it shall do the following:

20 (1) Distribute all stipends from the grant to individual teachers  
 21 not later than sixty (60) business days after the date the  
 22 department distributes the grant to the school corporation, ~~or~~  
 23 ~~charter school, or department of correction.~~

24 (2) Not later than June 30 of the applicable state fiscal year, return  
 25 any part of the grant not distributed as stipends to teachers.

26 SECTION 42. IC 20-46-1-21, AS AMENDED BY P.L.68-2025,  
 27 SECTION 221, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 28 [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 21. (a) This section:

29 (1) except as provided in subdivision (2), applies to revenue  
 30 received from a resolution that is approved by the governing body  
 31 to impose a referendum levy under section 8 or 8.5 of this chapter  
 32 after May 10, 2023, for a school corporation located in:

- 33 (A) Lake County;
- 34 (B) Marion County;
- 35 (C) St. Joseph County; or
- 36 (D) Vanderburgh County;

37 through the full term of the referendum levy; and

38 (2) does not apply to revenue received from a referendum levy if:

- 39 (A) the governing body of the school corporation approves the  
 40 referendum levy in a resolution adopted under section 8 or 8.5  
 41 of this chapter; and
- 42 (B) the referendum levy is imposed for the first time with



1 property taxes first due and payable in a calendar year  
2 beginning after December 31, 2027.

3 (b) Subject to subsections (f) and (h), the county auditor in the  
4 county in which the school corporation is located shall distribute an  
5 amount of revenue as provided under subsection (e) from the revenue  
6 collected from a tax levy imposed under this chapter by a school  
7 corporation that is attributable to the territory of the school corporation  
8 that is located within the boundaries of a county listed in subsection  
9 (a)(1) to each charter school, excluding virtual charter schools or adult  
10 high schools, that a student who resides within the attendance area of  
11 the school corporation attends if the charter school elects to participate  
12 in the referendum under section 8(h) of this chapter.

13 (c) The department shall provide the county auditor with data and  
14 information necessary for the county auditor to determine:

15 (1) which charter schools are eligible to receive a distribution  
16 under this section; and

17 (2) the number of students who:

18 (A) reside within the attendance area of the school corporation  
19 who are included in the ADM for each charter school,  
20 excluding virtual charter schools or adult high schools,  
21 described in subdivision (1); and

22 (B) receive not more than fifty percent (50%) virtual  
23 instruction.

24 (d) The following schools are not eligible to receive a distribution  
25 under this section:

26 (1) A virtual charter school.

27 (2) An adult high school.

28 (e) For the purposes of the calculations made in this subsection,  
29 each eligible school that has entered into an agreement with a school  
30 corporation to participate as a participating innovation network charter  
31 school under IC 20-25.7-5 is considered to have an ADM that is  
32 separate from the school corporation. The amount that the county  
33 auditor shall distribute to a charter school, excluding virtual charter  
34 schools or adult high schools, under this section is the amount  
35 determined in the last STEP of the following STEPS:

36 STEP ONE: Determine, for each charter school, excluding virtual  
37 charter schools or adult high schools, that is eligible to receive a  
38 distribution under this section, the number of students who:

39 (A) reside within the attendance area of the school  
40 corporation;

41 (B) ~~who~~ are currently included in the ADM of the charter  
42 school; and



- 1 (C) receive not more than fifty percent (50%) virtual  
 2 instruction.
- 3 STEP TWO: Determine the sum of:
- 4 (A) the current ADM count for the school corporation; plus
- 5 (B) ~~the~~ total number of ~~all~~ students who:
- 6 (i) reside within the attendance area of the school
- 7 corporation;
- 8 (ii) ~~who~~ are currently included in the ADM of a charter
- 9 school, **excluding virtual charter schools or adult high**
- 10 **schools;** and
- 11 (iii) receive not more than fifty percent (50%) virtual
- 12 instruction. ~~excluding virtual charter schools or adult high~~
- 13 ~~schools.~~
- 14 STEP THREE: Determine the result of:
- 15 (A) the STEP ONE amount; divided by
- 16 (B) the STEP TWO amount.
- 17 STEP FOUR: Determine the result of:
- 18 (A) the sum of:
- 19 (i) the STEP THREE amount; plus
- 20 (ii) any amount withheld in the previous year under
- 21 subsection (i); multiplied by
- 22 (B) the amount collected by the county auditor during the most
- 23 recent installment period that is attributable to the territory of
- 24 the school corporation that is located within the boundaries of
- 25 a county listed in subsection (a).
- 26 (f) A charter school is not eligible for a distribution under this
- 27 section from property tax revenue collected from a particular
- 28 referendum levy if the charter school does not have a certified fall
- 29 ADM count in the calendar year immediately preceding the calendar
- 30 year in which the public question for the referendum appears on the
- 31 ballot.
- 32 (g) Not later than August 15, 2025, and not later than August 15 of
- 33 each calendar year thereafter, the department shall provide to each
- 34 school corporation and eligible charter school an estimate of the
- 35 amount of property tax levy revenue the school corporation and charter
- 36 school are expected to receive under this section in the subsequent
- 37 calendar year based on the most recent fall ADM count.
- 38 (h) This subsection applies beginning with distributions of property
- 39 tax revenue under this section in 2026 and thereafter. In order to
- 40 receive a distribution under this section, the governing body of a
- 41 charter school shall, not later than October 15, 2025, and not later than
- 42 October 15 of each calendar year thereafter, adopt a budget for the



current school year. Not later than ten (10) days before its adoption, the budget must be fixed and presented to the charter board in a public meeting in the county in which the charter school is incorporated. Not later than November 1, 2025, and not later than November 1 of each calendar year thereafter, the governing body of the charter school shall submit:

- (1) the budget that is adopted under this subsection;
- (2) the dates on which each requirement under this subsection were met; and
- (3) a statement from the governing body of the charter school attesting that the dates provided in subdivision (2) are true and accurate and that the budget was properly adopted under this subsection;

to the charter authorizer for review and to the department of local government finance to be posted publicly on the computer gateway under IC 6-1.1-17-3.

(i) If a charter school does not satisfy the requirements of subsection (h) to receive distributions under this section during a calendar year, as determined by the department of local government finance, the charter school may not receive a distribution of property tax revenue in that calendar year and the county auditor shall withhold the charter school's distribution amount. The department of local government finance's determination of compliance consists only of a confirmation that the adopted budget and attestation statement are submitted not later than the applicable date under subsection (h). Any distribution amount withheld under this subsection shall be:

- (1) added to the property tax revenue collections as described in STEP TWO of subsection (e); and
- (2) distributed among the school corporation and remaining charter schools according to subsection (e);

in the calendar year that immediately follows the calendar year in which the distribution amount was withheld.

SECTION 43. IC 20-46-9-22, AS AMENDED BY P.L.68-2025, SECTION 232, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 22. (a) This section:

- (1) applies to revenue received from a resolution that is approved by the governing body to impose a referendum levy under section 6 or 7 of this chapter after May 10, 2023, for a school corporation located in:
  - (A) Lake County;
  - (B) Marion County;
  - (C) St. Joseph County; or



- 1 (D) Vanderburgh County;
- 2 through the full term of the referendum levy; and
- 3 (2) does not apply to revenue received from a referendum levy if:
- 4 (A) the governing body of the school corporation approves the
- 5 referendum levy in a resolution adopted under section 6 or 7
- 6 of this chapter; and
- 7 (B) the referendum levy is imposed for the first time with
- 8 property taxes first due and payable in a calendar year
- 9 beginning after December 31, 2027.
- 10 (b) The county auditor shall distribute an amount under subsection
- 11 (d) to each charter school, excluding virtual charter schools or adult
- 12 high schools, that a student who resides within the attendance area of
- 13 the school corporation attends if the charter school, excluding virtual
- 14 charter schools or adult high schools, elects to participate in the
- 15 referendum under section 6(i) of this chapter. The department shall
- 16 provide the county auditor with data and information necessary for the
- 17 county auditor to determine:
- 18 (1) which charter schools, excluding virtual charter schools or
- 19 adult high schools, are eligible to receive a distribution under this
- 20 section; and
- 21 (2) the number of all students who reside within the attendance
- 22 area of the school corporation who are included in the ADM for
- 23 each charter school, excluding virtual charter schools or adult
- 24 high schools, described in subdivision (1).
- 25 (c) The following schools are not eligible to receive a distribution
- 26 under this section:
- 27 (1) A virtual charter school.
- 28 (2) An adult high school.
- 29 (d) For the purposes of the calculations made in this subsection,
- 30 each eligible school that has entered into an agreement with a school
- 31 corporation to participate as a participating innovation network charter
- 32 school under IC 20-25.7-5 is considered to have an ADM that is
- 33 separate from the school corporation. The amount that the county
- 34 auditor shall distribute to a charter school, excluding virtual charter
- 35 schools or adult high schools, under this section is the amount
- 36 determined in the last STEP of the following STEPS:
- 37 STEP ONE: Determine, for each charter school, excluding virtual
- 38 charter schools or adult high schools, that is eligible to receive a
- 39 distribution under this section, the number of students who:
- 40 (A) reside within the attendance area of the school
- 41 corporation; ~~who~~
- 42 (B) are currently included in the ADM of the charter school;



1           **and**

2           **(C) receive not more than fifty percent (50%) virtual**  
 3           **instruction.**

4           STEP TWO: Determine the sum of:

5           (A) the current ADM count for the school corporation; plus

6           (B) the total number of students who:

7           (i) reside within the attendance area of the school  
 8           corporation; ~~who:~~

9           (ii) are currently included in the ADM of a charter school,  
 10           excluding virtual charter schools or adult high schools; **and**

11           **(iii) receive not more than fifty percent (50%) virtual**  
 12           **instruction.**

13           STEP THREE: Determine the result of:

14           (A) the STEP ONE amount; divided by

15           (B) the STEP TWO amount.

16           STEP FOUR: Determine the result of:

17           (A) the STEP THREE amount; multiplied by

18           (B) the amount collected by the county auditor during the most  
 19           recent installment period.

20           (e) If a charter school receives a distribution under this section, the  
 21           distribution may be used only for the purposes described in  
 22           IC 20-40-20-6(a).

23           SECTION 44. IC 20-51-4-5.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.232-2025,  
 24           SECTION 18, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 25           JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5.5. (a) A parent of an eligible choice scholarship  
 26           student or an eligible school on behalf of a parent of an eligible choice  
 27           scholarship student may petition the department to reconsider the  
 28           eligibility of a choice scholarship student **payment of a choice**  
 29           **scholarship for a student** enrolled in the eligible school if the parent  
 30           has reason to believe that the student was determined ineligible due to  
 31           ~~enrollment~~ **membership** data inaccuracies reported by a school.  
 32           **Petitions must be received by the department not later than thirty**  
 33           **(30) days after the date of notification of payment based on the**  
 34           **official fall and spring ADM count dates.**

35           (b) If the department determines that a student described in  
 36           subsection (a) is eligible for a choice scholarship under this chapter, the  
 37           department may adjust the ~~enrollment~~ **membership** count of choice  
 38           scholarship students for the applicable eligible school.

39           (c) If the department adjusts a count used for a distribution under  
 40           this chapter, the department shall adjust subsequent distributions to the  
 41           eligible school that is affected by the adjusted count, on the schedule  
 42           determined by the department, to reflect the differences between the





1 distribution that the eligible school received and the distribution that  
 2 the eligible school would have received if the adjusted count had been  
 3 used.

4 SECTION 45. IC 20-51.4-4.5-6.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.127-2024,  
 5 SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 6 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6.5. (a) A parent of a career scholarship student  
 7 or an emancipated career scholarship student may use a CSA annual  
 8 grant amount received under this chapter for costs related to obtaining  
 9 a driver's license if the following conditions are met:

10 (1) The amount used for the costs does not exceed one thousand  
 11 dollars (\$1,000).

12 (2) The parent or emancipated CSA student demonstrates proof  
 13 of hardship, as determined by the department.

14 (3) A driver's license is a prerequisite for being able to perform  
 15 the regular functions of the sequence, course, apprenticeship, or  
 16 program of study, as determined by the department.

17 (4) Any other criteria that the department considers relevant are  
 18 satisfied.

19 (b) A parent of a career scholarship student or an emancipated  
 20 career scholarship student may use a CSA annual grant amount  
 21 received under this chapter for costs related to transportation if the  
 22 following conditions are met:

23 (1) The amount used for the costs from the CSA annual grant  
 24 amount does not exceed the following:

25 ~~(A) A matching amount paid by a CSA participating entity for~~  
 26 ~~the transportation costs of the career scholarship student.~~

27 ~~(B)~~ a total amount of six hundred twenty-five dollars (\$625).

28 (2) The parent or emancipated CSA student demonstrates proof  
 29 of hardship, as determined by the department.

30 (3) Any other criteria that the department considers relevant are  
 31 satisfied.

32 (c) A CSA annual grant amount received under this chapter may not  
 33 be used for the purchase or lease of a motor vehicle (as defined in  
 34 IC 4-4-32.2-6).

35 SECTION 46. IC 21-18-15.1-0.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA  
 36 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 37 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 0.5. As used in this chapter,  
 38 "eligible school" means the following:

39 (1) A charter school.

40 (2) A state accredited nonpublic school (as defined in  
 41 IC 20-18-2-18.7).

42 (3) A nonpublic school that is accredited by a national or



**regional accreditation agency that is recognized by the state board of education.**

SECTION 47. IC 21-18-15.1-5, AS ADDED BY P.L.74-2019, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) The teacher residency grant pilot program fund is established for the purpose of providing funds to school corporations and **charter eligible** schools for the development and implementation of teacher residency programs as described in section 6 of this chapter.

(b) The fund consists of the following:

(1) Appropriations made by the general assembly.

(2) Gifts, grants, devises, or bequests made to the commission to achieve the purposes of the fund.

(c) The commission shall administer the fund.

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

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

(f) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not revert to the state general fund but remains available to be used for the purposes of this chapter.

SECTION 48. IC 21-18-15.1-6, AS ADDED BY P.L.74-2019, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. The commission may award grants under the pilot program to an applicant that meets the following requirements:

(1) The applicant is a school corporation or **charter eligible** school that has partnered with one (1) approved postsecondary educational institution to establish and implement a teacher residency program.

(2) The applicant submits a teacher residency plan that:

(A) establishes a teacher residency program in which:

(i) program participants receive teacher training under the teacher residency program for a one (1) year period; and

(ii) program participants and teachers who act as mentors to program participants under the teacher residency program receive stipends;

(B) includes the name and contact information of the approved postsecondary educational institution with which the school corporation or **charter eligible** school has partnered; and

(C) includes any other information regarding the teacher



residency program that is required by the commission.

(3) Any other requirements established by the commission.

SECTION 49. IC 21-18-15.1-7, AS ADDED BY P.L.74-2019, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. A school corporation or **charter eligible** school that is awarded a grant under section 6 of this chapter:

(1) shall provide stipends to:

(A) program participants; and

(B) teachers who act as mentors to program participants under the teacher residency program; and

(2) may use money from the grant award to pay the approved postsecondary educational institution with which the school corporation or **charter eligible** school has partnered for administrative costs incurred by the approved postsecondary educational institution in developing and implementing the teacher residency program.

SECTION 50. IC 21-18-15.1-8, AS ADDED BY P.L.74-2019, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. The commission shall, upon request, provide technical assistance to school corporations, **charter eligible** schools, and approved postsecondary educational institutions participating in the pilot program in the development of competency based curriculum and support systems for program participants.

SECTION 51. IC 21-18-15.1-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.214-2025, SECTION 213, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. (a) The commission shall annually prepare a report that includes the following:

(1) Information regarding school corporations and **charter eligible** schools that participate in the pilot program.

(2) The annual retention rate of teachers employed by a school corporation or **charter eligible** school who completed the school corporation's or **charter eligible** school's teacher residency program within the immediately preceding five (5) years.

(3) The number of program participants who were not employed by a school corporation or **charter eligible** school after completing the school corporation's or **charter eligible** school's teacher residency program.

(4) The number of teachers who:

(A) completed a teacher residency program under this chapter in the immediately preceding five (5) years; and

(B) took leadership roles, as determined by the commission, during their employment with a school corporation or **charter**



1                   **eligible** school in Indiana.

2           (b) Not later than July 1 of each year, the commission shall submit

3 the report described in subsection (a) to the following:

4           (1) The governor.

5           (2) The general assembly in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.

6       SECTION 52. IC 21-18-21 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,

7 2026]. (Postsecondary Career and Technical Education).

8       SECTION 53. IC 21-18.5-5-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.43-2021,

9 SECTION 141, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS

10 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) The board for proprietary

11 education consists of the following seven (7) members:

12           (1) The secretary of education or the secretary's designee.

13           (2) The executive officer of the commission for higher education

14 or the executive officer's designee.

15           (3) Five (5) members **who are members of the public at large**

16 appointed by the governor.

17           (b) The members appointed by the governor under subsection (a)

18 serve for a term of four (4) years.

19           (c) Not more than three (3) of the members appointed by the

20 governor may be members of the same political party.

21           ~~(d) Of the five (5) members appointed by the governor:~~

22               ~~(1) one (1) must have been engaged for a period of at least five~~

23               ~~(5) years immediately preceding appointment in an executive or~~

24               ~~a managerial position in a postsecondary proprietary educational~~

25               ~~institution subject to IC 21-18.5-6;~~

26               ~~(2) one (1) must have been engaged in administering or managing~~

27               ~~an industrial employee training program for a period of at least~~

28               ~~five (5) years immediately preceding appointment; and~~

29               ~~(3) three (3) must be representatives of the public at large who are~~

30               ~~not representatives of the types of postsecondary credit bearing~~

31               ~~proprietary educational institutions to be authorized.~~

32       For purposes of subdivision (3); an elected or appointed state or local

33 official or a member of a private or public school may not be appointed

34 as a representative of the public at large.

35           ~~(e) (d)~~ An appointment to fill a vacancy occurring on the board for

36 proprietary education is for the unexpired term.

37       SECTION 54. [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE] **Notwithstanding**

38 **the June 29, 2026, effective date contained in P.L.213-2025,**

39 **SECTION 199, the revisor of statutes shall publish IC 20-51-1-4.3,**

40 **as amended by P.L.213-2025, SECTION 199, effective May 1, 2026.**

41       SECTION 55. An emergency is declared for this act.



## COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Speaker: Your Committee on Education, to which was referred House Bill 1266, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the House with the recommendation that said bill be amended as follows:

Page 12, between lines 15 and 16, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"SECTION 11. IC 20-28-5-21, AS AMENDED BY P.L.275-2019, SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 21. To be eligible for a career specialist permit to teach in a secondary school, an applicant must meet one (1) of the following:

(1) The applicant:

- (A) has a bachelor's degree with a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale (or its equivalent if another grading scale is used) in the content area in which the applicant intends to teach;
- (B) has passed the approved content area examination in the content area in which the applicant intends to teach;
- (C) demonstrates proficiency in the area of pedagogy under procedures prescribed by the department; and
- (D) has, within the immediately preceding five (5) years, at least four thousand (4,000) clock hours of documented occupational experience in the content area in which the applicant intends to teach.

(2) The applicant:

- (A) meets the requirements under subdivision (1)(A) or (1)(B);
- (B) demonstrates proficiency in the area of pedagogy under procedures prescribed by the department; and
- (C) has, within the immediately preceding seven (7) years, at least five thousand (5,000) clock hours of documented occupational experience in the content area in which the applicant intends to teach.

(3) The applicant:

- (A) is at least twenty-one (21) years of age;
- (B) will teach aviation ground instruction; and
- (C) meets at least one (1) of the following conditions:
  - (i) The applicant has passed the Federal Aviation Administration advanced ground instructor and fundamentals of instruction tests and been issued a valid Federal Aviation Administration advanced ground instructor certificate.
  - (ii) The applicant possesses a valid Federal Aviation



**Administration certified flight instructor or certified flight instructor instrument certificate.**

**(4) The applicant:**

**(A) is at least twenty-one (21) years of age;**

**(B) will teach flight instruction; and**

**(C) possesses a valid Federal Aviation Administration:**

**(i) certified flight instructor; or**

**(ii) certified flight instructor instrument;**

**certificate with the appropriate Federal Aviation Administration aircraft ratings for the flight instruction being provided."**

Page 12, line 21, delete "granted" and insert "**renewed**".

Page 18, line 1, delete "conducted." and insert "**conducted at no cost to a parent of a student or student.**".

Page 19, line 22, delete "prekindergarten through grade 8" and insert "**kindergarten through grade 5**".

Page 19, line 27, delete "thirty (30)" and insert "**twenty (20)**".

Renumber all SECTIONS consecutively.

and when so amended that said bill do pass.

(Reference is to HB 1266 as introduced.)

BEHNING

Committee Vote: yeas 10, nays 0.

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COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Speaker: Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred House Bill 1266, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the House with the recommendation that said bill be amended as follows:

Page 22, delete lines 37 through 42, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"SECTION 23. IC 20-36-6-2.3 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 2.3. As used in this chapter, "eligible school" means the following:**

**(1) The Indiana School for the Deaf established by IC 20-22-2-1.**

**HB 1266—LS 6953/DI 110**



**(2) The Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired established by IC 20-21-2-1.**

SECTION 24. IC 20-36-6-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.246-2023, SECTION 40, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) The Cambridge International program is established to encourage students to pursue advanced courses.

(b) The program shall be administered by the department.

(c) Subject to appropriation by the general assembly, the department shall provide schools, **including schools listed in section 2.3 of this chapter**, the same per pupil exam fee amounts for international baccalaureate and Cambridge International exams as the per pupil per exam funding amount for a student to take advanced placement exams.

SECTION 25. IC 20-36-6-5, AS ADDED BY P.L.216-2021, SECTION 37, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. Each school year each school corporation, ~~or~~ school, **and eligible school** may provide Cambridge International courses.

SECTION 26. IC 20-36-6-8, AS ADDED BY P.L.216-2021, SECTION 40, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) Money appropriated to the department to implement the program shall be distributed first to pay the fees for each Cambridge International examination that is taken by a student to satisfy Indiana graduation requirements, including Core 40 with academic honors, and who is:

- (1) enrolled in a public or state accredited nonpublic secondary school, **including schools listed in section 2.3 of this chapter**; and
- (2) a resident of Indiana.

Priority under this subsection shall be given to paying fees for each Cambridge International examination that is taken by a student in grade 11 or 12.

(b) After money appropriated for the program is distributed for the purposes described in subsection (a), any remaining money appropriated for the program shall be distributed and prioritized for distribution in the following order:

- (1) To pay stipends for teachers assigned to teach a math, science, or English Cambridge International course to attend the training described in section 7 of this chapter.
- (2) To pay school corporations, ~~or~~ schools, **and eligible schools** for instructional materials needed for a math, science, or English Cambridge International course.
- (3) To pay for or rent equipment that a school corporation, ~~or~~



school, **or eligible school** may need to develop a math, science, or English Cambridge International course.

(4) To pay any other stipends, costs, or fees incurred in implementing the Cambridge International program for subjects other than math, science, or English as authorized under this chapter.

(c) The department shall establish guidelines concerning the distribution of funds under this chapter, including guidelines to ensure that money distributed under this chapter is distributed as evenly as possible throughout Indiana.

(d) The department may also seek funding to carry out the purposes of this chapter through federal programs.

(e) The department may give priority in the distribution of funds to a school that serves a high concentration of low income students.

SECTION 27. IC 20-36-6-9, AS ADDED BY P.L.216-2021, SECTION 41, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. (a) The department shall develop and provide each public and state accredited nonpublic elementary school and high school, **including schools listed in section 2.3 of this chapter**, with guidelines designed to satisfy the requirements of this chapter.

(b) The guidelines developed under this section and the dissemination of the guidelines shall be developed and disseminated in the same manner as other college credit bearing programs."

Delete pages 23 through 38.

Page 39, delete lines 1 through 3.

Page 45, delete lines 24 through 42, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"SECTION 33. IC 20-43-16-5, AS ADDED BY P.L.213-2025, SECTION 198, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 5. **(a)** A grant received by a school corporation, or charter school, may only be used to pay stipends within the amounts described in section 8 of this chapter to one (1) or more teachers selected by the school corporation or charter school who:

- (1) have instructed students in a school or district for at least one (1) school year prior to the grant distribution year;
- (2) maintain employment at the same school or district at the time of the grant distribution;
- (3) are determined to significantly impact student outcomes using national, state, or local assessment measures; and
- (4) are designated in one (1) of the categories described in section 6 of this chapter.

**(b) A grant received by a school corporation, a school, or the**





**department of correction may be used to pay the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) and Indiana state teachers' retirement fund costs associated with distributing a stipend under this chapter."**

Page 46, delete lines 1 through 3.

Page 48, between lines 8 and 9, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"SECTION 40. IC 20-46-1-21, AS AMENDED BY P.L.68-2025, SECTION 221, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 21. (a) This section:

(1) except as provided in subdivision (2), applies to revenue received from a resolution that is approved by the governing body to impose a referendum levy under section 8 or 8.5 of this chapter after May 10, 2023, for a school corporation located in:

- (A) Lake County;
- (B) Marion County;
- (C) St. Joseph County; or
- (D) Vanderburgh County;

through the full term of the referendum levy; and

(2) does not apply to revenue received from a referendum levy if:

- (A) the governing body of the school corporation approves the referendum levy in a resolution adopted under section 8 or 8.5 of this chapter; and
- (B) the referendum levy is imposed for the first time with property taxes first due and payable in a calendar year beginning after December 31, 2027.

(b) Subject to subsections (f) and (h), the county auditor in the county in which the school corporation is located shall distribute an amount of revenue as provided under subsection (e) from the revenue collected from a tax levy imposed under this chapter by a school corporation that is attributable to the territory of the school corporation that is located within the boundaries of a county listed in subsection (a)(1) to each charter school, excluding virtual charter schools or adult high schools, that a student who resides within the attendance area of the school corporation attends if the charter school elects to participate in the referendum under section 8(h) of this chapter.

(c) The department shall provide the county auditor with data and information necessary for the county auditor to determine:

- (1) which charter schools are eligible to receive a distribution under this section; and
- (2) the number of students who:
  - (A) reside within the attendance area of the school corporation who are included in the ADM for each charter school,



excluding virtual charter schools or adult high schools, described in subdivision (1); and

(B) receive not more than fifty percent (50%) virtual instruction.

(d) The following schools are not eligible to receive a distribution under this section:

(1) A virtual charter school.

(2) An adult high school.

(e) For the purposes of the calculations made in this subsection, each eligible school that has entered into an agreement with a school corporation to participate as a participating innovation network charter school under IC 20-25.7-5 is considered to have an ADM that is separate from the school corporation. The amount that the county auditor shall distribute to a charter school, excluding virtual charter schools or adult high schools, under this section is the amount determined in the last STEP of the following STEPS:

STEP ONE: Determine, for each charter school, excluding virtual charter schools or adult high schools, that is eligible to receive a distribution under this section, the number of students who:

(A) reside within the attendance area of the school corporation;

(B) ~~who~~ are currently included in the ADM of the charter school; and

(C) receive not more than fifty percent (50%) virtual instruction.

STEP TWO: Determine the sum of:

(A) the current ADM count for the school corporation; plus

(B) ~~the~~ total number of ~~all~~ students who:

(i) reside within the attendance area of the school corporation;

(ii) ~~who~~ are currently included in the ADM of a charter school, **excluding virtual charter schools or adult high schools**; and

(iii) receive not more than fifty percent (50%) virtual instruction. ~~excluding virtual charter schools or adult high schools.~~

STEP THREE: Determine the result of:

(A) the STEP ONE amount; divided by

(B) the STEP TWO amount.

STEP FOUR: Determine the result of:

(A) the sum of:

(i) the STEP THREE amount; plus



- (ii) any amount withheld in the previous year under subsection (i); multiplied by
- (B) the amount collected by the county auditor during the most recent installment period that is attributable to the territory of the school corporation that is located within the boundaries of a county listed in subsection (a).

(f) A charter school is not eligible for a distribution under this section from property tax revenue collected from a particular referendum levy if the charter school does not have a certified fall ADM count in the calendar year immediately preceding the calendar year in which the public question for the referendum appears on the ballot.

(g) Not later than August 15, 2025, and not later than August 15 of each calendar year thereafter, the department shall provide to each school corporation and eligible charter school an estimate of the amount of property tax levy revenue the school corporation and charter school are expected to receive under this section in the subsequent calendar year based on the most recent fall ADM count.

(h) This subsection applies beginning with distributions of property tax revenue under this section in 2026 and thereafter. In order to receive a distribution under this section, the governing body of a charter school shall, not later than October 15, 2025, and not later than October 15 of each calendar year thereafter, adopt a budget for the current school year. Not later than ten (10) days before its adoption, the budget must be fixed and presented to the charter board in a public meeting in the county in which the charter school is incorporated. Not later than November 1, 2025, and not later than November 1 of each calendar year thereafter, the governing body of the charter school shall submit:

- (1) the budget that is adopted under this subsection;
- (2) the dates on which each requirement under this subsection were met; and
- (3) a statement from the governing body of the charter school attesting that the dates provided in subdivision (2) are true and accurate and that the budget was properly adopted under this subsection;

to the charter authorizer for review and to the department of local government finance to be posted publicly on the computer gateway under IC 6-1.1-17-3.

(i) If a charter school does not satisfy the requirements of subsection (h) to receive distributions under this section during a calendar year, as determined by the department of local government finance, the charter



school may not receive a distribution of property tax revenue in that calendar year and the county auditor shall withhold the charter school's distribution amount. The department of local government finance's determination of compliance consists only of a confirmation that the adopted budget and attestation statement are submitted not later than the applicable date under subsection (h). Any distribution amount withheld under this subsection shall be:

- (1) added to the property tax revenue collections as described in STEP TWO of subsection (e); and
- (2) distributed among the school corporation and remaining charter schools according to subsection (e);

in the calendar year that immediately follows the calendar year in which the distribution amount was withheld."

Page 49, line 29, delete "do not receive more" and insert "**receive not more**".

Page 54, delete lines 13 through 18.

Renumber all SECTIONS consecutively.

and when so amended that said bill do pass.

(Reference is to HB 1266 as printed January 8, 2026.)

THOMPSON

Committee Vote: yeas 23, nays 0.

