



January 12, 2026

HOUSE BILL No. 1268

DIGEST OF HB 1268 (Updated January 8, 2026 10:53 am - DI 116)

Citations Affected: IC 4-3; noncode.

Synopsis: Indiana defense task force funding. Adds the adjutant general of the Indiana National Guard or the adjutant general's designee as a member of the Indiana defense task force (task force). Provides that the chairperson of the task force may only vote to decide a tie vote. Provides that certain amounts appropriated for state fiscal years 2025-26 and 2026-27 must be used exclusively to support priorities identified by the Indiana defense task force (task force). Provides that the Indiana economic development corporation shall consult with, and receive approval from, the task force prior to obligating or expending the funds. Requires the task force to make a report detailing the use of the funds and their correspondence to task force priorities to the budget committee and the legislative council.

Effective: July 1, 2025 (retroactive); July 1, 2026.

Bartels, Lindauer

January 6, 2026, read first time and referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs and Public Safety.

January 12, 2026, amended, reported — Do Pass. Referred to Committee on Ways and Means pursuant to Rule 126.3.

HB 1268—LS 7004/DI 134



January 12, 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. 1268

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

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

1 SECTION 1. IC 4-3-21.5-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.74-2020,
2 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. The task force consists of the following
4 members:

5 (1) The lieutenant governor or the lieutenant governor's designee.

6 (2) The secretary of commerce or the secretary of commerce's
7 designee.

8 **(3) The adjutant general of the Indiana National Guard or the**
9 **adjutant general's designee.**

10 ~~(3)~~ **(4)** The following members chosen by the military assets in
11 their geographic areas:

12 (A) One (1) member representing the Southern Indiana
13 Defense Network.

14 (B) One (1) member representing Radius Indiana.

15 (C) One (1) member representing greater Fort Wayne, Indiana.

16 (D) One (1) member representing the Defense Finance and
17 Accounting Service, Lawrence, Indiana.

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(E) One (1) member representing the Grissom Regional Defense Alliance.

(F) One (1) member representing the West Central Indiana Defense Network.

(G) One (1) member representing the Michigan City Coast Guard Station.

SECTION 2. IC 4-3-21.5-6, AS ADDED BY P.L.228-2019, SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. The governor shall designate a member of the task force to serve as chairperson of the task force. **The chairperson shall preside at all meetings but may vote only in order to decide a tie vote.**

SECTION 3. IC 4-3-21.5-10, AS ADDED BY P.L.228-2019, SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. The affirmative votes of a majority of the voting members of the task force are required for the task force to take action on any measure, including reports required under section 12 of this chapter. **The chairperson is only considered a voting member for purposes of deciding a tie vote.**

SECTION 4. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025 (RETROACTIVE)] (a) **The following amounts appropriated in P.L.213-2025 to the Indiana economic development corporation for the Indiana office of defense development must be used exclusively to support priorities identified by the Indiana defense task force established by IC 4-3-21.5:**

(1) Seven hundred eighty-two thousand four hundred forty-six dollars (\$782,446) for state fiscal year 2025-26.

(2) Seven hundred eighty-two thousand four hundred forty-six dollars (\$782,446) for state fiscal year 2026-27.

The Indiana economic development corporation shall consult with, and receive approval from, the Indiana defense task force prior to obligating or expending the funds. The Indiana defense task force shall make a report detailing the use of the funds and their correspondence to Indiana defense task force priorities to the budget committee and the legislative council in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.

(b) This SECTION expires June 30, 2027.

SECTION 5. An emergency is declared for this act.



COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Speaker: Your Committee on Veterans Affairs and Public Safety, to which was referred House Bill 1268, 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:

Delete the title and insert the following:

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

Page 1, between the enacting clause and line 1, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"SECTION 1. IC 4-3-21.5-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.74-2020, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. The task force consists of the following members:

- (1) The lieutenant governor or the lieutenant governor's designee.
- (2) The secretary of commerce or the secretary of commerce's designee.

(3) The adjutant general of the Indiana National Guard or the adjutant general's designee.

~~(3)~~ **(4)** The following members chosen by the military assets in their geographic areas:

- (A) One (1) member representing the Southern Indiana Defense Network.
- (B) One (1) member representing Radius Indiana.
- (C) One (1) member representing greater Fort Wayne, Indiana.
- (D) One (1) member representing the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, Lawrence, Indiana.
- (E) One (1) member representing the Grissom Regional Defense Alliance.
- (F) One (1) member representing the West Central Indiana Defense Network.
- (G) One (1) member representing the Michigan City Coast Guard Station.

SECTION 2. IC 4-3-21.5-6, AS ADDED BY P.L.228-2019, SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. The governor shall designate a member of the task force to serve as chairperson of the task force. **The chairperson shall preside at all meetings but may vote only in order to decide a tie vote.**

SECTION 3. IC 4-3-21.5-10, AS ADDED BY P.L.228-2019, SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE



JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. The affirmative votes of a majority of the voting members of the task force are required for the task force to take action on any measure, including reports required under section 12 of this chapter. **The chairperson is only considered a voting member for purposes of deciding a tie vote."**

Renumber all SECTIONS consecutively.

and when so amended that said bill do pass.

(Reference is to HB 1268 as introduced.)

BARTELS

Committee Vote: yeas 12, nays 0.

