



February 11, 2026

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# ENGROSSED

## HOUSE BILL No. 1268

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DIGEST OF HB 1268 (Updated February 10, 2026 11:32 am - DI 140)

**Citations Affected:** IC 4-3; IC 5-28.

**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, on or before May 1, 2026, and each May 1 thereafter, the Indiana defense task force shall submit a report to the corporation's office of defense development and the budget committee. Provides that the report shall identify the task force's identified priorities for expenditures for the previous state fiscal year. Provides that on or before August 1, 2027, and each August 1 thereafter, the corporation's office of defense development shall submit a report to the task force and the budget committee that details expenditures from amounts appropriated to the corporation's office of defense development for priorities identified by the task force for the previous state fiscal year. Provides that, beginning with the 2026-2027 state fiscal year, and each state fiscal year thereafter, the corporation's office of defense development shall consider and incorporate, to the extent practicable, the task force's identified priorities for expenditures when the corporation's office of defense development formulates its annual budget.

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

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## Bartels, Lindauer, DeLaney, Judy

(SENATE SPONSORS — GOODE, SCHMITT)

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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.

January 27, 2026, amended, reported — Do Pass.

January 29, 2026, read second time, ordered engrossed.

January 30, 2026, engrossed.

February 2, 2026, read third time, passed. Yeas 85, nays 0.

SENATE ACTION

February 5, 2026, read first time and referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs and The Military.

February 10, 2026, reported favorably — Do Pass.

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EH 1268—LS 7004/DI 134





February 11, 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.

## ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL No. 1268

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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.

**EH 1268—LS 7004/DI 134**



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

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

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

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

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

20 SECTION 4. IC 5-28-6-12 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE  
21 AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
22 UPON PASSAGE]: Sec. 12. (a) **On or before May 1, 2026, and each**  
23 **May 1 thereafter, the Indiana defense task force established by**  
24 **IC 4-3-21.5 shall submit a report to the corporation's office of**  
25 **defense development and the budget committee. The report shall**  
26 **identify the Indiana defense task force's identified priorities for**  
27 **expenditures for the state fiscal year beginning July 1 immediately**  
28 **following the report and shall separately account for any**  
29 **supplemental funding or appropriations received by the state that**  
30 **is allocated for those priorities.**

31 (b) **On or before August 1, 2027, and each August 1 thereafter,**  
32 **the corporation's office of defense development, shall submit a**  
33 **report to the Indiana defense task force and the budget committee.**  
34 **The report shall detail expenditures from amounts appropriated**  
35 **to the corporation's office of defense development for priorities**  
36 **identified by the Indiana defense task force for the state fiscal year**  
37 **ending June 30 immediately preceding the report and shall**  
38 **separately account for any supplemental funding or appropriations**  
39 **received by the corporation that is allocated for those priorities.**

40 (c) **Beginning with the 2026-2027 state fiscal year and each state**  
41 **fiscal year thereafter, the corporation's office of defense**  
42 **development shall consider and incorporate, to the extent**



1     **practicable, the Indiana defense task force's priorities for**  
2     **expenditures when formulating its annual budget.**

3         **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.

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#### COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Speaker: Your Committee on Ways and Means, 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:

Page 2, delete lines 20 through 38, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"SECTION 4. IC 5-28-6-12 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS** [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE]: **Sec. 12. (a) On or before May 1, 2026, and each May 1 thereafter, the Indiana defense task force established by IC 4-3-21.5 shall submit a report to the corporation's office of defense development and the budget committee. The report shall identify the Indiana defense task force's identified priorities for expenditures for the state fiscal year beginning July 1 immediately following the report and shall separately account for any supplemental funding or appropriations received by the state that is allocated for those priorities.**

**(b) On or before August 1, 2027, and each August 1 thereafter, the corporation's office of defense development, shall submit a report to the Indiana defense task force and the budget committee. The report shall detail expenditures from amounts appropriated to the corporation's office of defense development for priorities identified by the Indiana defense task force for the state fiscal year ending June 30 immediately preceding the report and shall separately account for any supplemental funding or appropriations**

EH 1268—LS 7004/DI 134



received by the corporation that is allocated for those priorities.

(c) Beginning with the 2026-2027 state fiscal year and each state fiscal year thereafter, the corporation's office of defense development shall consider and incorporate, to the extent practicable, the Indiana defense task force's priorities for expenditures when formulating its annual budget.

SECTION 2. An emergency is declared for this act."

and when so amended that said bill do pass.

(Reference is to HB 1268 as printed January 12, 2026.)

THOMPSON

Committee Vote: yeas 23, nays 0.

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COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. President: The Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs and The Military, to which was referred House Bill No. 1268, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that said bill DO PASS.

(Reference is to HB 1268 as printed January 27, 2026.)

TOMES, Chairperson

Committee Vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0

