



January 22, 2026

HOUSE BILL No. 1302

DIGEST OF HB 1302 (Updated January 21, 2026 3:18 pm - DI 141)

Citations Affected: IC 22-2; IC 22-10.

Synopsis: Various labor and safety matters. Requires an employer to add, modify, or remove information in the youth employment system data base within a certain time frame. Removes provisions relating to a belt examiner certificate. Makes corresponding changes.

Effective: July 1, 2026.

Teshka

January 6, 2026, read first time and referred to Committee on Employment, Labor and Pensions.

January 22, 2026, amended — Do Pass.

HB 1302—LS 6890/DI 141



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. 1302

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning labor and safety.

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

1 SECTION 1. IC 22-2-18.1-26, AS AMENDED BY P.L.75-2024,
2 SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 26. (a) Each employer that hires, employs, or
4 permits at least five (5) minors who are:
5 (1) at least fourteen (14) years of age; and
6 (2) less than eighteen (18) years of age;
7 to work in a gainful occupation must register with the department.
8 (b) An employer that must register under this chapter must provide,
9 in the form and manner prescribed by the department, the following
10 information:
11 (1) The name of the employer.
12 (2) The electronic mail address of the employer.
13 (3) The number of minors whom the employer has hired,
14 employed, or permitted to work in a gainful occupation. For
15 purposes of this subdivision, the minor's date of hire is the first
16 date on which the minor performs work for the employer.
17 (4) Any other information required by the department.

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(1) a qualifying location; and

(2) the **legal names and numbers** of minors **currently working** at each qualifying location;

8 not later than fourteen (14) calendar days after the event that
9 caused the need for the addition, modification, or removal.
10 However, an employer shall have not more than thirty (30)
11 calendar days from the last date worked by a minor to terminate
12 the minor from the data base, even if the minor is not terminated
13 from the employer's payroll.

14 SECTION 2. IC 22-10-3-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.10-2012,
15 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
16 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. As used in this article:

17 "Active workings" means all places in a mine that are ventilated and
18 inspected regularly.

"Belt examiner" means an individual designated by the mine foreman to perform the functions as required by 30 CFR Part 75 in connection with examinations to ensure that the belt, belt drives, dump points, air movement, roof, and ribs of a mine are in safe condition.

23 "Board" refers to the mining board established under
24 IC 22-10-1.5-2.

25 "Commercial mine" means any underground mine from which coal
26 is produced for sale, exchange, or commercial use.

27 "Director" means the director of the bureau of mines and mine
28 safety established under IC 22-1-1-4.

29 "Hoisting engineer" means an individual who is capable of
30 transporting people and material in and out of a mine by means of a
31 hoist.

32 "Interested persons" means the director, safety personnel designated
33 by the operator, state and federal coal mine inspectors, and, to the
34 extent required by law, any other person.

35 "Mine" means an underground commercial coal mine.

"Mine electrician" means a properly certified individual who can perform electrical work in:

38 (1) a surface coal mine;

39 (2) surface areas of underground coal mines; and

40 (3) underground coal mines.

41 "Mine examiner" means a prop

42 the mine foreman to examine the mine for gas and other dangers. A



1 mine examiner may temporarily act as a section foreman if designated
2 to act as such by the mine foreman.

3 "Mine foreman" means the person charged with the responsibility
4 of the general supervision of the underground working of a mine and
5 the persons employed in the mine and for the health and safety of those
6 employees.

7 "Mine inspector" means the person appointed to assist in
8 administering this article.

9 "Mine Safety Administration" refers to the Mine Safety and Health
10 Administration, United States Department of Labor.

11 "Mining laws" means:

12 (1) this article;
13 (2) IC 22-1-1-5(a);
14 (3) 30 CFR part 75; and
15 (4) 30 CFR part 77.

16 "Operator" means an individual, firm, association, partnership,
17 limited liability company, or corporation operating an underground
18 coal mine or any part of a mine.

19 "Shot-firer" means a properly certified person designated by the
20 mine foreman to perform the functions as required in this article in
21 connection with breaking down coal or rock.

22 SECTION 3. IC 22-10-3-9, AS AMENDED BY THE TECHNICAL
23 CORRECTIONS BILL OF THE 2026 GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IS
24 AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]:
25 Sec. 9. (a) The director shall keep a record of the board's official
26 actions concerning certificates issued under this chapter and file the
27 record together with questions and answers pertaining to examinations
28 established by the board, including the grade given for the answer to
29 each question. The record shall be open for inspection by interested
30 persons. If applications for certification are received, the board shall
31 meet at least quarterly at such time and place as it shall consider
32 advisable for the purpose of examining applicants for certificates.
33 These quarterly meetings shall be held in January, April, July, and
34 October. The date, time, and place of examination shall be published
35 at all coal mines in this state and posted on the ~~web site~~ **website**
36 maintained by the bureau of mines and mine safety at least thirty (30)
37 days before the examination. By a majority vote, the board shall
38 establish its rules of procedure and provide suitable certificates. The
39 board shall adopt rules establishing standards for the competent
40 practice of mine foreman, ~~belt examiner~~, mine examiner, shot-firer,
41 mine electrician, and hoisting engineer.

42 (b) A person desiring certification for mine foreman, ~~belt examiner~~,



1 mine examiner, shot-firer, mine electrician, or hoisting engineer must
2 make written application to the board on forms supplied by the board
3 not later than ten (10) days prior to the examination date.

4 SECTION 4. IC 22-10-3-10, AS AMENDED BY P.L.10-2012,
5 SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
6 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) It is the duty of the board to examine any
7 person applying for a certificate for mine foreman, shot-firer, mine
8 examiner, hoisting engineer, ~~or~~ mine electrician ~~or~~ belt examiner and
9 to issue certificates of competency to the applicants who, upon
10 examination, prove themselves competent and qualified. A certificate
11 is valid only when the examination for certification has been held in the
12 presence of a member of the board and signed by the chairman of the
13 board. A certificate of competency may not be issued to any person
14 whose grade is less than seventy-five percent (75%) for any
15 certification other than that of a certificate for mine electrician, which
16 requires a passing grade of not less than eighty percent (80%). The
17 board shall observe the requirements set forth in this section in
18 conducting the examinations.

19 (b) An applicant for a mine foreman certificate must have at least
20 four (4) years of experience underground in coal mines. However, a
21 person who has graduated and holds a degree in engineering or an
22 approved four (4) year program in coal mining technology from an
23 accredited school, college, or university is required to have only two (2)
24 years of practical underground mining experience to qualify for the
25 examination. A person who has graduated and holds a two (2) year
26 associate in applied science degree in coal mining technology from an
27 accredited school, college, or university is required to have only three
28 (3) years of practical underground mining experience to qualify for the
29 examination. An applicant must prove to the board by written and oral
30 examination and by demonstration, where applicable, that the applicant
31 has a thorough knowledge of:

32 (1) the theory and practice of coal mining;
33 (2) the nature and properties of poisonous, noxious, and explosive
34 gases and methods for their detection and control;
35 (3) the requirements of the coal mining laws of this state; and
36 (4) the responsibilities and duties of a mine foreman under such
37 laws;

38 and that the applicant is otherwise qualified by law.

39 (c) An applicant for a mine examiner certificate must have at least
40 three (3) years of experience underground in coal mines. However, a
41 person who has graduated and holds a degree in engineering or an
42 associate in applied science degree in coal mining technology from an



1 accredited school, college, or university is required to have only two (2)
2 years of practical underground mining experience to qualify for the
3 examination. An applicant must prove to the board by written and oral
4 examination and by demonstration, where applicable, that the applicant
5 has a thorough knowledge of:

6 (1) the nature and properties of poisonous, noxious, and explosive
7 gases and methods for their detection and control;
8 (2) the practical aspects of coal mining pertaining especially to
9 ventilation and roof control; and
10 (3) the responsibilities of a mine examiner under coal mining laws
11 of this state;

12 and that the applicant is otherwise qualified by law.

13 (d) An applicant for a shot-firer certificate must have at least one (1)
14 year of underground experience and must have been properly trained
15 in a course approved by the director in the safe use and handling of
16 explosives. An applicant must prove to the board by written and oral
17 examination and by demonstration, where applicable, that the applicant
18 has a working knowledge of:

19 (1) the proper handling and use of explosives and blasting devices
20 and the danger connected therewith;
21 (2) the nature and properties of poisonous, noxious, and explosive
22 gases and methods for their detection;
23 (3) the coal mining laws of the state pertaining to ventilation, roof
24 control, and blasting; and
25 (4) the responsibilities of a shot-firer under applicable mining
26 laws;

27 and that the applicant is otherwise qualified by law.

28 (e) An applicant for a hoisting engineer certificate must prove to the
29 board by written and oral examination and by demonstration, where
30 applicable, that the applicant:

31 (1) is capable of operating a hoist;
32 (2) has a thorough knowledge of the coal mining laws of this state
33 pertaining to hoisting operations;
34 (3) has at least one (1) year mining experience;
35 (4) has at least twenty (20) hours practical experience under the
36 supervision of a certified hoisting engineer; and
37 (5) is otherwise qualified by law.

38 (f) An applicant for a belt examiner certificate must have at least
39 one (1) year of experience in belt maintenance or installation work. The
40 applicant must prove to the board by written and oral examination and
41 by demonstration, where applicable, that the applicant has a thorough
42 knowledge of:



1 (1) the requirements of the coal mining laws of this state with
 2 particular emphasis upon those laws pertaining to the use of
 3 electrical or belt equipment and the transmission of electrical
 4 energy into coal mines; and
 5 (2) the responsibilities of a belt examiner under those laws;
 6 and that the applicant is otherwise qualified by law.

7 (f) An applicant for a mine electrician certificate must have
 8 sufficient (but not less than one (1) year of) experience in performing
 9 electrical work. The applicant must prove to the board by written and
 10 oral examination and by demonstration, where applicable, that the
 11 applicant has a thorough knowledge of:

12 (1) the requirements of the coal mining laws of this state, with
 13 particular emphasis upon laws pertaining to electrical energy in
 14 coal mines;
 15 (2) direct and alternating current theory and application;
 16 (3) electric equipment and electrical circuits in coal mines;
 17 (4) permissibility of electric equipment;
 18 (5) 30 CFR 75 subparts F-K; and
 19 (6) 30 CFR 77 subparts F-J and S.

20 (g) An applicant for an examination under this section must pay
 21 the bureau of mines and mine safety an examination fee of twenty-five
 22 dollars (\$25). All fees collected under this subsection shall be
 23 deposited in the mine safety fund established by IC 22-10-12-16. The
 24 board may set a different fee by rule under IC 22-10-1.5-4.

25 (h) A mine foreman, mine examiner, shot-firer, hoisting
 26 engineer, or mine electrician or belt examiner certificate issued before
 27 September 1, 1979, is valid under the mining laws of Indiana.

28 (i) A person who was issued a fire-boss certificate before July 1,
 29 2007, shall be issued a replacement mine examiner certificate upon
 30 request to the director.

31 (j) A person designated as mine superintendent or assistant mine
 32 superintendent, or acting in either capacity, must hold a mine foreman
 33 certificate.

34 (k) A certificate may be granted to an applicant who presents to
 35 the board satisfactory evidence that the applicant has not been
 36 convicted of:

37 (1) an act which would constitute a ground for disciplinary
 38 sanction under section 11.1(b) of this chapter; or
 39 (2) a felony that has a direct bearing on the applicant's ability to
 40 act competently as a mine foreman, shot-firer, mine examiner,
 41 hoisting engineer, or mine electrician. or belt examiner.

42 (l) For the purpose of safety, the board may refuse to examine



1 an applicant who cannot:

2 (1) readily understand the written English language; or
3 (2) express himself or herself in the English language.

4 SECTION 5. IC 22-10-3-11, AS AMENDED BY P.L.10-2012,
5 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
6 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 11. (a) In event of loss or destruction of any
7 certificate issued under the mining laws of this state, the board, upon
8 satisfactory proof of such loss or destruction, shall issue a duplicate
9 certificate upon receipt of five dollars (\$5). The fee shall be deposited
10 into the mine safety fund established by IC 22-10-12-16. The board
11 may set a different fee by rule under IC 22-10-1.5-4.

12 (b) The holder of a mine foreman, mine examiner, shot-firer,
13 hoisting engineer, **or** mine electrician **or belt examiner** certificate must
14 present the same or a photostatic copy to the official of the mine where
15 the holder is employed, who shall file it in the office at such mine, and
16 such file shall be available for inspection by interested persons.

17 SECTION 6. IC 22-10-3-12, AS AMENDED BY P.L.10-2012,
18 SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
19 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 12. (a) It is unlawful for any person to serve in the
20 capacity of mine foreman, mine examiner, shot-firer, hoisting engineer,
21 **or** mine electrician **or belt examiner** at any time unless the person is
22 properly certified. However, any person who meets the appropriate
23 experience requirements of this chapter and who is properly certified
24 in one (1) of these capacities or its equivalent in another state which
25 recognizes the certification of Indiana may serve in such a capacity
26 until the next examination by the board, when the person must apply to
27 the board for certification in the person's particular classification. A
28 mine electrician who is properly certified:

29 (1) by the federal Mine Safety and Health Administration; or
30 (2) in another state that recognizes the mine electrician
31 certification in Indiana;

32 may serve in the individual's certified capacity and be issued a mine
33 electrician certificate by the director in Indiana without the requirement
34 of applying to the board for examination. However, the individual must
35 obtain an Indiana miner's certificate of competency from the director.

36 (b) It is unlawful for an operator in this state to employ any person
37 in the capacity of mine superintendent, assistant mine superintendent,
38 mine foreman, mine examiner, shot-firer, hoisting engineer, **or** mine
39 electrician **or belt examiner** at any time unless the person is properly
40 certified.

41 (c) Before any person certified in another state may perform in the
42 capacity of mine superintendent, assistant mine superintendent, mine



1 foreman, mine examiner, shot-firer, hoisting engineer, **or** mine
2 electrician **or belt examiner** in Indiana, the person must present
3 personally to the director evidence of the out-of-state certificate or
4 certificates.

5 (d) Every inexperienced miner is required to wear an orange hard
6 hat until the miner receives a certificate of competency.

7 SECTION 7. IC 22-10-12-16, AS AMENDED BY P.L.10-2012,
8 SECTION 6, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
9 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 16. (a) The mine safety fund is established to
10 provide funding for the purchase and maintenance of underground
11 mine rescue equipment.

12 (b) The department of labor shall administer the fund.

13 (c) The fund consists of:

14 (1) assessments collected by the mining board under
15 IC 22-10-1.5-5(a)(4) and deposited into the fund;

16 (2) fees:

17 (A) from examinations under ~~IC 22-10-3-10(h);~~
18 **IC 22-10-3-10(g);**

19 (B) for duplicate certificates under IC 22-10-3-11(a); and

20 (C) from applicants for a certificate under IC 22-10-3-13(d);
21 and

22 (3) interest from investments as accrued and deposited under
23 subsection (d).

24 (d) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not
25 currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same
26 manner as other public money may be invested. Interest that
27 accumulates from these investments shall be deposited into the fund.

28 (e) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not revert
29 to the state general fund.



COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Speaker: Your Committee on Employment, Labor and Pensions, to which was referred House Bill 1302, 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 14 through 37.

Page 9, delete lines 12 through 17.

Renumber all SECTIONS consecutively.

and when so amended that said bill do pass.

(Reference is to HB 1302 as introduced.)

VANNATTER

Committee Vote: yeas 11, nays 0.

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