



Adopted	Rejected
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## COMMITTEE REPORT

YES:	9
NO:	1

### MR. SPEAKER:

*Your Committee on Elections and Apportionment, to which was referred House Bill 1342, 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:*

- 1        Replace the effective date in SECTION 3 with "[EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]".
- 2
- 3        Page 1, delete lines 1 through 17, begin a new paragraph and insert:  
4            "SECTION 1. IC 1-1-15.5-4, AS ADDED BY P.L.161-2025,  
5        SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
6        JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) This section does not apply to:  
7            (1) the governor's workforce cabinet established by IC 4-3-27-3;  
8            (2) the budget committee established by IC 4-12-1-3;  
9            (3) the simplified sales and use tax agreement entered into in  
10        accordance with IC 6-2.5-11-5;  
11            (4) the Indiana state board of education established by  
12        IC 20-19-2-2.1;  
13            (5) the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired board

13 (1) is established by the Indiana Code;

14 (2) contains at least one (1) member of the general assembly,  
15 other than a legislative standing committee or an interim study  
16 committee under IC 2-5;

17 (3) is authorized to exist for at least two (2) years; and

18 (4) does not have an annual reporting requirement, other than the  
19 requirements provided in this section, to the executive branch,  
20 judicial branch, or the general assembly;

shall submit a report to the executive director of the legislative services agency in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6 for review by the interim committee on government in accordance with IC 2-5-1.3-13(g).

24 (c) The report under subsection (b) shall describe:

25 (1) official action taken; and

26 (2) actionable items considered;

27 by the committee during the preceding two (2) years.

28 SECTION 2. IC 14-13-2-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.104-2022,  
29 SECTION 91, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
30 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) The commission has:

31 (1) before July 1, 2012, five (5) members appointed by the  
32 governor; and

33 (2) after June 30, 2012, nine (9) members appointed by the  
34 governor.

35 (b) The following requirements apply to the governor's  
36 appointments under subsection (a)(1):

37 (1) One (1) member must be a representative of the department of  
38 natural resources. The member may not be an employee or elected

1 official of a city, town, or county governmental unit.

2 (2) The remaining four (4) members must meet the following  
3 requirements:

4 (A) Four (4) members must reside in a:

5 (i) city;

6 (ii) town; or

7 (iii) township (if the member resides in an unincorporated  
8 area of the county);

9 that borders the Little Calumet River.

10 (B) At least three (3) of the members must have a background  
11 in:

12 (i) construction;

13 (ii) project management; or

14 (iii) flood control;

15 or a similar professional background.

16 (C) A member may not be an employee or elected official of  
17 a city, town, or county governmental unit.

18 (c) The following apply to the membership of the commission after  
19 June 30, 2012:

20 (1) Before August 1, 2012, the governor shall appoint four (4)  
21 additional members to the commission for four (4) year terms as  
22 follows:

23 (A) One (1) member nominated by the mayor of the city of  
24 Hammond.

25 (B) One (1) member nominated by the mayor of the city of  
26 Gary.

27 (C) Two (2) members nominated by the board of county  
28 commissioners of Lake County.

29 (2) Notwithstanding section 8 of this chapter, the term of the  
30 member described in subsection (b)(1) expires January 7, 2013.

31 The governor shall appoint one (1) member nominated by the  
32 department of natural resources for a four (4) year term beginning  
33 January 7, 2013.

34 (3) Notwithstanding section 8 of this chapter, the terms of the  
35 members described in subsection (b)(2) expire January 1, 2014.

36 The governor shall appoint for four (4) year terms beginning  
37 January 1, 2014, four (4) members, each of whom must have been  
38 nominated by the executive of a municipality located in the

1 watershed other than a city described in subdivision (1).

2 (4) A member appointed to succeed a member appointed under  
3 subdivision (1) or (2) must be nominated by the nominating  
4 authority that nominated the member's predecessor, and a member  
5 appointed to succeed a member appointed under subdivision (3)  
6 must be nominated by the executive of a municipality located in  
7 the watershed other than a city described in subdivision (1).

8 (d) The following apply to a member appointed under subsection (c)  
9 and to any member appointed to succeed a member appointed under  
10 subsection (c):

11 (1) After July 31, 2012, not more than five (5) members of the  
12 commission may belong to the same political party.

13 (2) Each member must have a background in:

14 (A) construction;

15 (B) project management;

16 (C) flood control; or

17 (D) a similar professional background.

18 (3) A member may not be an employee or elected official of a  
19 city, town, or county governmental unit.

20 (4) The members:

21 (A) appointed under subsection (c)(3); or

22 (B) appointed to succeed members appointed under subsection  
23 (c)(3);

24 must be from different municipalities.

25 (5) Neither the two (2) members appointed under subsection  
26 (c)(1)(C) nor any two (2) members appointed to succeed them  
27 may be from the same district created under IC 36-2-2-4(b)  
28 **(before its expiration on January 1, 2031) or IC 36-2-2-4.1(c)**  
29 **(after December 31, 2030).**

30 SECTION 3. IC 36-2-1-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.104-2022,

31 SECTION 145, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS

32 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) If the resident voters in a  
33 specified territory in two (2) or more contiguous counties desire to  
34 change the boundaries of their respective counties, they may file a  
35 petition with the executives of their respective counties requesting that  
36 the territory be transferred. The petition must:

37 (1) be signed by at least the number of voters resident in the  
38 territory requested to be transferred required to place a candidate

1                   on the ballot under IC 3-8-6-3;

2                   (2) contain a clear, distinct description of the requested boundary

3                   change; and

4                   (3) not propose to decrease the area of any county below four

5                   hundred (400) square miles in compliance with Article 15,

6                   Section 7 of the Constitution of the State of Indiana.

7                   (b) Whenever a petition under subsection (a) is filed with a county

8                   executive, the executive shall determine, at its first meeting after the

9                   petition is filed:

10                   (1) whether the signatures on the petition are genuine; and

11                   (2) whether the petition complies with subsection (a).

12                   (c) If the determinations under subsection (b) are affirmative, the

13                   executive shall certify the question to the county election board of each

14                   affected county. The county election boards shall jointly order a special

15                   election to be held, scheduling the election so that the election is held

16                   on the same date in each county interested in the change, but not later

17                   than thirty (30) days and not on the same date as a general election. The

18                   election shall be conducted under IC 3-10-8-6. All voters of each

19                   interested county are entitled to vote on the question. The question

20                   shall be placed on the ballot in the form prescribed by IC 3-10-9-4 and

21                   must state "Shall the boundaries of \_\_\_\_\_ County and

22                   \_\_\_\_\_ County change?".

23                   (d) After an election under subsection (c), the clerk of each county

24                   shall make a certified copy of the election returns and not later than

25                   five (5) days after the election file the copy with the auditor of the

26                   county. The auditor shall, not later than five (5) days after the filing of

27                   the returns in the auditor's office, make a true and complete copy of the

28                   returns, certified under the auditor's hand and seal, and deposit the copy

29                   with the auditor of every other county interested in the change.

30                   (e) After copies have been filed under subsection (d), the auditor of

31                   each county shall call a meeting of the executive of the county, which

32                   shall examine the returns. If a majority of the voters of each interested

33                   county voted in favor of change, the executive shall:

34                   (1) enter an order declaring their boundaries to be changed as

35                   described in the petition; and

36                   (2) if the county has received territory from the transfer, adopt

37                   revised descriptions of:

38                   (A) county commissioner districts under IC 36-2-2-4 (before

3 (B) county council districts under IC 36-2-3-4;

4 so that the transferred territory is assigned to at least one (1) county  
5 commissioner district and at least one (1) county council district.

6 (f) The executive of each county shall file a copy of the order  
7 described in subsection (e)(1) with:

8 (1) the office of the secretary of state; and

9 (2) the circuit court clerk of the county.

10 The transfer of territory becomes effective when the last county order  
11 is filed under this subsection.

12 (g) An election under this section may be held only once every three  
13 (3) years.".

14 Page 2, delete lines 1 through 37.

15           Page 3, delete lines 6 through 13, begin a new line blocked left and  
16           insert:

17 "The executive shall divide the county into three (3) districts that are  
18 composed of contiguous territory and are reasonably compact. The  
19 district boundaries drawn by the executive must not cross precinct  
20 boundary lines and must divide townships only when a division is  
21 clearly necessary to accomplish redistricting under this section. If  
22 necessary, the county auditor shall call a special meeting of the  
23 executive to establish or revise districts.".

24 Page 4, after line 29, begin a new paragraph and insert:

**"(j) This section expires January 1, 2031.**

26 SECTION 5. IC 36-2-2-4.1 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE  
27 AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY  
28 1, 2026]: **Sec. 4.1. (a) This section applies after December 31, 2030.**

29 (b) This subsection does not apply to a county having a  
30 population of more than four hundred fifty thousand (450,000) and  
31 less than seven hundred thousand (700,000), or a county having a  
32 population of more than one hundred eighty-five thousand  
33 (185,000) and less than three hundred thousand (300,000). The  
34 executive shall adopt an ordinance to divide the county into three  
35 (3) districts. The following apply to districts established or revised  
36 under this subsection:

**(1) The executive shall:**

38 (A) publish proposed district boundaries; and

**(B) hold a public hearing concerning proposed district boundaries;**

before adopting an ordinance to establish or revise districts.

**(2) Districts must be:**

**(A) composed of contiguous territory; and**

(B) reasonably compact.

**(3) District boundaries must:**

**(A) not cross precinct boundary lines; and**

**(B) divide townships only when a division is clearly necessary to accomplish redistricting under this section.**

**(4) When dividing the county into districts, the executive may consider:**

**(A) geography; and**

**(B) the differences in population between each district.**

(c) This subsection applies to a county having a population of more than four hundred fifty thousand (450,000) and less than seven hundred thousand (700,000). A county redistricting commission shall divide the county into three (3) single-member districts that comply with subsection (e). The commission is composed of:

**(1) the members of the Indiana election commission;**

(2) two (2) members of the senate selected by the president pro tempore, one (1) from each political party; and

**(3) two (2) members of the house of representatives selected by the speaker, one (1) from each political party.**

The legislative members of the commission have no vote and may act only in an advisory capacity. A majority vote of the voting members is required for the commission to take action. The commission may meet as frequently as necessary to perform its duty under this subsection. The commission's members serve without additional compensation above that provided for them as members of the Indiana election commission, the senate, or the house of representatives.

(d) This subsection applies to a county having a population of more than one hundred eighty-five thousand (185,000) and less than three hundred thousand (300,000) that opts in to the system of county government described in subsection (e), sections 4.7(c) and 5(d)(2) of this chapter, IC 36-2-3-2(b), IC 36-2-3-4(c), and

1       **IC 36-2-3.5-1(2) by passing a resolution by a majority vote of its**  
2       **executive body not later than September 1, 2023. In the event the**  
3       **executive body of a county described in this subsection does not opt**  
4       **in by September 1, 2023, the county shall be governed by the**  
5       **general provisions of this chapter. The executive shall divide the**  
6       **county into three (3) single-member districts that comply with**  
7       **subsection (e).**

8       **(e) Single-member districts established under subsection (c) or**  
9       **(d) must:**

10       **(1) be compact, subject only to natural boundary lines (such**  
11       **as railroads, major highways, rivers, creeks, parks, and major**  
12       **industrial complexes);**

13       **(2) contain, as nearly as is possible, equal population; and**

14       **(3) not cross precinct lines.**

15       **(f) Except as provided by subsection (g), a division under**  
16       **subsection (b), (c), or (d) shall be made only at times permitted**  
17       **under IC 3-5-10.**

18       **(g) If the county executive or county redistricting commission**  
19       **determines that a division under subsection (f) is not required, the**  
20       **county executive or county redistricting commission shall adopt an**  
21       **ordinance recertifying that the districts as drawn comply with this**  
22       **section.**

23       **(h) Each time there is a division under subsection (f) or a**  
24       **recertification under subsection (g), the county executive or county**  
25       **redistricting commission shall file with the circuit court clerk of the**  
26       **county, not later than thirty (30) days after the division or**  
27       **recertification occurs, a map of the district boundaries:**

28       **(1) adopted under subsection (f); or**

29       **(2) recertified under subsection (g).**

30       **(i) The limitations set forth in this section are part of the**  
31       **ordinance, but do not have to be specifically set forth in the**  
32       **ordinance. The ordinance must be construed, if possible, to comply**  
33       **with this chapter. If a provision of the ordinance or an application**  
34       **of the ordinance violates this chapter, the invalidity does not affect**  
35       **the other provisions or applications of the ordinance that can be**  
36       **given effect without the invalid provision or application. The**  
37       **provisions of the ordinance are severable.**

38       **(j) IC 3-5-10 applies to a plan established under this section.**

1        SECTION 6. IC 36-2-2-4.7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.201-2023,  
2        SECTION 266, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
3        [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4.7. (a) Except as provided in  
4        subsection (c), whenever the executive divides the county into districts  
5        under section 4 (**before its expiration on January 1, 2031**) or **4.1**  
6        (**after December 31, 2030**) of this chapter, the executive shall adopt  
7        an ordinance.

8                (b) The executive shall file a copy of an ordinance adopted under  
9        subsection (a) with the circuit court clerk.

10                (c) This subsection applies to a county having a population of more  
11        than one hundred eighty-five thousand (185,000) and less than three  
12        hundred thousand (300,000) that opts in to the system of county  
13        government as described in section 4(c) (**before its expiration on**  
14        **January 1, 2031**) or **4.1(d) (after December 31, 2030)** of this chapter.  
15        Whenever the executive divides the county into districts under section  
16        4 (**before its expiration on January 1, 2031**) or **4.1 (after December**  
17        **31, 2030**) of this chapter, the executive shall adopt a resolution at two  
18        (2) separate public meetings. The executive shall file a copy of the  
19        resolution adopted under this subsection with the circuit court clerk.

20        SECTION 7. IC 36-2-2-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.230-2025,  
21        SECTION 140, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
22        [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) To be eligible for election to  
23        the executive, a person must meet the qualifications prescribed by  
24        IC 3-8-1-21.

25                (b) A member of the executive must reside within:

26                        (1) the county as provided in Article 6, Section 6 of the  
27        Constitution of the State of Indiana; and  
28                        (2) the district from which the member was elected.

29                (c) If the person does not remain a resident of the county and district  
30        after taking office, the person forfeits the office. The county fiscal body  
31        shall declare the office vacant whenever a member of the executive  
32        forfeits office under this subsection.

33                (d) In a county having a population of:

34                        (1) more than four hundred fifty thousand (450,000) and less than  
35        seven hundred thousand (700,000); or  
36                        (2) more than one hundred eighty-five thousand (185,000) and  
37        less than three hundred thousand (300,000) that opts in to the  
38        system of county government as described in section 4(c) (**before**

1       **its expiration on January 1, 2031) or 4.1(d) (after December**  
2       **31, 2030)** of this chapter;

3       one (1) member of the executive shall be elected by the voters of each  
4       of the three (3) single-member districts established under section 4(b)  
5       or 4(c) of this chapter **(before its expiration on January 1, 2031) or**  
6       **4.1(c) or 4.1(d) of this chapter (after December 31, 2030)**. In other  
7       counties, all three (3) members of the executive shall be elected by the  
8       voters of the whole county.

9       SECTION 8. IC 36-2-3-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.201-2023,  
10      SECTION 268, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
11      [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) The seven (7) member county  
12      council elected under this chapter is the county fiscal body. The fiscal  
13      body shall act in the name of "The \_\_\_\_\_ County Council".

14      (b) Notwithstanding subsection (a), in a county having a population  
15      of more than one hundred eighty-five thousand (185,000) and less than  
16      three hundred thousand (300,000) that opts in to the system of county  
17      government as described in IC 36-2-2-4(c) **(before its expiration on**  
18      **January 1, 2031) or IC 36-2-2-4.1(d) (after December 31, 2030)**, the  
19      county council has nine (9) members.

20      SECTION 9. IC 36-2-3-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.201-2023,  
21      SECTION 269, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
22      [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) This subsection does not  
23      apply to the following counties:

24       (1) A county having a population of more than four hundred  
25       thousand (400,000) and less than seven hundred thousand  
26       (700,000).

27       (2) A county having a population of more than one hundred  
28       eighty-five thousand (185,000) and less than three hundred  
29       thousand (300,000) that opts in to the system of county  
30       government as described in IC 36-2-2-4(c) **(before its expiration**  
31       **on January 1, 2031) or IC 36-2-2-4.1(d) (after December 31,**  
32       **2030)**.

33       The county executive shall, by ordinance, divide the county into four  
34       (4) single-member districts that comply with subsection (d). If  
35       necessary, the county auditor shall call a special meeting of the  
36       executive to establish or revise districts. One (1) member of the fiscal  
37       body shall be elected by the voters of each of the four (4) districts.  
38       Three (3) at-large members of the fiscal body shall be elected by the

1       voters of the whole county.

2       (b) This subsection applies to a county having a population of more  
3       than four hundred thousand (400,000) and less than seven hundred  
4       thousand (700,000). The county redistricting commission established  
5       under IC 36-2-2-4 (**before its expiration on January 1, 2031**) or  
6       **IC 36-2-2-4.1 (after December 31, 2030)** shall divide the county into  
7       seven (7) single-member districts that comply with subsection (d). One  
8       (1) member of the fiscal body shall be elected by the voters of each of  
9       these seven (7) single-member districts.

10       (c) This subsection applies to a county having a population of more  
11       than one hundred eighty-five thousand (185,000) and less than three  
12       hundred thousand (300,000) that opts in to the system of county  
13       government described in IC 36-2-2-4(c) (**before its expiration on**  
14       **January 1, 2031**) or **IC 36-2-2-4.1(d) (after December 31, 2030)**).  
15       The fiscal body shall divide the county into nine (9) single-member  
16       districts that comply with subsection (d). Three (3) of these districts  
17       must be contained within each of the three (3) districts established  
18       under IC 36-2-2-4(c) (**before its expiration on January 1, 2031**) or  
19       **IC 36-2-2-4.1(d) (after December 31, 2030)**). One (1) member of the  
20       fiscal body shall be elected by the voters of each of these nine (9)  
21       single-member districts.

22       (d) Single-member districts established under subsection (a), (b), or  
23       (c) must:

- 24           (1) be compact and be composed of contiguous territory, subject  
25           only to natural boundary lines (such as railroads, major highways,  
26           rivers, creeks, parks, and major industrial complexes);  
27           (2) not cross precinct boundary lines;  
28           (3) contain, as nearly as possible, equal population; and  
29           (4) include whole townships, except when a division is clearly  
30           necessary to accomplish redistricting under this section.

31       (e) Except as provided by subsection (f), a division under subsection  
32       (a), (b), or (c) shall be made only at times permitted under IC 3-5-10.

33       (f) If the county executive, county redistricting commission, or  
34       county fiscal body determines that a division under subsection (e) is not  
35       required, the county executive, county redistricting commission, or  
36       county fiscal body shall adopt an ordinance recertifying that the  
37       districts as drawn comply with this section.

38       (g) Each time there is a division under subsection (e) or a

1       recertification under subsection (f), the county executive, county  
2       redistricting commission, or county fiscal body shall file with the  
3       circuit court clerk of the county, not later than thirty (30) days after the  
4       division or recertification occurs, a map of the district boundaries:

5               (1) adopted under subsection (e); or  
6               (2) recertified under subsection (f).

7       (h) The limitations set forth in this section are part of the ordinance,  
8       but do not have to be specifically set forth in the ordinance. The  
9       ordinance must be construed, if possible, to comply with this chapter.  
10      If a provision of the ordinance or an application of the ordinance  
11     violates this chapter, the invalidity does not affect the other provisions  
12     or applications of the ordinance that can be given effect without the  
13     invalid provision or application. The provisions of the ordinance are  
14     severable.

15               (i) IC 3-5-10 applies to a plan established under this section.

16       SECTION 10. IC 36-2-3.5-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.230-2025,  
17       SECTION 141, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
18       [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. This chapter applies to the  
19       following counties:

20               (1) A county having a population of more than four hundred fifty  
21               thousand (450,000) and less than seven hundred thousand  
22               (700,000).

23               (2) A county having a population of more than one hundred  
24               eighty-five thousand (185,000) and less than three hundred  
25               thousand (300,000) that opts in to the system of county  
26               government as described in IC 36-2-2-4(c) (**before its expiration**  
27               **on January 1, 2031**) **or IC 36-2-2-4.1(d) (after December 31,28               **2030**).**

29               (3) Any other county not having a consolidated city, if both the  
30               county executive and the county fiscal body adopt identical  
31               ordinances providing for the county to be governed by this  
32               chapter beginning on a specified effective date.

33       SECTION 11. IC 36-2-3.5-6 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
34       FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. (a) A court may issue  
35       an order, before final hearing, to stay an election if there is sufficient  
36       evidence to withstand a motion for summary judgment that the county  
37       has not been divided into districts that comply with IC 36-2-2-4  
38       (**before its expiration on January 1, 2031**), **IC 36-2-2-4.1(d) (after**

1       **December 31, 2030), or IC 36-2-3-4. A preliminary hearing on the**  
2       **question may be held upon the court's own motion.**

3           (b) Final judgment on the merits in such a case shall be made within  
4           thirty (30) days of the stay of election order. If the redistricting is found  
5           not to be in compliance with law, the court shall retain jurisdiction and  
6           shall order the proper officials to submit within thirty (30) days a  
7           redistricting plan complying with law. If the proper officials fail to  
8           comply with the order, the court shall order the Indiana election  
9           commission to divide the county into districts in compliance with law.".

10          Renumber all SECTIONS consecutively.

(Reference is to HB 1342 as introduced.)

**and when so amended that said bill do pass.**

Representative Wesco