



CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST FOR EHB 1343

Citations Affected: IC 1-1-4-5; IC 4-13-16.5-1; IC 4-15-2.2-32; IC 5-2; IC 5-9-3; IC 5-10.3-7-5; IC 5-10.4-4-8; IC 6-8.1-9-4; IC 9-18.5-7-3; IC 10-13-8-5; IC 10-16; IC 10-17; IC 10-18-1-2; IC 11-12-5-5; IC 14-15; IC 16-33-4-7; IC 20-20-7; IC 21-12-13-2; IC 22-4.1-4-3.3; IC 25-8-12.1-12; IC 25-10-1-7; IC 25-25-2-1; IC 25-37-1-14; IC 34-13-3-3; IC 34-30; IC 35-31.5-2; IC 35-47-9; IC 36-1-8.5-4; IC 36-8.

Synopsis: Public safety matters. Provides that the law enforcement training board (board) shall select an executive director to serve at the pleasure of the board. Provides that a person confined to a county jail may be required to make a copayment in an amount of not more than \$30 (current law is \$15). Provides that a person confined to a county jail is not required to make a certain copayment if, among other things, the person does not have funds in the person's commissary account or trust account within 180 days after the service is provided (current law is 60 days). Requires certain water vessels to include an engine cut-off switch. Provides that a sailing vessel at least seven meters in length must comply with federal regulations. Makes changes to the employment eligibility requirements for employees of the Indiana department of veterans' affairs (department). Makes changes to the purpose of the military family relief fund (fund). Provides that the department shall report to the Indiana veterans' affairs commission (commission), at least quarterly, as to the status of all applications regarding assistance from the fund during the previous quarter. Adds provisions indicating who is eligible for a grant from the fund. Provides that the department shall make a comprehensive assessment of an applicant's financial condition and needs when making a determination regarding an award from the fund. Provides that an applicant may not be eligible for assistance from the fund if the applicant's federal gross income, or the combined federal gross income of the applicant and the applicant's spouse, exceeds two times the poverty guideline unless the commission approves an income waiver. Provides that an applicant must establish that the applicant has incurred a genuine hardship to be eligible to receive assistance from the fund. Provides that the department or commission may impose stipulations or conditions concerning an applicant seeking an award from the fund. Makes changes to the subject matter that must be included in administrative rules established by the commission. Makes certain changes relating to the review of grants from the fund to employees of the department. Provides that an applicant may appeal a denied request for short term financial



assistance from the fund. Authorizes the adjutant general of the Indiana National Guard (adjutant general) to establish a military police force of the Indiana National Guard. Provides that a member of the military police force of the Indiana National Guard has police powers: (1) when the member is called to state active duty; and (2) if the individual successfully completes either army or air military police occupational training and receives qualifying instruction on Indiana law enforcement prescribed by the adjutant general. Makes changes to the authorized duties and responsibilities of the adjutant general in which the state armory board (board) may make contributions. Provides that the board may utilize any and all appropriate methods to lease or purchase real estate. Provides that an armory may not be erected on land that is leased for less than 25 years. (Current law provides that an armory may not be erected on land that is leased for less than 50 years.) Provides that the board may adopt policies or procedures for the use and governance of armories. (Current law authorizes the board to adopt rules for the use and governance of armories.) Specifies the types of donated property that the board may reconvey if the board determines that the property is no longer usable. Provides that if the board receives from the adjutant general information of the disbandment of the organization of the armed forces of Indiana occupying and using an armory, the board shall take charge of the armory. Makes various changes to provisions relating to the sale of property owned by the board. Establishes the Indiana civilian cyber corps program (program) as a subdivision of the Indiana guard reserve. Provides that the program includes civilian volunteers who have expertise in addressing cybersecurity incidents and who volunteer at the invitation of the adjutant general. Provides that the work product of a civilian cyber corps volunteer or adviser, including any information voluntarily submitted to the volunteer or adviser, is exempt from disclosure. Provides that a civilian cyber corps volunteer or adviser is immune from tort liability for an injury to a person or damage to property that occurs while the volunteer or adviser is deployed and acting on behalf of the adjutant general if certain conditions are met. Provides that the adjutant general may appoint additional general officers. (Current law authorizes the appointment of assistant adjutants general.) Changes the definitions of "veteran" for purposes of provisions relating to: (1) the governor's commission on supplier diversity; (2) the state civil service system; and (3) authorizing preference points for the appointment of veterans. Removes a requirement that the National Guard tuition supplement grant must be used within eight years after the date the individual first applies and becomes eligible for benefits. Repeals: (1) the Indiana cyber civilian corps program advisory board; (2) a provision relating to contracts to use Stout Field as a commercial runway; (3) a definition of "qualified service member"; (4) a provision requiring a muffler or underwater exhaust for a boat; and (5) a provision prohibiting the use of a boat motor equipped with a muffler cutout or bypass. Makes it a Class B misdemeanor for a person to knowingly or intentionally possess an imitation firearm: (1) in or on school property; or (2) on a school bus. Requires the military police force of the Indiana National Guard, upon authorization, to respond in accordance with the National Incident Management System and in coordination with the Indiana state police. Authorizes the waiver of certain training requirements for law enforcement officers with experience in other states. Makes technical corrections and conforming amendments. **(This conference committee report adds provision that authorizes the waiver of certain training requirements for law enforcement officers with experience in other states.)**

Effective: July 1, 2026.



CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

MR. PRESIDENT:

Your Conference Committee appointed to confer with a like committee from the House upon Engrossed Senate Amendments to Engrossed House Bill No. 1343 respectfully reports that said two committees have conferred and agreed as follows to wit:

that the House recede from its dissent from all Senate amendments and that the House now concur in all Senate amendments to the bill and that the bill be further amended as follows:

- 1 Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert the following:
- 2 SECTION 1. IC 1-1-4-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,
- 3 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 4 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) The following definitions apply to the
- 5 construction of all Indiana statutes, unless the construction is plainly
- 6 repugnant to the intent of the general assembly or of the context of the
- 7 statute:
- 8 (1) "Adult", "of full age", and "person in his majority" mean a
- 9 person at least eighteen (18) years of age.
- 10 (2) "Attorney" includes a counselor or other person authorized to
- 11 appear and represent a party in an action or special proceeding.
- 12 (3) "Autism" means a neurological condition as described in the
- 13 most recent edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of
- 14 Mental Disorders of the American Psychiatric Association.
- 15 (4) "Bond" does not necessarily imply a seal.
- 16 (5) "Clerk" means the clerk of the court or a person authorized to
- 17 perform the clerk's duties.
- 18 (6) "Health record", "hospital record", or "medical record" means

- 1 written or printed information possessed by a provider (as defined
2 in IC 16-18-2-295) concerning any diagnosis, treatment, or
3 prognosis of the patient, unless otherwise defined. Except as
4 otherwise provided, the terms include mental health records and
5 drug and alcohol abuse records.
- 6 (7) "Highway" includes county bridges and state and county
7 roads, unless otherwise expressly provided.
- 8 (8) "Infant" or "minor" means a person less than eighteen (18)
9 years of age.
- 10 (9) "Inhabitant" may be construed to mean a resident in any place.
- 11 (10) "Judgment" means all final orders, decrees, and
12 determinations in an action and all orders upon which executions
13 may issue.
- 14 (11) "Land", "real estate", and "real property" include lands,
15 tenements, and hereditaments.
- 16 (12) "Mentally incompetent" means of unsound mind.
- 17 (13) "Money demands on contract", when used in reference to an
18 action, means an action arising out of contract when the relief
19 demanded is a recovery of money.
- 20 (14) "Month" means a calendar month, unless otherwise
21 expressed.
- 22 (15) "Noncode statute" means a statute that is not codified as part
23 of the Indiana Code.
- 24 (16) "Oath" includes "affirmation", and "to swear" includes to
25 "affirm".
- 26 (17) "Person" extends to bodies politic and corporate.
- 27 (18) "Personal property" includes goods, chattels, evidences of
28 debt, and things in action.
- 29 (19) "Population" has the meaning set forth in IC 1-1-3.5-3.
- 30 (20) "Preceding" and "following", referring to sections in statutes,
31 mean the sections next preceding or next following that in which
32 the words occur, unless some other section is designated.
- 33 (21) "Property" includes personal and real property.
- 34 (22) "Sheriff" means the sheriff of the county or another person
35 authorized to perform sheriff's duties.
- 36 (23) "State", applied to any one (1) of the United States, includes
37 the District of Columbia and the commonwealths, possessions,
38 states in free association with the United States, and the
39 territories. "United States" includes the District of Columbia and
40 the commonwealths, possessions, states in free association with
41 the United States, and the territories.
- 42 (24) "Under legal disabilities" includes persons less than eighteen
43 (18) years of age, mentally incompetent, or out of the United
44 States.
- 45 (25) "Verified", when applied to pleadings, means supported by
46 oath or affirmation in writing.
- 47 (26) "Will" includes a testament and codicil.
- 48 (27) "Without relief" in any judgment, contract, execution, or
49 other instrument of writing or record, means without the benefit
50 of valuation laws.

1 (28) "Written" and "in writing" include printing, lithographing, or
 2 other mode of representing words and letters. If the written
 3 signature of a person is required, the terms mean the proper
 4 handwriting of the person or the person's mark.

5 (29) "Year" means a calendar year, unless otherwise expressed.

6 (30) The definitions in IC 35-31.5 apply to all statutes relating to
 7 penal offenses.

8 (b) This subsection applies to the definitions of "Hoosier veteran"
 9 and "veteran" when used in reference to state programs for veterans.
 10 The term "veteran" includes "Hoosier veteran", and applies to the
 11 construction of all Indiana statutes, unless the construction is expressly
 12 excluded by the terms of the statute, is plainly repugnant to the intent
 13 of the general assembly or of the context of the statute, or is
 14 inconsistent with federal law. "Hoosier veteran" means an individual
 15 who meets the following criteria:

16 (1) The individual is a resident of Indiana.

17 (2) The individual served in an active or reserve component of the
 18 armed forces of the United States or the Indiana National Guard.

19 (3) The individual completed any required military occupational
 20 specialty training and was not discharged or separated from the
 21 armed forces or the Indiana National Guard under conditions
 22 ~~other than conditions~~ set forth in ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~.

23 **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2).**

24 The definitions set forth in this subsection may not be construed to
 25 affect a Hoosier veteran's eligibility for any state program that is based
 26 upon a particular aspect of the Hoosier veteran's service such as a
 27 disability or a wartime service requirement.

28 SECTION 2. IC 4-13-16.5-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,
 29 SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 30 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. (a) The definitions in this section apply
 31 throughout this chapter.

32 (b) "Commission" refers to the governor's commission on supplier
 33 diversity established under section 2 of this chapter.

34 (c) "Commissioner" refers to the commissioner of the department.

35 (d) "Contract" means any contract awarded by a state agency or, as
 36 set forth in section 2(g)(11) of this chapter, awarded by a recipient of
 37 state grant funds, for construction projects or the procurement of goods
 38 or services, including professional services. For purposes of this
 39 subsection, "goods or services" may not include the following when
 40 determining the total value of contracts for state agencies:

41 (1) Utilities.

42 (2) Health care services (as defined in IC 27-8-11-1(c)).

43 (3) Rent paid for real property or payments constituting the price
 44 of an interest in real property as a result of a real estate
 45 transaction.

46 (e) "Contractor" means a person or entity that:

47 (1) contracts with a state agency; or

48 (2) as set forth in section 2(g)(11) of this chapter:

49 (A) is a recipient of state grant funds; and

50 (B) enters into a contract:

- 1 (i) with a person or entity other than a state agency; and
 2 (ii) that is paid for in whole or in part with the state grant
 3 funds.
- 4 (f) "Department" refers to the Indiana department of administration
 5 established by IC 4-13-1-2.
- 6 (g) "Deputy commissioner" refers to the deputy commissioner for
 7 supplier diversity of the department.
- 8 (h) "Minority business enterprise" or "minority business" means an
 9 individual, partnership, corporation, limited liability company, or joint
 10 venture of any kind that is owned and controlled by one (1) or more
 11 persons who are:
- 12 (1) United States citizens; and
 13 (2) members of a minority group or a qualified minority nonprofit
 14 corporation.
- 15 (i) "NGB-22" means the National Guard Report of Separation form
 16 or its predecessor or successor form.
- 17 (j) "Qualified minority or women's nonprofit corporation" means a
 18 corporation that:
- 19 (1) is exempt from federal income taxation under Section
 20 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code;
 21 (2) is headquartered in Indiana;
 22 (3) has been in continuous existence for at least five (5) years;
 23 (4) has a board of directors that has been in compliance with all
 24 other requirements of this chapter for at least five (5) years;
 25 (5) is chartered for the benefit of the minority community or
 26 women; and
 27 (6) provides a service that will not impede competition among
 28 minority business enterprises or women's business enterprises at
 29 the time a nonprofit applies for certification as a minority
 30 business enterprise or a women's business enterprise.
- 31 (k) "Owned and controlled" means:
- 32 (1) if the business is a qualified minority nonprofit corporation, a
 33 majority of the board of directors are minority;
 34 (2) if the business is a qualified women's nonprofit corporation,
 35 a majority of the members of the board of directors are women; or
 36 (3) if the business is a business other than a qualified minority or
 37 women's nonprofit corporation, having:
- 38 (A) ownership of at least fifty-one percent (51%) of the
 39 enterprise, including corporate stock of a corporation;
 40 (B) control over the management and active in the day-to-day
 41 operations of the business; and
 42 (C) an interest in the capital, assets, and profits and losses of
 43 the business proportionate to the percentage of ownership.
- 44 (l) "Minority group" means:
- 45 (1) African Americans;
 46 (2) Native Americans;
 47 (3) Hispanic Americans; and
 48 (4) Asian Americans.
- 49 (m) "Separate body corporate and politic" refers to an entity
 50 established by the general assembly as a body corporate and politic.

1 (n) "State agency" refers to any authority, board, branch,
2 commission, committee, department, division, or other instrumentality
3 of the executive, including the administrative, department of state
4 government.

5 (o) "Veteran" means an individual who:

6 (1) has previously:

7 (A) served ~~on active duty~~ in any branch of the armed forces of
8 the United States or their reserves, in the national guard, or in
9 the Indiana National Guard; and

10 (B) received a discharge from service under conditions other
11 than conditions set forth in ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2);~~
12 **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)**; or

13 (2) is currently serving in:

14 (A) any branch of the armed forces of the United States or
15 their reserves;

16 (B) the national guard; or

17 (C) the Indiana National Guard.

18 (p) "Veteran owned small business" refers to a small business that:

19 (1) is independently owned and operated;

20 (2) is not dominant in its field of operation; and

21 (3) satisfies the criteria to be a veteran owned small business
22 concern as specified in section 1.5 of this chapter.

23 (q) "Women's business enterprise" means a business that is one (1)
24 of the following:

25 (1) A sole proprietorship owned and controlled by a woman.

26 (2) A partnership or joint venture owned and controlled by
27 women in which:

28 (A) at least fifty-one percent (51%) of the ownership is held by
29 women; and

30 (B) the management and daily business operations are
31 controlled by at least one (1) of the women who owns the
32 business.

33 (3) A corporation or other entity:

34 (A) whose management and daily business operations are
35 controlled by at least one (1) of the women who owns the
36 business; and

37 (B) that is at least fifty-one percent (51%) owned by women,
38 or if stock is issued, at least fifty-one percent (51%) of the
39 stock is owned by at least one (1) of the women.

40 (4) A qualified women's nonprofit corporation.

41 SECTION 3. IC 4-15-2.2-32, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,
42 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
43 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 32. (a) Former members of the armed forces of the
44 United States who meet both of the following requirements shall
45 receive a preference for appointment or reemployment in the state
46 classified service:

47 (1) The veteran served ~~on active duty~~ in any branch of the armed
48 forces.

49 (2) The veteran was not discharged or separated from the armed
50 forces under conditions set forth in ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50

IC 10-17-12-8.1(2).

(b) When:

- (1) preemployment interviews of external candidates are conducted; and
 - (2) the qualified applicant pool includes veterans;
- veterans must be included in the group offered interviews.

(c) In computing seniority for purposes of a personnel reduction in state civil service, the computation must include the length of time the employee spent on active duty in the armed forces of the United States.

SECTION 4. IC 5-2-1-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.170-2023, SECTION 11, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. (a) The board shall adopt in accordance with IC 4-22-2 all necessary rules to carry out the provisions of this chapter. The rules, which shall be adopted only after necessary and proper investigation and inquiry by the board, shall include the establishment of the following:

- (1) A consistent and uniform statewide deadly force policy and training program, that is consistent with state and federal law. Upon adoption by the law enforcement training board, the policy and training program must be implemented, without modification, by all Indiana law enforcement agencies, offices, or departments.
- (2) A consistent and uniform statewide defensive tactics policy and training program, that is consistent with state and federal law. Upon adoption by the law enforcement training board, the policy and training program must be implemented, without modification, by all Indiana law enforcement agencies, offices, or departments.
- (3) A uniform statewide minimum standard for vehicle pursuits consistent with state and federal law.
- (4) Minimum standards of physical, educational, mental, and moral fitness which shall govern the acceptance of any person for training by any law enforcement training school or academy meeting or exceeding the minimum standards established pursuant to this chapter.
- (5) Minimum standards for law enforcement training schools administered by towns, cities, counties, law enforcement training centers, agencies, or departments of the state.
- (6) Minimum standards for courses of study, attendance requirements, equipment, and facilities for approved town, city, county, and state law enforcement officer, police reserve officer, and conservation reserve officer training schools.
- (7) Minimum standards for a course of study on cultural diversity awareness, including training on the Unonimmigrant visa created through the federal Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (P.L. 106-386) that must be required for each person accepted for training at a law enforcement training school or academy. Cultural diversity awareness study must include an understanding of cultural issues related to race, religion, gender, age, domestic violence, national origin, and physical and mental disabilities.
- (8) Minimum qualifications for instructors at approved law

- 1 enforcement training schools.
- 2 (9) Minimum basic training requirements which law enforcement
- 3 officers appointed to probationary terms shall complete before
- 4 being eligible for continued or permanent employment.
- 5 (10) Minimum basic training requirements which law
- 6 enforcement officers appointed on other than a permanent basis
- 7 shall complete in order to be eligible for continued employment
- 8 or permanent appointment.
- 9 (11) Minimum basic training requirements which law
- 10 enforcement officers appointed on a permanent basis shall
- 11 complete in order to be eligible for continued employment.
- 12 (12) Minimum basic training requirements for each person
- 13 accepted for training at a law enforcement training school or
- 14 academy that include six (6) hours of training in interacting with:
- 15 (A) persons with autism, mental illness, addictive disorders,
- 16 intellectual disabilities, and developmental disabilities;
- 17 (B) missing endangered adults (as defined in IC 12-7-2-131.3);
- 18 and
- 19 (C) persons with Alzheimer's disease or related senile
- 20 dementia;
- 21 to be provided by persons approved by the secretary of family and
- 22 social services and the board. The training must include an
- 23 overview of the crisis intervention teams.
- 24 (13) Minimum standards for a course of study on human and
- 25 sexual trafficking that must be required for each person accepted
- 26 for training at a law enforcement training school or academy and
- 27 for inservice training programs for law enforcement officers. The
- 28 course must cover the following topics:
- 29 (A) Examination of the human and sexual trafficking laws (IC
- 30 35-42-3.5).
- 31 (B) Identification of human and sexual trafficking.
- 32 (C) Communicating with traumatized persons.
- 33 (D) Therapeutically appropriate investigative techniques.
- 34 (E) Collaboration with federal law enforcement officials.
- 35 (F) Rights of and protections afforded to victims.
- 36 (G) Providing documentation that satisfies the Declaration of
- 37 Law Enforcement Officer for Victim of Trafficking in Persons
- 38 (Form I-914, Supplement B) requirements established under
- 39 federal law.
- 40 (H) The availability of community resources to assist human
- 41 and sexual trafficking victims.
- 42 (14) Minimum standards for ongoing specialized, intensive, and
- 43 integrative training for persons responsible for investigating
- 44 sexual assault cases involving adult victims. This training must
- 45 include instruction on:
- 46 (A) the neurobiology of trauma;
- 47 (B) trauma informed interviewing; and
- 48 (C) investigative techniques.
- 49 (15) Minimum standards for de-escalation training. De-escalation
- 50 training shall be taught as a part of existing use-of-force training

1 and not as a separate topic.

2 (16) Minimum standards regarding best practices for crowd
3 control, protests, and First Amendment activities.

4 (17) Minimum standards for basic training and inservice training
5 programs, which may be completed online or by other means of
6 virtual instruction, that occur after December 31, 2024, and that
7 address the mental health and wellness of law enforcement
8 officers including:

9 (A) healthy coping skills to preserve the mental health of law
10 enforcement officers and manage the stress and trauma of
11 policing;

12 (B) recognizing:

13 (i) symptoms of posttraumatic stress disorder; and

14 (ii) signs of suicidal behavior; and

15 (C) information on mental health resources available for law
16 enforcement officers.

17 All statewide policies and minimum standards shall be documented in
18 writing and published on the Indiana law enforcement academy (ILEA)
19 website. Any policy, standard, or training program implemented,
20 adopted, or promulgated by a vote of the board may only subsequently
21 be modified or rescinded by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the
22 board.

23 (b) A law enforcement officer appointed after July 5, 1972, and
24 before July 1, 1993, may not enforce the laws or ordinances of the state
25 or any political subdivision unless the officer has, within one (1) year
26 from the date of appointment, successfully completed the minimum
27 basic training requirements established under this chapter by the board.
28 If a person fails to successfully complete the basic training
29 requirements within one (1) year from the date of employment, the
30 officer may not perform any of the duties of a law enforcement officer
31 involving control or direction of members of the public or exercising
32 the power of arrest until the officer has successfully completed the
33 training requirements. This subsection does not apply to any law
34 enforcement officer appointed before July 6, 1972, or after June 30,
35 1993.

36 (c) Military leave or other authorized leave of absence from law
37 enforcement duty during the first year of employment after July 6,
38 1972, shall toll the running of the first year, which shall be calculated
39 by the aggregate of the time before and after the leave, for the purposes
40 of this chapter.

41 (d) Except as provided in subsections (e), (m), (t), and (u), a law
42 enforcement officer appointed to a law enforcement department or
43 agency after June 30, 1993, may not:

44 (1) make an arrest;

45 (2) conduct a search or a seizure of a person or property; or

46 (3) carry a firearm;

47 unless the law enforcement officer successfully completes, **within one**
48 **(1) year from the date of original appointment**, at a board certified
49 law enforcement academy or at a law enforcement training center
50 under section 10.5 or 15.2 of this chapter, the basic training

1 requirements established by the board under this chapter. **The board**
 2 **may waive some or all of the basic training requirements for an**
 3 **out-of-state officer who has a minimum of ten (10) years of paid**
 4 **full-time law enforcement experience with a state, county, city, or**
 5 **similar municipal law enforcement agency, after receiving a basic**
 6 **law enforcement training certificate achieved at a state-approved**
 7 **law enforcement academy, and who has not been out of law**
 8 **enforcement for more than six (6) years. Further, the board may**
 9 **waive the basic training requirements for an out-of-state law**
 10 **enforcement officer who has a minimum of one (1) year of paid**
 11 **full-time law enforcement experience with an out-of-state law**
 12 **enforcement agency after achieving a basic law enforcement**
 13 **training certificate from a state-approved law enforcement**
 14 **academy meeting or exceeding the basic training requirements**
 15 **established by the board under this chapter. Waiver applicants**
 16 **must be in good standing with all previous law enforcement**
 17 **employers.**

18 (e) This subsection does not apply to:

19 (1) a gaming agent employed as a law enforcement officer by the
 20 Indiana gaming commission; or

21 (2) an:

22 (A) attorney; or

23 (B) investigator;

24 designated by the securities commissioner as a police officer of
 25 the state under IC 23-19-6-1(k).

26 Before a law enforcement officer appointed after June 30, 1993,
 27 completes the basic training requirements, the law enforcement officer
 28 may exercise the police powers described in subsection (d) if the
 29 officer successfully completes the pre-basic course established in
 30 subsection (f). Successful completion of the pre-basic course authorizes
 31 a law enforcement officer to exercise the police powers described in
 32 subsection (d) for one (1) year after the date the law enforcement
 33 officer is appointed.

34 (f) The board shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to establish a
 35 pre-basic course for the purpose of training:

36 (1) law enforcement officers;

37 (2) police reserve officers (as described in IC 36-8-3-20); and

38 (3) conservation reserve officers (as described in IC 14-9-8-27);

39 regarding the subjects of arrest, search and seizure, the lawful use of
 40 force, de-escalation training, interacting with individuals with autism,
 41 and the operation of an emergency vehicle. The pre-basic course must
 42 be offered on a periodic basis throughout the year at regional sites
 43 statewide. The pre-basic course must consist of at least forty (40) hours
 44 of course work. The board may prepare the classroom part of the
 45 pre-basic course using available technology in conjunction with live
 46 instruction. The board shall provide the course material, the instructors,
 47 and the facilities at the regional sites throughout the state that are used
 48 for the pre-basic course. In addition, the board may certify pre-basic
 49 courses that may be conducted by other public or private training
 50 entities, including postsecondary educational institutions.

51 (g) Subject to subsection (h), the board shall adopt rules under

1 IC 4-22-2 to establish a mandatory inservice training program for
 2 police officers and police reserve officers (as described in
 3 IC 36-8-3-20). After June 30, 1993, a law enforcement officer who has
 4 satisfactorily completed basic training and has been appointed to a law
 5 enforcement department or agency on either a full-time or part-time
 6 basis is not eligible for continued employment unless the officer
 7 satisfactorily completes the mandatory inservice training requirements
 8 established by rules adopted by the board. Inservice training must
 9 include de-escalation training. Inservice training must also include:

10 (1) training:

11 (A) in interacting with persons with mental illness, addictive
 12 disorders, intellectual disabilities, autism, developmental
 13 disabilities, and Alzheimer's disease or related senile
 14 dementia; and

15 (B) provided by persons approved by the secretary of family
 16 and social services and the board;

17 (2) after December 31, 2024, annual training, which may be
 18 completed online or by other means of virtual instruction, that
 19 addresses the mental health and wellness of law enforcement
 20 officers including:

21 (A) healthy coping skills to preserve the mental health of law
 22 enforcement officers and manage the stress and trauma of
 23 policing;

24 (B) recognizing:

25 (i) symptoms of posttraumatic stress disorder; and

26 (ii) signs of suicidal behavior; and

27 (C) information on mental health resources available for law
 28 enforcement officers; and

29 (3) training concerning:

30 (A) human and sexual trafficking; and

31 (B) high risk missing persons (as defined in IC 5-2-17-1).

32 The board may approve courses offered by other public or private
 33 training entities, including postsecondary educational institutions, as
 34 necessary in order to ensure the availability of an adequate number of
 35 inservice training programs. The board may waive an officer's inservice
 36 training requirements if the board determines that the officer's reason
 37 for lacking the required amount of inservice training hours is due to
 38 either an emergency situation or the unavailability of courses.

39 (h) This subsection applies only to a mandatory inservice training
 40 program under subsection (g). Notwithstanding subsection (g), the
 41 board may, without adopting rules under IC 4-22-2, modify the course
 42 work of a training subject matter, modify the number of hours of
 43 training required within a particular subject matter, or add a new
 44 subject matter, if the board satisfies the following requirements:

45 (1) The board must conduct at least two (2) public meetings on
 46 the proposed modification or addition.

47 (2) After approving the modification or addition at a public
 48 meeting, the board must post notice of the modification or
 49 addition on the Indiana law enforcement academy's website at
 50 least thirty (30) days before the modification or addition takes

1 effect.

2 If the board does not satisfy the requirements of this subsection, the
3 modification or addition is void. This subsection does not authorize the
4 board to eliminate any inservice training subject matter required under
5 subsection (g).

6 (i) The board shall also adopt rules establishing a town marshal and
7 conservancy district marshal basic training program, subject to the
8 following:

9 (1) The program must require fewer hours of instruction and class
10 attendance and fewer courses of study than are required for the
11 mandated basic training program.

12 (2) Certain parts of the course materials may be studied by a
13 candidate at the candidate's home in order to fulfill requirements
14 of the program.

15 (3) Law enforcement officers successfully completing the
16 requirements of the program are eligible for appointment only in
17 towns employing the town marshal system (IC 36-5-7) or a
18 conservancy district that employs a conservancy district marshal
19 under IC 14-33-25 and having not more than one (1) marshal and
20 six (6) deputies.

21 (4) The limitation imposed by subdivision (3) does not apply to an
22 officer who has successfully completed the mandated basic
23 training program.

24 (5) The time limitations imposed by subsections (b) and (c) for
25 completing the training are also applicable to the marshal basic
26 training program.

27 (6) The program must require training in interacting with
28 individuals with autism.

29 (j) The board shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to establish an
30 executive training program. The executive training program must
31 include training in the following areas:

32 (1) Liability.

33 (2) Media relations.

34 (3) Accounting and administration.

35 (4) Discipline.

36 (5) Department policy making.

37 (6) Lawful use of force and de-escalation training.

38 (7) Department programs.

39 (8) Emergency vehicle operation.

40 (9) Cultural diversity.

41 (10) After December 31, 2024, mental health and wellness and
42 suicide prevention of law enforcement officers. The training
43 requirement under this subdivision may be provided as part of an
44 online course or by other means of virtual instruction.

45 (k) A police chief shall apply for admission to the executive training
46 program within two (2) months of the date the police chief initially
47 takes office. A police chief must successfully complete the executive
48 training program within six (6) months of the date the police chief
49 initially takes office. However, if space in the executive training
50 program is not available at a time that will allow completion of the

1 executive training program within six (6) months of the date the police
2 chief initially takes office, the police chief must successfully complete
3 the next available executive training program that is offered after the
4 police chief initially takes office.

5 (l) A police chief who fails to comply with subsection (k) may not
6 continue to serve as the police chief until completion of the executive
7 training program. For the purposes of this subsection and subsection
8 (k), "police chief" refers to:

9 (1) the police chief of any city;

10 (2) the police chief of any town having a metropolitan police
11 department; and

12 (3) the chief of a consolidated law enforcement department
13 established under IC 36-3-1-5.1.

14 A town marshal or a conservancy district marshal is not considered to
15 be a police chief for these purposes, but a town marshal or a
16 conservancy district marshal may enroll in the executive training
17 program.

18 (m) A fire investigator in the department of homeland security
19 appointed after December 31, 1993, is required to comply with the
20 basic training standards established under this chapter.

21 (n) The board shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to establish a
22 program to certify handgun safety courses, including courses offered
23 in the private sector, that meet standards approved by the board for
24 training probation officers in handgun safety as required by
25 IC 11-13-1-3.5(2).

26 (o) The board shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to establish a
27 refresher course for an officer who:

28 (1) is hired by an Indiana law enforcement department or agency
29 as a law enforcement officer;

30 (2) has not been employed as a law enforcement officer for:

31 (A) at least two (2) years; and

32 (B) less than six (6) years before the officer is hired under
33 subdivision (1); and

34 (3) completed at any time a basic training course certified or
35 recognized by the board before the officer is hired under
36 subdivision (1).

37 (p) An officer to whom subsection (o) applies must successfully
38 complete the refresher course described in subsection (o) not later than
39 six (6) months after the officer's date of hire, or the officer loses the
40 officer's powers of:

41 (1) arrest;

42 (2) search; and

43 (3) seizure.

44 (q) The board shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to establish a
45 refresher course for an officer who:

46 (1) is appointed by an Indiana law enforcement department or
47 agency as a reserve police officer; and

48 (2) has not worked as a reserve police officer for at least two (2)
49 years after:

50 (A) completing the pre-basic course; or

1 (B) leaving the individual's last appointment as a reserve
2 police officer.

3 An officer to whom this subsection applies must successfully complete
4 the refresher course established by the board in order to work as a
5 reserve police officer.

6 (r) This subsection applies to an individual who, at the time the
7 individual completes a board certified or recognized basic training
8 course, has not been appointed as a law enforcement officer by an
9 Indiana law enforcement department or agency. If the individual is not
10 employed as a law enforcement officer for at least two (2) years after
11 completing the basic training course, the individual must successfully
12 retake and complete the basic training course as set forth in subsection
13 (d).

14 (s) The board shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to establish a
15 refresher course for an individual who:

16 (1) is appointed as a board certified instructor of law enforcement
17 training; and

18 (2) has not provided law enforcement training instruction for
19 more than one (1) year after the date the individual's instructor
20 certification expired.

21 An individual to whom this subsection applies must successfully
22 complete the refresher course established by the board in order to
23 renew the individual's instructor certification.

24 (t) This subsection applies only to a gaming agent employed as a
25 law enforcement officer by the Indiana gaming commission. A gaming
26 agent appointed after June 30, 2005, may exercise the police powers
27 described in subsection (d) if:

28 (1) the agent successfully completes the pre-basic course
29 established in subsection (f); and

30 (2) the agent successfully completes any other training courses
31 established by the Indiana gaming commission in conjunction
32 with the board.

33 (u) This subsection applies only to a securities enforcement officer
34 designated as a law enforcement officer by the securities
35 commissioner. A securities enforcement officer may exercise the police
36 powers described in subsection (d) if:

37 (1) the securities enforcement officer successfully completes the
38 pre-basic course established in subsection (f); and

39 (2) the securities enforcement officer successfully completes any
40 other training courses established by the securities commissioner
41 in conjunction with the board.

42 (v) This subsection applies only to a correctional police officer
43 employed by the department of correction. A correctional police officer
44 may exercise the police powers described in subsection (d) if:

45 (1) the officer successfully completes the pre-basic course
46 described in subsection (f); and

47 (2) the officer successfully completes any other training courses
48 established by the department of correction in conjunction with
49 the board.

50 (w) This subsection applies only to the sexual assault training

1 described in subsection (a)(14). The board shall:

2 (1) consult with experts on the neurobiology of trauma, trauma
3 informed interviewing, and investigative techniques in developing
4 the sexual assault training; and

5 (2) develop the sexual assault training and begin offering the
6 training not later than July 1, 2022.

7 (x) After July 1, 2023, a law enforcement officer who regularly
8 investigates sexual assaults involving adult victims must complete the
9 training requirements described in subsection (a)(14) within one (1)
10 year of being assigned to regularly investigate sexual assaults involving
11 adult victims.

12 (y) A law enforcement officer who regularly investigates sexual
13 assaults involving adult victims may complete the training
14 requirements described in subsection (a)(14) by attending a:

15 (1) statewide or national training; or

16 (2) department hosted local training.

17 (z) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section, the board
18 is authorized to establish certain required standards of training and
19 procedure.

20 SECTION 5. IC 5-2-1-14, AS AMENDED BY P.L.100-2012,
21 SECTION 13, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
22 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 14. (a) There is hereby created the position of
23 executive director of the law enforcement training board.

24 (b) The executive director shall be selected by the board. **The**
25 **executive director shall serve at the pleasure of the board. and the**
26 **executive director's tenure of office shall be protected by a four (4)**
27 **year, renewable contract of employment which may be terminated**
28 **earlier by the board only for inefficiency, incompetence, neglect of**
29 **duty, or other good cause after having been accorded a hearing by the**
30 **board upon reasonable notice of the charge being made against the**
31 **executive director. A vote of at least eleven (11) members of the board**
32 **shall be necessary for the early termination of said contract of**
33 **employment.** The executive director shall be selected on the basis of
34 education, training, and experience, and shall have at least ten (10)
35 years experience as an active law enforcement officer, at least five (5)
36 years of which shall have been in an executive or administrative
37 capacity.

38 (c) The executive director shall:

39 (1) perform ~~such~~ duties as may be assigned by the board; and

40 (2) ~~shall~~ be the chief administrative officer of the law
41 enforcement academy.

42 (d) The salary and compensation for the executive director, the
43 training staff, and employees shall be fixed by the board with the
44 approval of the governor.

45 (e) The executive director shall establish a table of organization to
46 be supplemented with job descriptions for each position subordinate to
47 ~~that of~~ the executive director, all of which shall be subject to the
48 approval of the board.

49 (f) All ~~persons~~ **individuals** hired to fill ~~such~~ approved vacancies
50 shall be selected on the basis of qualifications and merit based on

1 training, education, and experience.

2 (g) Employees and members of the training staff shall not be subject
3 to discharge, demotion, or suspension because of political affiliation,
4 but may be discharged, demoted, or suspended only for cause after
5 charges preferred in writing by the executive director.

6 (h) Any ~~person so~~ discharged or disciplined ~~employee~~ shall have a
7 right to a hearing before the board if ~~such person~~ **the employee**
8 requests a hearing by giving notice to the executive director within
9 fifteen (15) days after receiving written notice of discharge or
10 disciplinary action.

11 (i) Procedures **under this section** shall be consistent with IC 4-21.5.

12 SECTION 6. IC 5-2-1-15, AS AMENDED BY P.L.173-2023,
13 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
14 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 15. (a) The facilities of the law enforcement
15 academy shall be available to any law enforcement agency of the state,
16 or any of its political subdivisions, subject to the rules of the board.

17 (b) Any law enforcement agency of the state, any of its political
18 subdivisions, or any board certified training center may conduct
19 training:

20 (1) for the law enforcement agency of any political subdivision in
21 Indiana; and

22 (2) in facilities other than those of the law enforcement academy;
23 if the minimum standards established by the board are met or exceeded.

24 (c) A law enforcement agency or a board certified training center
25 conducting approved local training under subsection (b) may be
26 entitled to a per capita allowance from the law enforcement training
27 fund to defray such portions of the cost of basic training as shall be
28 approved by the board. Such per capita allowance shall be earmarked
29 and expended only for law enforcement training.

30 (d) The facilities of the law enforcement academy shall be available
31 for the training of railroad police, prison and industrial plant guards,
32 tribal police, postsecondary educational institution safety and security
33 personnel, whether public or private, for the training of any law
34 enforcement agency from outside Indiana, and for the training of
35 **members in the military police force of the Indiana National Guard**
36 **under IC 10-16-23** and such other enforcement related groups as shall
37 be approved by the board, upon terms and conditions established by the
38 board. Railroad police, tribal police, **Indiana National Guard**, and any
39 law enforcement agency from outside Indiana, and nongovernmental
40 enforcement related groups qualifying to use the facilities of the
41 academy under the rules of the board shall be required to reimburse the
42 law enforcement training fund for the cost of such training.

43 (e) The facilities of the law enforcement academy may be used for
44 the training of firefighting personnel where the subject matter of the
45 training relates to duties which involve law enforcement related
46 conduct. Such training shall be conducted upon terms and conditions
47 established by the board. However, no volunteer firefighter is required
48 to attend training at the academy.

49 (f) The facilities of the law enforcement academy shall be used to
50 provide the basic training under section 9(d) of this chapter of a special

1 officer of a consolidated city who is employed full time by the
2 consolidated city after June 30, 2023, to perform park ranger duties.

3 (g) The cost of the mandatory basic training conducted by the board
4 at the facilities of the law enforcement academy and all other training
5 programs authorized by this chapter and conducted at the law
6 enforcement training academy, including the mandatory basic training
7 course when attended by trainees who have been investigated and
8 approved but not yet hired by a law enforcement agency, are subject to
9 fee schedules and charges for tuition, lodging, meals, instructors,
10 training materials, and any other items or services established by the
11 board, including amounts needed to recoup corresponding marginal
12 and fixed costs. The costs and the fee schedule must be an annual
13 schedule for the state fiscal year and must be approved by the budget
14 director.

15 SECTION 7. IC 5-2-18.2-2, AS ADDED BY P.L.171-2011,
16 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
17 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) As used in this chapter, "law enforcement
18 officer" has the meaning set forth in IC 5-2-1-2.

19 **(b) The term includes a member in the military police force of**
20 **the Indiana National Guard while exercising police powers in**
21 **accordance with IC 10-16-23-3.**

22 SECTION 8. IC 5-2-20-2, AS ADDED BY P.L.171-2011,
23 SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
24 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) As used in this chapter, "law enforcement
25 officer" has the meaning set forth in IC 5-2-1-2.

26 **(b) The term includes a member in the military police force of**
27 **the Indiana National Guard while exercising police powers in**
28 **accordance with IC 10-16-23-3.**

29 SECTION 9. IC 5-9-3-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,
30 SECTION 6, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
31 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. Persons discharged from the armed forces of
32 the United States under conditions other than conditions set forth in
33 ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~, **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)**, by reason of disability
34 resulting from wounds or sickness incurred in the line of duty, shall be
35 preferred for appointment to civil offices, provided they are found to
36 possess the capacity necessary for the proper discharge of such offices.

37 SECTION 10. IC 5-9-3-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,
38 SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
39 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) Political subdivisions of the state of Indiana
40 shall allow preference points to eligible armed forces veterans who are
41 being examined for full time employment. Preference points awarded
42 to such veterans on each such examination shall be ten percent (10%)
43 of the total number of points which may be obtained thereon.

44 (b) To be eligible to receive preference points, under this chapter,
45 a person must have:

46 (1) served ~~on active duty~~ in the armed forces of the United States
47 for at least one hundred eighty-one (181) days; and

48 (2) received a discharge from service under conditions other than
49 conditions set forth in ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~. **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)**.

50 (c) The provisions of this chapter are in lieu of any policy of a

1 political subdivision allowing employment preference for veterans in
2 effect before July 1, 1975.

3 SECTION 11. IC 5-10.3-7-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,
4 SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
5 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) A member who:

- 6 (1) enters the United States armed services;
- 7 (2) leaves the member's contributions in the fund;
- 8 (3) except as provided in subsection (c), resumes service with the
9 member's employer within one hundred twenty (120) days after
10 the member's unconditional discharge; and
- 11 (4) would be entitled to service credit for military service under
12 the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights
13 Act (38 U.S.C. 4301 et seq.) if the member had resumed service
14 with the member's employer within ninety (90) days after
15 discharge;

16 is entitled to service credit for the armed service.

17 (b) A state employee who left employment before January 1, 1946,
18 or an employee of a political subdivision who left employment before
19 the participation date, to enter the United States armed services is
20 entitled to service credit for the armed service if the member:

- 21 (1) except as provided in subsection (c), resumes service with the
22 employer within one hundred twenty (120) days after the
23 member's unconditional discharge; and
- 24 (2) would be entitled to service credit for military service under
25 the applicable requirements of federal law in effect at the time of
26 reemployment if the employee had resumed service with the
27 employee's employer within ninety (90) days after discharge.

28 (c) The board shall extend the one hundred twenty (120) day
29 reemployment requirement contained in subsection (a)(3) or (b)(1) if
30 the board determines that an illness, an injury, or a disability related to
31 the member's military service prevented the member from resuming
32 employment within one hundred twenty (120) days after the member's
33 discharge from military service. However, the board may not extend the
34 deadline beyond thirty (30) months after the member's discharge.

35 (d) If a member retires and the board subsequently determines that
36 the member is entitled to additional service credit due to the extension
37 of a deadline under subsection (c), the board shall recompute the
38 member's benefit. However, the additional service credit may be used
39 only in the computation of benefits to be paid after the date of the
40 board's determination, and the member is not entitled to a
41 recomputation of benefits received before the date of the board's
42 determination.

43 (e) Notwithstanding any provision of this section, a member is
44 entitled to service credit and benefits in the amount and to the extent
45 required by the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment
46 Rights Act (38 U.S.C. 4301 et seq.).

47 (f) Subject to the provisions of this section, an active member may
48 purchase and claim not more than two (2) years of service credit for the
49 member's service on active duty in the armed services if the member
50 meets the following conditions:

- 1 (1) The member has at least one (1) year of credited service in the
 2 fund.
 3 (2) The member serves on active duty in the armed services of the
 4 United States for at least six (6) months.
 5 (3) The member receives a discharge from the armed services
 6 under conditions other than conditions set forth in
 7 ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~. **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)**.
 8 (4) Before the member retires, the member makes contributions
 9 to the fund as follows:
 10 (A) Contributions that are equal to the product of the
 11 following:
 12 (i) The member's salary at the time the member actually
 13 makes a contribution for the service credit.
 14 (ii) A rate, determined by the actuary of the fund, that is
 15 based on the age of the member at the time the member
 16 actually makes a contribution for service credit and
 17 computed to result in a contribution amount that
 18 approximates the actuarial present value of the benefit
 19 attributable to the service credit purchased.
 20 (iii) The number of years of service credit the member
 21 intends to purchase.
 22 (B) Contributions for any accrued interest, at a rate determined
 23 by the actuary of the fund, for the period from the member's
 24 initial membership in the fund to the date payment is made by
 25 the member.

26 However, a member is entitled to purchase service credit under this
 27 subsection only to the extent that service credit is not granted for that
 28 time under another provision of this section. At least ten (10) years of
 29 service in Indiana is required before a member may receive a benefit
 30 based on service credits purchased under this section. A member who
 31 terminates employment before satisfying the eligibility requirements
 32 necessary to receive a monthly allowance or receives a monthly
 33 allowance for the same service from another tax supported public
 34 employee retirement plan other than under the federal Social Security
 35 Act may withdraw the purchase amount plus accumulated interest after
 36 submitting a properly completed application for a refund to the fund.

- 37 (g) The following apply to the purchase of service credit under
 38 subsection (f):
 39 (1) The board may allow a member to make periodic payments of
 40 the contributions required for the purchase of the service credit.
 41 The board shall determine the length of the period during which
 42 the payments must be made.
 43 (2) The board may deny an application for the purchase of service
 44 credit if the purchase would exceed the limitations under Section
 45 415 of the Internal Revenue Code.
 46 (3) A member may not claim the service credit for purposes of
 47 determining eligibility or computing benefits unless the member
 48 has made all payments required for the purchase of the service
 49 credit.
 50 SECTION 12. IC 5-10.4-4-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,

1 SECTION 10, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 2 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) This subsection applies to a member who
 3 retires before July 1, 1980. A member who had completed four (4)
 4 years of approved college teacher education before voluntary or
 5 involuntary induction into the military services is entitled to credit for
 6 that service as if the member had begun teaching before the induction.
 7 A member who serves in military service is considered a teacher and
 8 is entitled to the benefits of the fund if before or during the leave of
 9 absence the member pays into the fund the member's contributions.
 10 Time served by a member in military service for the duration of the
 11 hostilities or for the length of active service in the hostilities and the
 12 necessary demobilization time after the hostilities is not subject to the
 13 one-seventh rule set forth in section 7 of this chapter.

14 (b) This subsection applies to a member who retires after June 30,
 15 1980. A member who completed four (4) years of approved college
 16 teacher education before voluntary or involuntary induction into
 17 military service is entitled to credit for the member's active military
 18 service as if the member had begun teaching before the induction. A
 19 member who serves in military service is considered a teacher and is
 20 entitled to the benefits of the fund if the following conditions are met:

21 (1) The member has received a discharge from military service
 22 under conditions other than conditions set forth in
 23 ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~. **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)**.

24 (2) Except as provided in subsection (g), the member returns to
 25 active teaching service not later than twenty-four (24) months
 26 after the completion of active military service.

27 (3) The member has at least ten (10) years of in-state service
 28 credit.

29 The time served by a member in military service for the duration of the
 30 hostilities or for the length of active service in the hostilities and the
 31 necessary demobilization time after the hostilities is not subject to the
 32 one-seventh rule set forth in section 7 of this chapter. However, not
 33 more than six (6) years of military service credit may be granted under
 34 this subsection.

35 (c) This subsection applies to a member who retires after May 1,
 36 1989. A member who had begun but had not completed four (4) years
 37 of approved college teacher education before voluntary or involuntary
 38 induction into the military services is entitled to service credit in an
 39 amount equal to the duration of the member's active military service if
 40 the following conditions are met:

41 (1) The member has received a discharge from military service
 42 under conditions other than conditions set forth in
 43 ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~. **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)**.

44 (2) Except as provided in subsection (g), the member returns to a
 45 four (4) year approved college teacher training program not later
 46 than twenty-four (24) months after the completion of active
 47 military service and subsequently completes that program.

48 (3) The member has at least ten (10) years of in-state service
 49 credit.

50 The time served by a member in active military service for the length

1 of active service in the hostilities and the necessary demobilization is
 2 not subject to the one-seventh rule set forth in section 7 of this chapter.
 3 However, not more than six (6) years of military service credit may be
 4 granted under this subsection.

5 (d) This subsection applies to a member who retires after May 1,
 6 1991, and who is employed at a state educational institution. A member
 7 who had begun but had not completed baccalaureate or
 8 post-baccalaureate education before voluntary or involuntary induction
 9 into military service is entitled to the member's active military service
 10 credit for the member's active military service in an amount equal to
 11 the duration of the member's military service if the following
 12 conditions are met:

13 (1) The member received a discharge from military service under
 14 conditions other than conditions set forth in ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~.
 15 **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)**.

16 (2) Except as provided in subsection (g), the member returns to
 17 baccalaureate or post-baccalaureate education not later than
 18 twenty-four (24) months after completion of active military
 19 service and subsequently completes that education.

20 (3) The member has at least ten (10) years of in-state service
 21 credit.

22 The time served by a member in active military service for the length
 23 of active service in the hostilities and the necessary demobilization is
 24 not subject to the one-seventh rule set forth in section 7 of this chapter.
 25 However, not more than six (6) years of military service credit may be
 26 granted under this subsection.

27 (e) For purposes of this section, a member returns to active teaching
 28 service on the earlier of:

29 (1) the date on which the member signs a teacher's contract; or

30 (2) the date on which the member is first employed in a position
 31 covered by this article.

32 (f) For purposes of this section, a member returns to:

33 (1) a teacher training program; or

34 (2) baccalaureate or post-baccalaureate education;

35 on the date the member registers for or enrolls in classes that the
 36 member attends.

37 (g) The board shall extend the twenty-four (24) month deadline
 38 contained in subsection (b)(2), (c)(2), or (d)(2) if the board determines
 39 that an illness, an injury, or a disability related to the member's military
 40 service prevented the member from returning to active teaching service
 41 or to a teacher education program not later than twenty-four (24)
 42 months after the member's discharge from military service. However,
 43 the board may not extend the deadline beyond forty-eight (48) months
 44 after the member's discharge.

45 (h) If a member retires and the board subsequently determines that
 46 the member is entitled to additional service credit due to the extension
 47 of a deadline under subsection (g), the board shall recompute the
 48 member's benefit. However, the additional service credit may be used
 49 only in the computation of benefits to be paid after the date of the
 50 board's determination, and the member is not entitled to a

1 recomputation of benefits received before the date of the board's
2 determination.

3 (i) Notwithstanding any provision of this section, a member is
4 entitled to military service credit and benefits in the amount and to the
5 extent required by the federal Uniformed Services Employment and
6 Reemployment Rights Act (38 U.S.C. 4301 et seq.), including all later
7 amendments.

8 (j) Subject to this section, an active member may purchase and
9 claim not more than two (2) years of service credit for the member's
10 service on active duty in the armed services if the member meets the
11 following conditions:

12 (1) The member has at least one (1) year of credited service in the
13 fund.

14 (2) The member serves on active duty in the armed services of the
15 United States for at least six (6) months.

16 (3) The member receives a discharge from the armed services
17 under conditions other than conditions set forth in
18 ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~. **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)**.

19 (4) Before the member retires, the member makes contributions
20 to the fund as follows:

21 (A) Contributions that are equal to the product of:

22 (i) the member's salary at the time the member actually
23 makes a contribution for the service credit;

24 (ii) a rate, determined by the actuary of the fund, that is
25 based on the age of the member at the time the member
26 actually makes a contribution for service credit and
27 computed to result in a contribution amount that
28 approximates the actuarial present value of the benefit
29 attributable to the service credit purchased; and

30 (iii) the number of years of service credit the member
31 intends to purchase.

32 (B) Contributions for any accrued interest, at a rate determined
33 by the actuary of the fund, for the period from the member's
34 initial membership in the fund to the date payment is made by
35 the member.

36 However, a member is entitled to purchase service credit under this
37 subsection only to the extent that service credit is not granted for that
38 time under another provision of this section. At least ten (10) years of
39 service in Indiana is required before a member may receive a benefit
40 based on service credits purchased under this section. A member who
41 terminates employment before satisfying the eligibility requirements
42 necessary to receive a monthly allowance or receives a monthly
43 allowance for the same service from another tax supported public
44 employee retirement plan other than under the federal Social Security
45 Act may withdraw the purchase amount plus accumulated interest after
46 submitting a properly completed application for a refund to the fund.

47 (k) The following apply to the purchase of service credit under
48 subsection (j):

49 (1) The board may allow a member to make periodic payments of
50 the contributions required for the purchase of the service credit.

1 The board shall determine the length of the period during which
2 the payments must be made.

3 (2) The board may deny an application for the purchase of service
4 credit if the purchase would exceed the limitations under Section
5 415 of the Internal Revenue Code.

6 (3) A member may not claim the service credit for purposes of
7 determining eligibility or computing benefits unless the member
8 has made all payments required for the purchase of the service
9 credit.

10 (l) This subsection applies to a member who retires after June 30,
11 2006. A member may not receive credit under this section for service
12 for which the member receives service credit under the terms of a
13 military or another governmental retirement plan.

14 SECTION 13. IC 6-8.1-9-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.43-2021,
15 SECTION 32, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
16 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) Every individual (other than a nonresident)
17 who files an individual income tax return and who is entitled to a
18 refund from the department of state revenue because of the
19 overpayment of income tax for a taxable year may designate on the
20 individual's annual state income tax return that either a specific amount
21 or all of the refund to which the individual is entitled shall be paid over
22 to one (1) or more of the funds described in subsection (c). If the refund
23 to which the individual is entitled is less than the total amount
24 designated to be paid over to one (1) or more of the funds described in
25 subsection (c), all of the refund to which the individual is entitled shall
26 be paid over to the designated funds, but in an amount or amounts
27 reduced proportionately for each designated fund. If an individual
28 designates all of the refund to which the individual is entitled to be paid
29 over to one (1) or more of the funds described in subsection (c) without
30 designating specific amounts, the refund to which the individual is
31 entitled shall be paid over to each fund described in subsection (c) in
32 an amount equal to the refund divided by the number of funds
33 described in subsection (c), rounded to the lowest cent, with any part
34 of the refund remaining due to the effects of rounding to be deposited
35 in the nongame fund.

36 (b) Every husband and wife (other than nonresidents) who file a
37 joint income tax return and who are entitled to a refund from the
38 department of state revenue because of the overpayment of income tax
39 for a taxable year may designate on their annual state income tax return
40 that either a specific amount or all of the refund to which they are
41 entitled shall be paid over to one (1) or more of the funds described in
42 subsection (c). If the refund to which a husband and wife are entitled
43 is less than the total amount designated to be paid over to one (1) or
44 more of the funds described in subsection (c), all of the refund to which
45 the husband and wife are entitled shall be paid over to the designated
46 funds, but in an amount or amounts reduced proportionately for each
47 designated fund. If a husband and wife designate all of the refund to
48 which the husband and wife are entitled to be paid over to one (1) or
49 more of the funds described in subsection (c) without designating
50 specific amounts, the refund to which the husband and wife are entitled

1 shall be paid over to each fund described in subsection (c) in an
 2 amount equal to the refund divided by the number of funds described
 3 in subsection (c), rounded to the lowest cent, with any part of the
 4 refund remaining due to the effects of rounding to be deposited in the
 5 nongame fund.

6 (c) Designations under subsection (a) or (b) may be directed only to
 7 the following funds:

8 (1) The nongame fund.

9 (2) The state general fund for exclusive use in funding public
 10 education for kindergarten through grade 12.

11 (3) The military family relief fund.

12 (d) The instructions for the preparation of individual income tax
 13 returns shall contain a description of the purposes of the following:

14 (1) The nongame and endangered species program. The
 15 description of this program shall be written in cooperation with
 16 the department of natural resources.

17 (2) The funding of public education for kindergarten through
 18 grade 12. The description of this purpose shall be written in
 19 cooperation with the secretary of education.

20 (3) The funding for financial assistance to ~~qualified~~ service
 21 members ~~(as defined in IC 10-17-12-7.5)~~ **described in**
 22 **IC 10-17-12-8.1(1) and IC 10-17-12-8.1(2), who are Indiana**
 23 **residents**, and their families. The description of this purpose shall
 24 be written in cooperation with the Indiana department of veterans'
 25 affairs.

26 (e) The department shall interpret a designation on a return under
 27 subsection (a) or (b) that is illegible or otherwise not reasonably
 28 discernible to the department as if the designation had not been made.

29 SECTION 14. IC 9-18.5-7-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,
 30 SECTION 19, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 31 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) An Indiana resident who is a current or
 32 former member of the Army or Air National Guard may apply for and
 33 receive one (1) or more license plates under this chapter.

34 (b) An individual applying for a National Guard license plate under
 35 this chapter as a current member of the National Guard must
 36 demonstrate the individual's status as a current member of the Army or
 37 Air National Guard by presenting the following with the individual's
 38 application:

39 (1) A current United States armed forces identification card.

40 (2) A letter signed by the individual's commanding officer
 41 identifying the individual as a current active member.

42 (c) An individual applying for a National Guard license plate under
 43 this chapter as a former member of the National Guard must present
 44 with the individual's application a copy of the individual's:

45 (1) National Guard Bureau Form 22 or 22A showing the
 46 individual received a discharge under conditions other than
 47 conditions set forth in ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~; **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)**; or

48 (2) National Guard Bureau Form 23D or 23E showing the
 49 individual as retired;

50 as proof of the individual's status as a former member of the Army or

- 1 Air National Guard.
- 2 SECTION 15. IC 10-13-8-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.122-2023,
3 SECTION 8, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
4 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. As used in this chapter, "law enforcement
5 officer" means any of the following:
- 6 (1) A state police officer.
 - 7 (2) A county sheriff.
 - 8 (3) A county police officer.
 - 9 (4) A correctional officer.
 - 10 (5) An excise police officer.
 - 11 (6) A county police reserve officer.
 - 12 (7) A city police officer.
 - 13 (8) A city police reserve officer.
 - 14 (9) A conservation enforcement officer.
 - 15 (10) A town marshal.
 - 16 (11) A deputy town marshal.
 - 17 (12) A probation officer.
 - 18 (13) A state educational institution police officer appointed under
19 IC 21-39-4.
 - 20 (14) A gaming agent of the Indiana gaming commission.
 - 21 (15) A person employed by a political subdivision (as defined in
22 IC 36-1-2-13) and appointed as a special deputy under
23 IC 36-8-10-10.6.
 - 24 (16) A school corporation police officer appointed under
25 IC 20-26-16.
 - 26 (17) A police officer of a public or private postsecondary
27 educational institution whose board of trustees has established a
28 police department under IC 21-17-5-2 or IC 21-39-4-2.
 - 29 (18) A tribal police officer.
 - 30 (19) A hospital police officer employed by a hospital police
31 department established under IC 16-18-4.
 - 32 (20) A conservancy district marshal.
 - 33 (21) A deputy conservancy district marshal.
 - 34 **(22) A member in the military police force of the Indiana**
35 **National Guard while exercising police powers in accordance**
36 **with IC 10-16-23-3.**
- 37 SECTION 16. IC 10-16-1-5.6 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
38 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
39 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 5.6. "Civilian cyber corps" means**
40 **the Indiana civilian cyber corps program established by**
41 **IC 10-16-22.**
- 42 SECTION 17. IC 10-16-1-5.7 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
43 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
44 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 5.7. "Civilian cyber corps**
45 **adviser" means an individual who serves as a nondeployable**
46 **member in the Indiana civilian cyber corps program for the**
47 **purpose of providing support and technical expertise for civilian**
48 **cyber corps volunteers.**
- 49 SECTION 18. IC 10-16-1-5.8 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
50 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
51 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 5.8. "Civilian cyber corps**

1 **volunteer" means an individual who has entered into an agreement**
 2 **with the adjutant general to serve as a deployable member in the**
 3 **Indiana civilian cyber corps program.**

4 SECTION 19. IC 10-16-1-8.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
 5 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 6 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 8.5. "Cybersecurity client" means**
 7 **a:**

- 8 (1) state agency (as defined in IC 4-1-10-2);
- 9 (2) political subdivision (as defined in IC 36-1-2-13);
- 10 (3) state educational institution (as defined in IC 21-7-13-32);
- 11 (4) critical infrastructure facility (as defined in
- 12 IC 35-46-10-1); or
- 13 (5) critical infrastructure utility (as defined in IC 35-46-10-1);

14 **that has requested and is using the rapid response assistance of the**
 15 **Indiana civilian cyber corps program under the direction of the**
 16 **adjutant general.**

17 SECTION 20. IC 10-16-1-8.6 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
 18 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 19 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 8.6. "Cybersecurity incident"**
 20 **means an incident as defined by 44 U.S.C. 3552(b)(2).**

21 SECTION 21. IC 10-16-1-19.3 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
 22 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 23 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 19.3. "State police department"**
 24 **refers to the state police department established by IC 10-11-2-4.**

25 SECTION 22. IC 10-16-2-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.15-2010,
 26 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 27 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. The adjutant general shall appoint ~~four (4)~~
 28 ~~assistant adjutants general~~ **additional general officers** to serve at the
 29 will and pleasure of the adjutant general as follows:

30 (1) **Excluding the adjutant general, there are six (6) general**
 31 **officer authorizations for the Indiana Army National Guard**
 32 **and two (2) general authorizations for the Indiana Air**
 33 **National Guard under this section.**

34 (2) **Included in the general officer authorizations described in**
 35 **subdivision (1), one (1) general officer position shall be**
 36 **established as the Director, Joint Staff, Indiana Joint Forces**
 37 **Headquarters. The position may be filled by either an Army**
 38 **or Air National Guard member.**

39 (3) **To be eligible for appointment to a general officer under**
 40 **subdivision (1), an individual must meet the following**
 41 **requirements:**

42 (A) **The individual must be a federally recognized officer**
 43 **who has attained the rank of colonel or higher.**

44 (B) **The individual must be eligible for appointment in the**
 45 **Indiana National Guard.**

46 ~~(1) One (1) assistant adjutant general from the Indiana Army~~
 47 ~~National Guard to be commander of the Indiana Army National~~
 48 ~~Guard forces, except the forces described in subdivision (3): A~~
 49 ~~person is not eligible for appointment as assistant adjutant general~~
 50 ~~unless the person is a member of the Indiana Army National~~
 51 ~~Guard and has attained the rank of major or above. The person~~

1 must be a federally recognized officer and may hold the rank of
2 major general or other rank authorized by the table of
3 organization for the Army National Guard.

4 (2) One (1) assistant adjutant general from the Indiana Army
5 National Guard to be chief of staff to the adjutant general for all
6 the Indiana Army National Guard forces; except those forces
7 described in subdivision (4). This assistant adjutant general shall
8 perform duties assigned by the adjutant general and is responsible
9 for all administrative and operational functions of the Indiana
10 Army National Guard; except those related to forces described in
11 subdivision (4). A person is not eligible for appointment as
12 assistant adjutant general unless the person is a member of the
13 Indiana Army National Guard with at least six (6) years service in
14 the Indiana Army National Guard and has attained the rank of
15 major or above. The person must be a federally recognized officer
16 and may hold the rank of brigadier general or other rank
17 authorized by the table of organization for the Army National
18 Guard.

19 (3) One (1) assistant adjutant general from the Indiana Air
20 National Guard to be chief of staff to the adjutant general for all
21 the Indiana Air National Guard forces. This assistant adjutant
22 general shall perform duties assigned by the adjutant general and
23 is responsible for administrative and operational functions of the
24 Indiana Air National Guard. A person is not eligible for
25 appointment as air forces chief of staff unless the person is a
26 member of the Indiana Air National Guard with at least six (6)
27 years service as a commissioned officer and has attained the rank
28 of major or above. The person must be a federally recognized
29 officer and may hold the rank of brigadier general or other rank
30 authorized by the tables of organization for the Air National
31 Guard.

32 (4) One (1) assistant adjutant general from the Indiana Army
33 National Guard to be chief of staff to the adjutant general for all
34 Indiana Army National Guard forces assigned to the Camp
35 Atterbury Muscatatuck Urban Training Center. This assistant
36 adjutant general shall perform duties assigned by the adjutant
37 general and is responsible for all administrative and operational
38 functions of Indiana Army National Guard forces assigned to the
39 Camp Atterbury Muscatatuck Urban Training Center. A person
40 is not eligible for appointment as assistant adjutant general unless
41 the person is a member of the Indiana Army National Guard with
42 at least six (6) years service in the Indiana Army National Guard
43 and has attained the rank of major or above. The person must be
44 a federally recognized officer and may hold the rank of brigadier
45 general or other rank authorized by the table of organization for
46 the Army National Guard.

47 SECTION 23. IC 10-16-3-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.38-2011,
48 SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
49 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. The state armory board established by section
50 1 of this chapter may contribute funds in support of the following

1 authorized duties and responsibilities of the adjutant general:

- 2 (1) ~~The military department of the~~ Indiana ceremonial unit.
 3 (2) The Indiana guard reserve.
 4 (3) The annual report of the adjutant general's department.
 5 (4) The medical treatment, pensions, and funeral expenses of
 6 officers and soldiers wounded, disabled, or killed while in the
 7 active service of the state.
 8 (5) Expenditures for public relations and the promotion of morale
 9 within the adjutant general's department. ~~that are not paid by the~~
 10 ~~United States Department of Defense.~~
 11 (6) Recruitment and retention expenditures of the adjutant
 12 general's department. ~~that are not paid by the United States~~
 13 ~~Department of Defense.~~
 14 (7) The publication of the armed forces law of Indiana in
 15 accordance with IC 10-16-2-9(d).
 16 **(8) Armory modernization and care for armories.**

17 SECTION 24. IC 10-16-3-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.38-2011,
 18 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 19 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. (a) The state armory board may **utilize any and**
 20 **all appropriate methods to:**

- 21 (1) lease real estate from:
 22 (A) the federal, the state, or a local government; ~~or~~
 23 (B) a federal, state, or local agency; or
 24 **(C) a private entity or individual; or**

25 (2) purchase real estate throughout the state;
 26 where necessary to provide armories or other military purposes.

27 (b) The state armory board shall lease or purchase real estate in the
 28 name and for the use of the state. The state armory board may erect on
 29 the real estate an armory or another appropriate structure to be used for
 30 meetings, rendezvous, and drill purposes by the following
 31 organizations:

- 32 (1) A company.
 33 (2) A battery.
 34 (3) A troop.
 35 (4) A battalion.
 36 (5) A regiment.
 37 (6) A division organization.
 38 (7) An air ~~squadron~~: **wing**.
 39 (8) A related group.
 40 (9) An organization authorized by the state board.

41 The ordnance stores, quartermaster stores, and other property issued to
 42 an organization described in this subsection and occupying the armory
 43 shall be stored in the armory or other appropriate structure.

44 (c) The state armory board shall arrange for the occupancy and use
 45 of the armories under the direction and responsibility of the senior
 46 officer in command of an organization described in subsection (b).

47 (d) An armory may not be erected on land that is leased for less than
 48 ~~fifty (50)~~ **twenty-five (25)** years.

49 (e) The Indiana wing of the civil air patrol and its subordinate units
 50 may use armory facilities without charge when the officer responsible

1 for the armory determines the use would not interfere with operational
2 training requirements of the military forces concerned.

3 SECTION 25. IC 10-16-3-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.38-2011,
4 SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
5 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. The state armory board shall constitute a board
6 for the general management, care, and custody of the armories. The
7 state armory board may adopt ~~rules~~ **policies or procedures** for:

- 8 (1) the management and government of the armories;
- 9 (2) the guidance of the organizations occupying the armories; and
- 10 (3) any other purpose consistent with this chapter.

11 SECTION 26. IC 10-16-3-8 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
12 2026]. Sec. 8: (a) ~~This section applies if a contract for the procurement~~
13 ~~of property by the state armory board or a local armory board is~~
14 ~~awarded under this chapter by acceptance of bids, proposals, or~~
15 ~~quotations:~~

16 (b) ~~A bid, proposal, or quotation submitted by a trust (as defined in~~
17 ~~IC 30-4-1-1(a)) must identify each:~~

- 18 (1) ~~beneficiary of the trust; and~~
- 19 (2) ~~settlor empowered to revoke or modify the trust.~~

20 SECTION 27. IC 10-16-3-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.38-2011,
21 SECTION 6, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
22 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. (a) The state armory board may receive from
23 any source donations of real or personal property or contributions of
24 money to aid in the support and assistance of:

- 25 (1) the armed forces of Indiana; and
- 26 (2) the armed forces of Indiana called or inducted into federal
27 service.

28 Property received under this subsection shall be held as other property
29 for the use of the state.

30 (b) Counties, cities, and municipalities may make donations and
31 contributions under subsection (a).

32 (c) This subsection applies to ~~real or personal~~ **any** property:

- 33 (1) donated under subsection (a); ~~and~~
- 34 (2) upon which the state of Indiana has not erected structures; ~~and~~
- 35 (3) **if a donation agreement has not been executed between the**
36 **state armory and the donor of the property.**

37 The state armory board may determine that ~~real~~ **any** property donated
38 under subsection (a) is no longer usable or cannot be used by the
39 military department. The state armory board may certify its
40 determination to the adjutant general. The adjutant general may
41 reconvey ~~the real~~ **any** property to the donor or to another entity or
42 individual that the adjutant general considers appropriate.

43 SECTION 28. IC 10-16-3-10 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
44 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. All expenses
45 incurred in the operation of state armories shall be paid out of:

- 46 (1) the rentals;
- 47 (2) the income;
- 48 (3) the earnings;
- 49 (4) any other receipts; and
- 50 (5) any other appropriation provided by law;

1 to pay the expenses incurred in the operation of the armories **or other**
 2 **matters consistent with this chapter.**

3 SECTION 29. IC 10-16-3-12 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 4 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 12. (a) If the state
 5 armory board receives from the ~~governor~~ **adjutant general** information
 6 of the disbandment of the organization of the armed forces of Indiana
 7 occupying and using an armory, the state armory board shall take
 8 charge of the armory.

9 (b) The state armory board shall sell the armory for the highest price
 10 at public or private sale after publication of the sale for a period of ten
 11 (10) days and return the proceeds into the state treasury.

12 SECTION 30. IC 10-16-3-13, AS AMENDED BY P.L.38-2011,
 13 SECTION 8, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 14 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 13. (a) The state armory board may:

15 (1) sell, lease, convey, or otherwise dispose of any ~~real~~ property
 16 belonging to the state and being under the charge and in the
 17 custody and possession of the state armory board if, in the
 18 judgment of the state armory board:

19 (1) ~~(A)~~ **(A)** the ~~real~~ property can no longer be used for the purpose
 20 for which it was acquired; and

21 ~~(2)~~ **(B)** the conveyance provides a substantial public or
 22 military benefit; **or**

23 **(2) elect to transfer the property to the Indiana department of**
 24 **administration under IC 4-20.5-7 or IC 5-22-21.**

25 (b) The sale shall be made at public or private sale, after appropriate
 26 publication, for the highest price to be obtained for the same. If the
 27 state armory board takes bids in the sale of ~~real~~ property, the board
 28 shall require a bid submitted by a trust (as defined in IC 30-4-1-1(a))
 29 to identify all of the following:

30 (1) Each beneficiary of the trust.

31 (2) Each settlor empowered to revoke or modify the trust.

32 (c) All money derived from the sale, conveyance, or other
 33 disposition of any ~~real~~ property shall be paid into the state treasury, but
 34 may be used for the purchase of other ~~real~~ property for armory
 35 purposes.

36 SECTION 31. IC 10-16-3-14, AS AMENDED BY P.L.38-2011,
 37 SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 38 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 14. (a) **Except as provided in subsection (c),** if
 39 the state armory board sells any real property, the value of the property
 40 shall be determined by **an appraiser** ~~three (3) disinterested appraisers~~
 41 appointed by the state armory board with the approval of the **adjutant**
 42 **general. governor.**

43 (b) Real property may not be sold for less than the appraised value
 44 of the real property **unless the sale is approved by the adjutant**
 45 **general.** If the real property cannot be sold at its appraised value, it
 46 may be reappraised.

47 **(c) If the adjutant general determines that the value of the real**
 48 **property is likely to be less than fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000),**
 49 **the appraisal described in subsection (a) is not required to sell the**
 50 **real property.**

1 **(d) The state armory board may transfer state real property to**
 2 **a person in exchange for property of like value that is transferred**
 3 **by the person to the state. The state armory board must establish**
 4 **that properties exchanged are of like value through appraisals or**
 5 **other means approved by the adjutant general.**

6 ~~(e)~~ **(e) Real property may not be sold or transferred unless:**

7 (1) ~~the governor~~ **adjutant general** approves the sale **or transfer;**

8 and

9 (2) the ~~attorney general~~ **state armory board's legal counsel**
 10 states in writing that all the conditions necessary to the legal and
 11 valid sale **or transfer** of the property have been fully complied
 12 with.

13 SECTION 32. IC 10-16-3-15, AS AMENDED BY P.L.9-2024,
 14 SECTION 316, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 15 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 15. (a) The purchaser of real
 16 property sold under this chapter or to whom real property is conveyed
 17 or otherwise disposed of under this chapter shall pay the purchase
 18 money as agreed upon ~~and certified by~~ **to** the state armory board ~~to the~~
 19 ~~treasurer of state~~ for the use and benefit of the state armory board. ~~The~~
 20 ~~purchaser shall take the receipt of the treasurer of state:~~

21 (b) The state ~~comptroller~~ **armory board** shall execute a deed of
 22 conveyance to the purchaser **or the exchanging party** after the
 23 purchaser **or the exchanging party presents a form that is legally**
 24 **sufficient to memorialize and consummate the transaction and that**
 25 **is suitable for recording in the county upon which the property is**
 26 **located. presents the following documents to the state comptroller:**

27 ~~(1) The receipt of the treasurer of state:~~

28 ~~(2) A certified resolution approved by the state armory board~~
 29 ~~setting forth the terms and conditions of the sale; conveyance; or~~
 30 ~~other disposition:~~

31 The deed of conveyance shall be signed by the ~~governor~~ **president of**
 32 **the state armory board** and officially attested by the ~~adjutant~~
 33 ~~general. state comptroller with the seal of the state:~~

34 SECTION 33. IC 10-16-3-16, AS AMENDED BY P.L.9-2024,
 35 SECTION 317, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 36 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 16. (a) The state armory board shall
 37 report annually of the proceedings incident to the location and
 38 management of the armories and a detailed account of disbursements.

39 (b) The report shall be filed ~~in the office of the state comptroller~~
 40 **with the state board of accounts** and a copy furnished to the adjutant
 41 general for publication in the annual report of the adjutant general's
 42 department.

43 SECTION 34. IC 10-16-3-17 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 44 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 17. The ~~adjutant~~
 45 ~~general's office state examiner; personally or through the deputy~~
 46 ~~examiners; field examiners; or private examiners;~~ shall make a full and
 47 complete examination and report of all transactions of all individuals,
 48 persons, trustees, boards, banks, firms, corporations, and others
 49 engaged in the acquisition of sites for and the construction of state
 50 armories, including examination of the following:

- 1 (1) The plans and specifications of armories.
- 2 (2) Construction work performed or being performed.
- 3 (3) The records of bonds issued and redeemed or proposed to be
- 4 issued.
- 5 (4) The records of all lease contracts for building or maintaining
- 6 armories.
- 7 (5) The records of receipts and earnings of all armories, except
- 8 those earnings and receipts arising from shows, benefits, and
- 9 other similar activities engaged in by members of the armories
- 10 and other volunteers for the use and benefit of the members.
- 11 (6) All money handled by the board or boards, by trustees of state
- 12 armories, by the state armory board or local armory boards, or by
- 13 the adjutant general, including all appropriations made for
- 14 armories by the general assembly.

15 ~~All powers conferred upon the state examiner, deputy examiner, field~~
 16 ~~examiner, private examiner, and the attorney general under IC 5-11-6~~
 17 ~~by petition are conferred upon these officers, examiners, and the~~
 18 ~~department without any petition. All the powers given these officers,~~
 19 ~~examiners, and the department under any other statute may be used for~~
 20 ~~the purpose of carrying out this chapter.~~

21 SECTION 35. IC 10-16-3-18 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 22 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 18. ~~(a)~~ The state
 23 **armory board examiner, with the approval of the governor,** may
 24 employ expert engineering and architectural services when necessary
 25 to assist the state **armory board examiner, deputy examiner, field**
 26 **examiners, or private examiners** in making inspections and
 27 examinations under this chapter.

28 ~~(b) The state examiner, with the approval of the governor, shall fix~~
 29 ~~and determine the amount to be paid for the expert service. Field~~
 30 ~~examiners of the state board of accounts, when employed in performing~~
 31 ~~the services provided for in this chapter, are entitled to receive the per~~
 32 ~~diem provided by IC 4-10-11-2 and IC 4-10-11-2.1 for field examiners~~
 33 ~~and all necessary expenses incurred in carrying out their duties as~~
 34 ~~provided for in this chapter.~~

35 SECTION 36. IC 10-16-6-5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 36 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) A person may not
 37 be commissioned as an officer of the Indiana national guard unless the
 38 person:

- 39 (1) is temperate and of good moral character; and
- 40 (2) has successfully passed tests as to physical, mental, and
- 41 professional fitness as may be prescribed by the laws and
- 42 regulations applicable to the federally recognized national guard.

43 (b) In the selection and appointment of commissioned officers,
 44 preference shall be given to:

- 45 (1) a person with prior active military service;
- 46 (2) an enlisted person;
- 47 (3) a member of the **army or** air national guard; and
- 48 (4) a graduate of a school teaching military science.

49 SECTION 37. IC 10-16-6-12, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,
 50 SECTION 21, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE

- 1 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 12. (a) A commissioned officer:
 2 (1) who serves in the Indiana national guard for at least five (5)
 3 years; or
 4 (2) who becomes permanently disabled from performing the
 5 officer's duties, irrespective of length of service;
 6 may, upon retirement from the military service under conditions other
 7 than conditions set forth in ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~, **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)**,
 8 whether by resignation or otherwise, and upon application to the
 9 adjutant general, be carried upon a roll to be established and
 10 maintained in the office of the adjutant general. The roll shall be
 11 designated the Indiana national guard retired list.
- 12 (b) The commissioned officer may wear, on occasion of ceremony,
 13 the uniform of the highest rank held by the officer.
- 14 (c) An officer carried on the Indiana national guard retired list, if
 15 qualified, is eligible for detail or appointment on the general staff or the
 16 staff of any commander when not physically disqualified for military
 17 duty. However, if an officer carried on the Indiana national guard
 18 retired list is appointed to a staff position as described in this section,
 19 the officer shall be recommissioned in the rank to which the officer has
 20 been appointed. The officer shall hold this rank during the time of the
 21 staff appointment unless the officer is promoted to a higher rank.
- 22 (d) If the officer retires for a second time from active service, the
 23 officer shall be entered on the Indiana national guard retired list with
 24 the officer's highest rank.
- 25 (e) An officer whose name appears on the national guard retired list
 26 is not entitled to receive any military pay or emolument from the state
 27 during the time the officer remains on the national guard retired list
 28 unless the officer is specifically assigned to duty on orders from the
 29 governor. If the officer is assigned to duty on orders from the governor,
 30 the officer is entitled only to the military pay and allowance provided
 31 by law for officers of the rank to which appointed.
- 32 SECTION 38. IC 10-16-18-1 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY
 33 1, 2026]. ~~Sec. 4. A contract may not be entered into by the adjutant
 34 general or the armory board that provides for the use of Stout Field,
 35 Indianapolis, for purposes of commercial flying by transportation
 36 companies.~~
- 37 SECTION 39. IC 10-16-21 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
 38 2026]. (Indiana Cyber Civilian Corps Program Advisory Board).
- 39 SECTION 40. IC 10-16-22 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
 40 AS A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 41 JULY 1, 2026]:
- 42 **Chapter 22. Indiana Civilian Cyber Corps Program**
- 43 **Sec. 1. (a) The Indiana civilian cyber corps program is**
 44 **established as a subdivision of the Indiana guard reserve organized**
 45 **and maintained under IC 10-16-8 with the primary mission of**
 46 **increasing cybersecurity awareness, capability, and capacity**
 47 **throughout Indiana. The secondary mission of the civilian cyber**
 48 **corps is to provide rapid response capabilities for cybersecurity**
 49 **clients that would otherwise be unable to appropriately:**
- 50 (1) respond to;
 51 (2) mitigate; or

1 (3) recover from;
2 a cybersecurity incident.

3 (b) The adjutant general shall administer the civilian cyber
4 corps program.

5 (c) The following state agencies shall designate a liaison to the
6 civilian cyber corps:

7 (1) The office of technology established by IC 4-13.1-2-1.

8 (2) The department of homeland security established by
9 IC 10-19-2-1.

10 (3) The state police department.

11 Sec. 2. (a) The adjutant general may invite and appoint an
12 individual who has expertise in addressing cybersecurity incidents
13 to serve as a civilian cyber corps volunteer or civilian cyber corps
14 adviser in a manner prescribed by the adjutant general.

15 (b) The adjutant general shall require an individual who accepts
16 an invitation to serve as a civilian cyber corps volunteer or civilian
17 cyber corps adviser under subsection (a) to submit to a criminal
18 history check.

19 Sec. 3. (a) A civilian cyber corps volunteer or civilian cyber
20 corps adviser is not an agent, employee, or independent contractor
21 of the state of Indiana for any purpose and has no authority to bind
22 the state of Indiana with regard to third parties.

23 (b) The state of Indiana is not liable to a civilian cyber corps
24 volunteer or civilian cyber corps adviser for personal injury or
25 property damage suffered by the civilian cyber corps volunteer or
26 civilian cyber corps adviser through participation in the civilian
27 cyber corps.

28 Sec. 4. (a) The adjutant general, the military department, and
29 the state of Indiana are immune from tort liability for acts or
30 omissions by a civilian cyber corps volunteer or civilian cyber
31 corps adviser as provided in this chapter.

32 (b) A civilian cyber corps volunteer or civilian cyber corps
33 adviser is subject to the same civil and criminal immunity
34 protections as a member of the Indiana National Guard under
35 IC 10-16-7-7(b) and IC 10-16-7-7(d) for any act done by the civilian
36 cyber corps volunteer or civilian cyber corps adviser in the
37 discharge of the civilian cyber corps volunteer's or civilian cyber
38 corps adviser's official duty under this chapter.

39 Sec. 5. The civilian cyber corps shall conduct:

40 (1) an annual meeting that meets at the call of the adjutant
41 general; and

42 (2) critical incident training or exercises at the call of the
43 adjutant general.

44 Sec. 6. (a) A cybersecurity client may request cybersecurity
45 training by the civilian cyber corps by submitting a request to the
46 civilian cyber corps in a manner prescribed by the adjutant
47 general.

48 (b) To initiate the deployment of a civilian cyber corps volunteer
49 to provide training to a cybersecurity client, the adjutant general
50 shall indicate in writing that the civilian cyber corps volunteer is
51 authorized to provide training to the cybersecurity client.

1 (c) The adjutant general may enter into a contract with a
2 cybersecurity client as a condition of providing training to the
3 cybersecurity client through the civilian cyber corps.

4 (d) Acceptance by a cybersecurity client of training from a
5 civilian cyber corps volunteer under this chapter must be made by
6 the cybersecurity client in writing.

7 (e) The adjutant general shall maintain a written document
8 initiating the deployment of a civilian cyber corps volunteer to
9 provide training to a cybersecurity client for:

10 (1) six (6) years after the end of the deployment; or

11 (2) the length of time required under the adjutant general's
12 record retention policies;

13 whichever is longer.

14 Sec. 7. (a) A cybersecurity client:

15 (1) shall notify the state police department upon the
16 occurrence of a cybersecurity incident before requesting
17 response capabilities of the civilian cyber corps; and

18 (2) may, upon recognition of a potential security vulnerability
19 that could lead to a cybersecurity incident, request the
20 adjutant general to deploy one (1) or more civilian cyber
21 corps volunteers to provide rapid response assistance to the
22 cybersecurity client.

23 (b) The adjutant general may, at the adjutant general's
24 discretion, initiate:

25 (1) the deployment of a civilian cyber corps volunteer; or

26 (2) the nondeployment of a civilian cyber corps adviser;

27 upon recognition of a potential security vulnerability that could
28 lead to a cybersecurity incident and at the request of the
29 cybersecurity client.

30 (c) To initiate the deployment of a civilian cyber corps volunteer
31 to provide assistance to a cybersecurity client, the adjutant general
32 shall indicate in writing that the civilian cyber corps volunteer is
33 authorized to provide assistance to the cybersecurity client. A
34 single written document may initiate the deployment of more than
35 one (1) civilian cyber corps volunteer.

36 (d) The adjutant general may enter into a contract with a
37 cybersecurity client as a condition of providing assistance to the
38 cybersecurity client through the civilian cyber corps.

39 (e) Acceptance by a cybersecurity client of assistance from a
40 civilian cyber corps volunteer under this chapter shall be made by
41 the cybersecurity client in writing.

42 (f) The adjutant general shall maintain a written document
43 initiating the deployment of a civilian cyber corps volunteer to
44 provide assistance to a cybersecurity client for:

45 (1) six (6) years after the end of the deployment; or

46 (2) the length of time required under the adjutant general's
47 record retention policies;

48 whichever is longer.

49 (g) At the discretion of the adjutant general, the deployment of
50 a civilian cyber corps volunteer may be extended in writing in the
51 same manner as the initial deployment.

1 **Sec. 8. (a) The adjutant general shall publish guidelines for the**
 2 **operation of the civilian cyber corps program. At a minimum, the**
 3 **published guidelines must include the following:**

4 **(1) An explanation of the standards the adjutant general will**
 5 **use to determine whether an individual may serve as a civilian**
 6 **cyber corps volunteer or civilian cyber corps adviser and an**
 7 **explanation of the process by which an individual may**
 8 **become a civilian cyber corps volunteer or civilian cyber**
 9 **corps adviser.**

10 **(2) An explanation of the requirements the adjutant general**
 11 **will impose when a cybersecurity client requests and receives**
 12 **the assistance of the civilian cyber corps.**

13 **(3) An explanation of the process by which the civilian cyber**
 14 **corps will select and prioritize cybersecurity clients**
 15 **requesting assistance.**

16 **(b) The adjutant general may provide, or contract for the**
 17 **provision of, appropriate training to members of the civilian cyber**
 18 **corps.**

19 **(c) The military department may provide compensation for**
 20 **actual and necessary travel and subsistence expenses incurred by**
 21 **a civilian cyber corps volunteer on a deployment.**

22 **(d) The adjutant general may establish a fee schedule for**
 23 **assistance provided by the civilian cyber corps.**

24 **Sec. 9. (a) Information that is voluntarily given to the civilian**
 25 **cyber corps or obtained under this chapter that would identify or**
 26 **provide as a means of identifying a person or cybersecurity client,**
 27 **and the disclosure of which may:**

28 **(1) cause the person or cybersecurity client to become a victim**
 29 **of a cybersecurity incident; or**

30 **(2) disclose a person's or cybersecurity client's cybersecurity**
 31 **plans or cybersecurity related practices, procedures, methods,**
 32 **results, organizational information system infrastructure,**
 33 **hardware, or software;**

34 **is confidential and exempt from disclosure under IC 5-14-3-4.**

35 **(b) The work product of a civilian cyber corps volunteer or**
 36 **civilian cyber corps adviser under this chapter is confidential and**
 37 **exempt from disclosure under IC 5-14-3-4.**

38 **SECTION 41. IC 10-16-23 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE**
 39 **AS A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE**
 40 **JULY 1, 2026]:**

41 **Chapter 23. Military Police Force of the Indiana National**
 42 **Guard**

43 **Sec. 1. The adjutant general may establish a military police**
 44 **force of the Indiana National Guard.**

45 **Sec. 2. (a) Before granting police powers to an individual**
 46 **appointed as a member of the military police force of the Indiana**
 47 **National Guard, the adjutant general shall validate that the**
 48 **individual has a current security clearance and has not been**
 49 **convicted of a felony.**

50 **(b) An individual appointed to serve in the military police force**
 51 **of the Indiana National Guard may not exercise police powers until**

1 the individual successfully completes either army or air military
2 police occupational training and receives qualifying instruction on
3 Indiana law enforcement prescribed by the adjutant general.

4 (c) An individual appointed to the military police force of the
5 Indiana National Guard shall take an appropriate oath of office in
6 the form and manner prescribed by the governor.

7 **Sec. 3. The governor may authorize the military police force of**
8 **the Indiana National Guard to exercise police powers throughout**
9 **Indiana, or in any part of Indiana prescribed by the governor, if**
10 **the governor orders the military police force of the Indiana**
11 **National Guard to state active duty under IC 10-16-7-7. The**
12 **governor shall provide reasonable notice to local law enforcement**
13 **agencies affected by the deployment of the military police force of**
14 **the Indiana National Guard and coordinate with local law**
15 **enforcement agencies as circumstances permit.**

16 **Sec. 4. Upon the governor's authorization under section 3 of this**
17 **chapter, the military police force of the Indiana National Guard**
18 **shall respond:**

19 (1) in accordance with the National Incident Management
20 System; and

21 (2) in coordination with the Indiana state police.

22 **Sec. 5. An individual serving in the military police force of the**
23 **Indiana National Guard who is authorized to exercise police**
24 **powers under section 3 of this chapter may:**

25 (1) make an arrest;

26 (2) conduct a search or seizure of a person or property;

27 (3) carry a firearm; and

28 (4) exercise other police powers with respect to the
29 enforcement of Indiana laws.

30 SECTION 42. IC 10-17-1-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,
31 SECTION 23, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
32 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. (a) Subject to subsection (h), a county executive
33 shall employ a service officer and may employ service officer assistants
34 to serve the veterans of the county. However, with the approval of the
35 commission, two (2) or more counties may enter into an agreement to
36 employ a service officer if each county demonstrates to the commission
37 that the workload does not justify each county employing a separate
38 county service officer.

39 (b) Subject to subsection (h), the mayor of a city may employ a
40 service officer and may employ service officer assistants to serve the
41 veterans of the city.

42 (c) The service officer shall:

43 (1) be:

44 (A) a veteran who received a discharge from military service
45 under conditions other than conditions set forth in
46 ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~ IC 10-17-12-8.1(2) and who has at least
47 six (6) months of active service in the armed forces of the
48 United States; or

49 (B) a service officer assistant with not less than two (2) years
50 of experience; and

51 (2) be a resident of Indiana or become a resident of Indiana not

- 1 more than six (6) months after the service officer's start date.
- 2 (d) A service officer assistant must be a resident of Indiana or
3 become a resident of Indiana not later than six (6) months after the
4 service officer assistant's start date and:
- 5 (1) satisfy the requirements specified in subsection (c)(1); or
6 (2) be the spouse, surviving spouse, parent, or child of a person
7 who satisfies the requirements specified in subsection (c)(1).
- 8 (e) A rule contrary to subsection (c) or (d) is void.
- 9 (f) County and city fiscal bodies may appropriate funds necessary
10 for the purposes described in this section.
- 11 (g) Every county or city official and department of the county or city
12 shall cooperate with the service officer and shall provide the service
13 officer with information necessary in connection with the performance
14 of the service officer's duties. Nothing in this subsection shall be
15 construed to require a county or city to share information that is
16 otherwise considered confidential in accordance with law.
- 17 (h) After June 30, 2026, a service officer must be accredited by the
18 department in order to provide service to veterans on behalf of the
19 county or city.
- 20 SECTION 43. IC 10-17-1-11, AS AMENDED BY P.L.61-2023,
21 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
22 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 11. (a) The following employees of the Indiana
23 department of veterans' affairs must satisfy the requirements set forth
24 in section 5(a) of this chapter:
- 25 (1) State service officers.
26 (2) Director of the state approving agency.
27 (3) Director of the Indiana state veterans' cemetery established by
28 IC 10-17-11-4.
- 29 (b) An employee of the Indiana department of veterans' affairs not
30 described in subsection (a) must **be an Indiana resident who:**
- 31 (1) ~~satisfy~~; **received an honorable discharge from the armed**
32 **forces of the United States or the national guard (as defined**
33 **in IC 5-9-4-4); or**
- 34 (2) ~~be is~~ the spouse, surviving spouse, parent, or child of a person
35 who satisfies the requirements set forth in ~~section 5(a) of this~~
36 ~~chapter.~~ **subdivision (1).**
- 37 SECTION 44. IC 10-17-9-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,
38 SECTION 26, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
39 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. The superintendent may not appoint or employ
40 a person in an office or a place in the Indiana Veterans' Home because
41 of the political views or affiliation of the appointee or employee or for
42 a reason other than capacity and fitness for the duties to be performed
43 by the appointee or employee. However, among applicants for
44 appointment found capable and fit, preference shall be given to a
45 military veteran who received a discharge from military service under
46 conditions other than conditions set forth in ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~
47 **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)**, and the spouse, widow, widower, mother, and
48 child of a military veteran who received a discharge from military
49 service under conditions other than conditions set forth in
50 ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2).~~ **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2).**

1 SECTION 45. IC 10-17-9-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,
 2 SECTION 27, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 3 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) As used in this section, "eligible person"
 4 refers to either of the following:

5 (1) A member of the uniformed services who was discharged
 6 from the uniformed services under conditions other than
 7 conditions set forth in ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~. **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)**.

8 (2) The spouse or surviving spouse of a member of the uniformed
 9 services who was discharged from the uniformed services under
 10 conditions other than conditions set forth in ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~.
 11 **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)**.

12 (b) An eligible person who has a disability is eligible for admission
 13 to the home if:

14 (1) the eligible person is a resident of Indiana or establishes
 15 residency in Indiana not later than six (6) months after admission
 16 to the home; or

17 (2) in the case of an eligible person referred to in subsection
 18 (a)(1), the eligible person was a resident of Indiana when the
 19 eligible person enlisted in the uniformed services.

20 (c) The Indiana department of veterans' affairs shall adopt rules
 21 concerning admission to the home.

22 (d) In adopting rules governing the admission, maintenance, and
 23 discharge of members of the home, the Indiana department of veterans'
 24 affairs may establish a fund called the veterans' home comfort and
 25 welfare fund. The director shall deposit all money collected from the
 26 members for the cost of their care and maintenance in the fund. The
 27 director shall expend this money in any manner that adds to the comfort
 28 and welfare of the members of the institutions.

29 (e) A part of the veterans' home comfort and welfare fund may be
 30 withdrawn and deposited in a special fund called the veterans' home
 31 building fund. The veterans' home building fund shall be used for the
 32 construction, maintenance, remodeling, or repair of buildings of the
 33 home.

34 (f) Preference under this section may be given to a person who
 35 served in an Indiana military organization. Except in cases where the
 36 surviving spouse of a veteran marries another veteran, the benefits of
 37 this chapter extend only to a surviving spouse and the spouse of a
 38 veteran if the contract of marriage was entered into more than five (5)
 39 years before the date of death of the veteran. Except as otherwise
 40 provided by law, upon the death of a person in the home, money paid
 41 to the person or due to the person from a bank, a trust company, a
 42 corporation, or an individual becomes an asset of the person's estate
 43 and shall be distributed in the manner prescribed by the probate law of
 44 the state.

45 SECTION 46. IC 10-17-10-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,
 46 SECTION 29, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 47 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. (a) In order for an interested person to qualify
 48 for an allowance under this chapter:

49 (1) the decedent must have been an Indiana resident at the time of
 50 death and must have:

- 1 (A) received a discharge from the armed forces of the United
 2 States under conditions other than conditions set forth in
 3 ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~; **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)**; or
 4 (B) died while serving in the armed forces of the United
 5 States; or
 6 (2) the decedent must have been the spouse or surviving spouse
 7 of a person described in subdivision (1)(A) or (1)(B) and must
 8 have been an Indiana resident at the time of death.
 9 (b) An interested person must file a claim for an allowance under
 10 this chapter with the board of commissioners in the county of residence
 11 of the decedent described in subsection (a). The claim must include:
 12 (1) the fact of the service, death, and discharge if discharged from
 13 service before death; and
 14 (2) that the body has been buried in a decent and respectable
 15 manner in a cemetery or burial ground or that the body has been
 16 cremated and the remains have not been interred.
 17 (c) The board of commissioners shall hear and determine the claim
 18 like other claims and, if the facts averred are found to be true, shall
 19 allow the claim in an amount set by ordinance. However, the amount
 20 of the allowance may not be more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000).
 21 SECTION 47. IC 10-17-12-0.7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.61-2023,
 22 SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 23 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 0.7. The purpose of the fund established in section
 24 8 of this chapter is to provide short term financial assistance to ~~families~~
 25 ~~of qualified service members.~~ **qualifying applicants for housing,**
 26 **utilities, medical services, basic transportation, child care,**
 27 **education, employment, food, and other essential family support**
 28 **expenses that qualifying applicants are not otherwise able to**
 29 **afford.**
 30 SECTION 48. IC 10-17-12-7.5 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY
 31 1, 2026]. ~~Sec. 7.5: As used in this chapter, "qualified service member"~~
 32 ~~means an individual who is an Indiana resident and who:~~
 33 ~~(1) is serving on active duty in:~~
 34 ~~(A) the armed forces of the United States; or~~
 35 ~~(B) the national guard (as defined in IC 5-9-4-4); or~~
 36 ~~(2) has served in or been discharged from the armed forces of the~~
 37 ~~United States or the national guard under conditions other than~~
 38 ~~the following:~~
 39 ~~(A) Discharge by court martial;~~
 40 ~~(B) Acceptance of a discharge to avoid a court martial;~~
 41 ~~(C) Discharge for having committed any of the following:~~
 42 ~~(i) An offense against the security of the United States;~~
 43 ~~including spying, mutiny, or treason;~~
 44 ~~(ii) An act of willful or persistent misconduct, including~~
 45 ~~desertion;~~
 46 ~~(iii) A sexual or violent offense against another person;~~
 47 ~~including molestation, rape, or assault;~~
 48 ~~(iv) An act described on the list of disallowable separation~~
 49 ~~codes adopted under section 10.5 of this chapter.~~
 50 SECTION 49. IC 10-17-12-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.42-2020,

1 SECTION 13, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
2 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) The military family relief fund is
3 established. to provide short term assistance with food, housing,
4 utilities, medical services, basic transportation, child care, education,
5 employment or workforce, and other essential family support expenses
6 that have become difficult to afford for qualified service members or
7 dependents of qualified service members.

8 (b) Except as provided in section 9 of this chapter, the department
9 shall expend the money in the fund exclusively to provide grants for
10 assistance as described in ~~subsection (a)~~. **section 0.7 of this chapter.**

11 (c) The department shall give priority to applications for grants for
12 assistance from the fund to ~~qualified service members or dependents~~
13 ~~of qualified service members~~ **applicants** who have never received a
14 grant under this chapter.

15 (d) Subject to the approval of the budget agency, the commission
16 shall establish the maximum total dollar amount of grants that may be
17 expended in a state fiscal year. Once the maximum total dollar amount
18 of grants that may be expended in a state fiscal year is reached, no
19 additional grants may be authorized until the start of the following state
20 fiscal year.

21 (e) The director shall each year provide a report to the budget
22 committee concerning the grant program under this chapter.

23 ~~(f) A qualified service member or the qualified service member's~~
24 ~~dependent may be eligible to receive assistance from the fund:~~

25 ~~(g)~~ **(f)** The commission shall administer the fund.

26 **(g) The department shall report to the commission, at least**
27 **quarterly, on the status of all applications filed during the previous**
28 **quarter.**

29 SECTION 50. IC 10-17-12-8.1 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
30 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
31 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 8.1. To be eligible for a grant**
32 **from the fund, an applicant must be an Indiana resident who meets**
33 **at least one (1) of the following conditions:**

34 **(1) Is serving in:**

35 **(A) the armed forces of the United States; or**

36 **(B) the national guard (as defined in IC 5-9-4-4).**

37 **(2) Has served in or been discharged from the armed forces of**
38 **the United States or the national guard under conditions other**
39 **than the following:**

40 **(A) Discharge by court martial.**

41 **(B) Acceptance of a discharge to avoid a court martial.**

42 **(C) Discharge for having committed any of the following:**

43 **(i) An offense against the security of the United States,**
44 **including spying, mutiny, or treason.**

45 **(ii) An act of willful or persistent misconduct, including**
46 **desertion.**

47 **(iii) A sexual or violent offense against another person,**
48 **including molestation, rape, or assault.**

49 **(iv) An act described on the list of disallowable**
50 **separation codes adopted under section 10.5 of this**
51 **chapter.**

1 **(3) Is the dependent of an individual described in subdivision**
 2 **(1) or (2).**

3 SECTION 51. IC 10-17-12-8.3 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
 4 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 5 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 8.3. (a) The department shall**
 6 **make a comprehensive assessment of an applicant's financial**
 7 **condition and needs when making a determination regarding an**
 8 **award from the fund.**

9 **(b) The department shall use the most recently available poverty**
 10 **guidelines set forth by the United States Department of Health and**
 11 **Human Services in the evaluation of an applicant's financial**
 12 **eligibility.**

13 **(c) The applicant's federal gross income or combined federal**
 14 **gross income of the applicant and the applicant's spouse shall be**
 15 **calculated at the time of the application and be based on the two (2)**
 16 **most recent consecutive pay stubs. The department shall use this**
 17 **calculation to annualize the applicant's and the applicant's spouse's**
 18 **federal gross income.**

19 **(d) An applicant may not be eligible for assistance from the fund**
 20 **if the applicant's federal gross income, or the combined federal**
 21 **gross income of the applicant and the applicant's spouse, exceeds**
 22 **two (2) times the poverty guideline unless the commission approves**
 23 **an income waiver under subsection (e).**

24 **(e) The commission may waive the income threshold if the**
 25 **applicant requests a waiver in writing to the commission. The**
 26 **applicant must provide a statement letter and supporting**
 27 **documentation setting forth the reasons why a waiver should be**
 28 **granted.**

29 **(f) The department shall consider other income or assets**
 30 **available to the applicant and the applicant's spouse and determine**
 31 **a threshold concerning the allowable amount of available assets.**
 32 **The asset limits shall be posted on the department's website.**

33 SECTION 52. IC 10-17-12-8.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
 34 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 35 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 8.5. (a) An applicant must**
 36 **establish that the applicant has incurred a genuine hardship to be**
 37 **eligible to receive assistance from the fund. The hardship incurred**
 38 **by the applicant must:**

39 **(1) directly impact the applicant's most central and basic**
 40 **living needs; and**

41 **(2) not be a consequence of the applicant's own actions or**
 42 **choices, including discretionary expenditures on nonessential**
 43 **goods or services.**

44 **(b) The department shall not make an award from the fund to**
 45 **cover luxury, entertainment, recreational, or other nonessential**
 46 **expenses.**

47 SECTION 53. IC 10-17-12-8.8 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
 48 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 49 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 8.8. (a) The department or**
 50 **commission may impose stipulations or conditions concerning an**
 51 **applicant seeking an award from the fund.**

1 **(b) If an applicant fails to satisfy any of the stipulations or**
 2 **conditions set forth by the department or commission, all**
 3 **applications submitted by the applicant shall be denied until the**
 4 **stipulation or condition is satisfactorily completed.**

5 **(c) The stipulations or conditions may include:**

6 **(1) meaningful engagement with the department of workforce**
 7 **development established by IC 22-4.1-2-1;**

8 **(2) completion of a financial education course provided by the**
 9 **department; or**

10 **(3) providing receipts from previous awards from the fund**
 11 **that evidence the award was used in accordance with the**
 12 **conditions or stipulations of the previous awards.**

13 **(d) If the department determines that the applicant made a**
 14 **material misrepresentation during the application process, the**
 15 **application shall be denied. Any future application submitted by**
 16 **the applicant shall be reviewed by the commission.**

17 SECTION 54. IC 10-17-12-10, AS AMENDED BY P.L.53-2021,
 18 SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 19 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) The commission shall adopt rules under
 20 IC 4-22-2 for the provision of grants under this chapter. Subject to
 21 subsection (b), the rules adopted under this section must address the
 22 following:

23 ~~(1) Uniform need determination procedures.~~

24 ~~(2) (1) Eligibility criteria, including income eligibility standards,~~
 25 ~~asset limit eligibility standards, and other standards concerning~~
 26 ~~when assistance may be provided.~~

27 ~~(3) (2) Application procedures.~~

28 ~~(4) Selection procedures.~~

29 ~~(5) (3) A consideration of the extent to which an individual has~~
 30 ~~used assistance available from other assistance programs before~~
 31 ~~assistance may be provided to the individual from the fund.~~

32 ~~(6) (4) Other areas in which the commission determines that rules~~
 33 ~~are necessary to ensure the uniform administration of the grant~~
 34 ~~program under this chapter.~~

35 (b) The following apply to grants awarded under this chapter:

36 ~~(1) The income eligibility standards must be based on the federal~~
 37 ~~gross income of the qualified service member and the qualified~~
 38 ~~service member's spouse.~~

39 ~~(2) An employee of the department who is otherwise eligible for~~
 40 ~~a grant from the fund must submit the employee's application~~
 41 ~~directly to the commission for review. The department shall have~~
 42 ~~no influence in any part of the employee's application.~~

43 ~~(3) (1) The maximum amount a qualified service member an~~
 44 ~~individual may receive from the fund is two thousand five~~
 45 ~~hundred dollars (\$2,500), unless a higher amount is approved by~~
 46 ~~the commission.~~

47 ~~(4) (2) The commission may consider the following in its analysis~~
 48 ~~of the applicant's request for assistance in excess of two thousand~~
 49 ~~five hundred dollars (\$2,500):~~

50 ~~(A) The department's eligibility determination of the applicant.~~

51 ~~(B) Facts considered in the department's need determination.~~

1 review and award under ~~915 IAC 3-6-3 and 915 IAC 3-6-5.~~

2 (C) The circumstances surrounding the applicant's hardship,
3 if applicable.

4 (D) Any substantive changes in the applicant's financial
5 situation after the original application was submitted.

6 (E) Facts that may have been unknown or unavailable at the
7 time of the applicant's original application for assistance.

8 (F) Other compelling circumstances that may justify assistance
9 in excess of the two thousand five hundred dollar (\$2,500)
10 threshold.

11 **(3) An employee of the department who is otherwise eligible
12 for a grant from the fund must submit the employee's
13 application directly to the commission for review. The
14 department shall have no influence in any part of the
15 employee's application.**

16 ~~(5)~~ **(4)** The commission shall approve or deny within sixty (60)
17 days an application for a grant filed with the commission after
18 June 30, 2019, by an employee of the department. The
19 commission shall return an incomplete application with a notation
20 as to omissions. The return of an incomplete application shall be
21 without prejudice.

22 **(5) The department may engage with the applicant's identified
23 vendor to verify debts or estimates and effectuate payment
24 directly to the vendor.**

25 SECTION 55. IC 10-17-12-12, AS AMENDED BY THE
26 TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS BILL OF THE 2026 GENERAL
27 ASSEMBLY, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
28 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 12. The director shall establish the capability to
29 receive donations to the fund from the public on the department's
30 ~~Internet site.~~ **website.**

31 SECTION 56. IC 10-17-12-14, AS ADDED BY P.L.132-2019,
32 SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
33 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 14. **(a)** Except as provided in section 15 of this
34 chapter, the department shall approve or deny an application for a grant
35 filed with the department ~~after June 30, 2019;~~ within sixty (60) days.

36 **(b) The department shall notify the applicant by mail or
37 electronic mail within seven (7) days after a determination is made
38 concerning the applicant's application.**

39 SECTION 57. IC 10-17-12-16 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
40 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
41 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 16. (a) An applicant whose
42 request for short term financial assistance from the fund is denied
43 may appeal the determination by submitting an appeal letter to the
44 department.**

45 **(b) An applicant has thirty (30) days from the date of the
46 postmark of the determination letter to appeal the decision.**

47 **(c) The appeal shall be conducted in accordance with
48 IC 4-21.5-3.**

49 SECTION 58. IC 10-17-13-10, AS AMENDED BY P.L.7-2014,
50 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
51 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) The commission shall manage and develop

1 the fund and the assets of the fund.

2 (b) The commission shall do the following:

3 (1) Carry out the duties of the commission set forth in IC 10-17-1.

4 (2) Establish written guidelines that specify the criteria for
5 determining priority of applications for the purpose of providing
6 financial assistance to ~~qualified service members or dependents~~
7 ~~of qualified service members~~ **applicants** as described under
8 IC 10-17-12-8(c).

9 (3) Establish a policy to determine annually the maximum total
10 dollar amount that may be expended for each state fiscal year
11 from the military family relief fund established by IC 10-17-12-8.

12 (4) Establish a policy for the investment of the assets of the fund.
13 In establishing a policy under this subdivision, the commission
14 shall:

15 (A) establish adequate long term financial goals for the fund;
16 and

17 (B) provide adequate funding for the military family relief
18 fund established by IC 10-17-12-8.

19 (5) Acquire money for the fund through the solicitation of private
20 or public donations and other revenue producing activities.

21 (6) Perform other tasks consistent with prudent management and
22 development of the fund.

23 SECTION 59. IC 10-17-13.5-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,
24 SECTION 36, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
25 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "veteran" means an
26 individual residing in Indiana who:

27 (1) has served in any branch of the armed forces of the United
28 States or their reserves, in the national guard, or in the Indiana
29 National Guard; and

30 (2) received a discharge from military service under conditions
31 other than conditions set forth in ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~;

32 **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2).**

33 SECTION 60. IC 10-18-1-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.149-2016,
34 SECTION 39, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
35 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) The Indiana war memorials commission is
36 established.

37 (b) The commission consists of nine (9) members. Each Indiana
38 congressional district must be represented by at least one (1) member
39 who is:

40 (1) a resident of that congressional district;

41 (2) a veteran of service in the armed forces of the United States of
42 America in time of war;

43 (3) a citizen of Indiana at the time of the service; and

44 (4) appointed:

45 (A) in the manner;

46 (B) for the terms;

47 (C) to have the powers; and

48 (D) to perform the duties;

49 as provided in this chapter.

50 (c) The commission:

- 1 (1) as the commission and in the commission's name, may
 2 prosecute and defend suits; and
 3 (2) has all other duties, rights, and powers that are:
 4 (A) necessary to implement this chapter; and
 5 (B) not inconsistent with this chapter.
- 6 (d) The members of the commission are not liable in their individual
 7 capacity, except to the state, for any act done or omitted in connection
 8 with the performance of their duties under this chapter.
- 9 (e) A suit against the commission must be brought in a court with
 10 jurisdiction in Marion County. Notice or summons of the suit shall be
 11 served upon the president, vice president, or secretary of the
 12 commission. In a suit against the commission, it is not necessary to
 13 name the individual members of the commission as either plaintiff or
 14 defendant. Commission members may sue and be sued in the name of
 15 the Indiana war memorials commission.
- 16 (f) The commission shall
 17 ~~(1) report to the governor in a manner prescribed by the~~
 18 ~~governor, through the adjutant general; and~~
 19 ~~(2) be under the adjutant general for administrative supervision.~~
- 20 SECTION 61. IC 11-12-5-5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 21 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) This section does
 22 not apply to a person confined to a county jail who:
 23 (1) maintains a policy of insurance from a private company
 24 covering:
 25 (A) medical care;
 26 (B) dental care;
 27 (C) eye care; or
 28 (D) any other health care related service; or
 29 (2) is willing to pay for the person's own medical care.
- 30 (b) Except as provided in subsection (c), a person confined to a
 31 county jail may be required to make a copayment in an amount of not
 32 more than ~~fifteen dollars (\$15)~~ **thirty dollars (\$30)** for each provision
 33 of any of the following services:
 34 (1) Medical care.
 35 (2) Dental care.
 36 (3) Eye care.
 37 (4) Any other health care related service.
- 38 (c) A person confined to a county jail is not required to make the
 39 copayment under subsection (b) if:
 40 (1) the person does not have funds in the person's commissary
 41 account or trust account at the time the service is provided;
 42 (2) the person does not have funds in the person's commissary
 43 account or trust account within ~~sixty (60) days~~ **one hundred**
 44 **eighty (180) days** after the service is provided;
 45 (3) the service is provided in an emergency;
 46 (4) the service is provided as a result of an injury received in the
 47 county jail; or
 48 (5) the service is provided at the request of the sheriff or jail
 49 administrator.
- 50 (d) Money collected must be deposited into the county medical care

1 for inmates fund.

2 (e) Rules for the implementation of this section must be approved
3 by the county legislative body.

4 SECTION 62. IC 14-15-2-4 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
5 2026]. Sec. 4. (a) This section does not apply to a motorboat competing
6 in and during a motorboat race for which a permit has been issued by
7 the department:

8 (b) A person may not operate a motorboat on Indiana water unless
9 the boat motor is equipped with:

- 10 (1) a muffler;
- 11 (2) an underwater exhaust; or
- 12 (3) other device;

13 that muffles or suppresses the sound of the exhaust.

14 SECTION 63. IC 14-15-2-5 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
15 2026]. Sec. 5. (a) This section does not apply to a motorboat competing
16 in and during a motorboat race for which a permit has been issued by
17 the department:

18 (b) A person may not operate a motorboat on Indiana water if the
19 boat motor is equipped with any of the following:

- 20 (1) A muffler cutout.
- 21 (2) A bypass.
- 22 (3) Any device similar to a muffler cutout or bypass.

23 SECTION 64. IC 14-15-2-13 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
24 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 13. (a) **Except as
25 provided in subsection (c), this section applies to sailing vessels at
26 least seven (7) meters in length. the following:**

- 27 (1) Nonpowered boats including canoes and kayaks.
- 28 (2) Sailboats not more than twenty-two (22) feet in length under
29 sail alone.
- 30 (3) Boats powered only by electric motor on lakes restricted to
31 propulsion solely by oars, paddles, or electric motors.
- 32 (4) Any boat using an electric motor for positioning purposes
33 only.

34 (b) A boat sailing vessel described under subsection (a) must be
35 equipped with **lights as required by 33 CFR 83.25.** a hand portable
36 lantern or flashlight not affixed or attached to any part of the boat and
37 capable of throwing a white light visible for a distance of at least two
38 (2) miles. The operator of the boat shall display the same or the white
39 light aft, if available, in sufficient time to avoid a collision with any
40 other boat that is being operated in accordance with this article.

41 (c) A sailing vessel:

- 42 (1) less than seven (7) meters in length; or
- 43 (2) powered by oars;

44 **may be equipped with lights as permitted under 33 CFR 83.25.**

45 SECTION 65. IC 14-15-2-13.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
46 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
47 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 13.5. **As required by the United
48 States Coast Guard under 46 U.S.C. 4312, a vessel must be
49 equipped with an engine cut-off switch.**

50 SECTION 66. IC 14-15-3-14, AS AMENDED BY P.L.69-2009,

1 SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
2 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 14. A person operating a boat shall observe the
3 following all traffic rules under 33 CFR 83, if applicable. when
4 applicable:

5 (1) When two (2) boats are approaching each other "head and
6 head"; or nearly so; each boat shall bear to the right and pass the
7 other boat on the boat's left side.

8 (2) When two (2) boats are approaching each other obliquely or
9 at right angles; the boat on the right has the right-of-way.
10 However, when:

11 (A) one (1) boat is under sail or is nonmotorized; the sailboat
12 or nonmotorized boat has the right-of-way; and

13 (B) two (2) boats are under sail or are nonmotorized; the boat
14 on the right has the right-of-way.

15 (3) A boat operated on a river or a channel shall bear to the right.

16 (4) A boat may overtake and pass another boat on either side if
17 the passing can be done with safety and within the assured clear
18 distance ahead; but the boat overtaken has the right-of-way.

19 (5) A boat leaving a dock; a pier; a wharf; or the shore has the
20 right-of-way over all boats approaching the dock; pier; wharf; or
21 shore.

22 SECTION 67. IC 14-15-2-15, AS AMENDED BY P.L.127-2022,
23 SECTION 21, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
24 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 15. (a) A person who violates section 1, 2, 3, 4, 5,
25 6, 7(b), 9, 10, or 13 of this chapter commits a Class C infraction.

26 (b) A person who violates section 7(c) or 8 of this chapter commits
27 a Class A infraction. Notwithstanding IC 34-28-5-4(a), a judgment of
28 at least one thousand dollars (\$1,000) shall be imposed for each Class
29 A infraction committed in violation of section 7(c) or 8 of this chapter.

30 SECTION 68. IC 16-33-4-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,
31 SECTION 52, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
32 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), the
33 superintendent of the home shall be appointed in the manner prescribed
34 by law and must meet all of the following conditions:

35 (1) Be a teacher licensed by the state or have at least a
36 baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university in
37 a field related to education or child growth and development.

38 (2) Have experience working with children.

39 (3) At the time of appointment, be a resident and citizen of
40 Indiana.

41 (4) Have other qualifications as required by the state health
42 commissioner.

43 (b) When at least two (2) candidates meet the conditions listed in
44 subsection (a), the state health commissioner shall give preference to
45 individuals who have been discharged from the armed forces of the
46 United States under conditions other than conditions set forth in
47 ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~ IC 10-17-12-8.1(2) in appointing a candidate to the
48 position of superintendent of the home.

49 SECTION 69. IC 20-20-7-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,
50 SECTION 54, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE

1 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "eligible veteran" refers
2 to an individual who has the following qualifications:

3 (1) Served as a member of the armed forces of the United States
4 at any time during at least one (1) of the following periods:

5 (A) Beginning April 6, 1917, and ending November 11, 1918
6 (World War I).

7 (B) Beginning December 7, 1941, and ending December 31,
8 1946 (World War II).

9 (C) Beginning June 27, 1950, and ending January 31, 1955
10 (Korean Conflict).

11 (D) Beginning August 5, 1964, and ending May 7, 1975
12 (Vietnam Conflict).

13 (2) Before the military service described in subdivision (1):

14 (A) attended a public or nonpublic high school in Indiana; and

15 (B) was a student in good standing at the high school
16 described in clause (A), to the satisfaction of the department
17 of veterans' affairs.

18 (3) Did not graduate or receive a diploma because of leaving the
19 high school described in subdivision (2) for the military service
20 described in subdivision (1).

21 (4) Was discharged from the armed forces of the United States
22 under conditions other than conditions set forth in
23 ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~. **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)**.

24 SECTION 70. IC 20-20-7-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,
25 SECTION 55, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
26 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) The department and the department of
27 veterans' affairs shall jointly design a form for the application for
28 issuance of a diploma under the program.

29 (b) The application form must require at least the following
30 information about an eligible veteran:

31 (1) Personal identification information.

32 (2) Military service information, including a copy of the eligible
33 veteran's discharge from military service under conditions other
34 than conditions set forth in ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~.
35 **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)**.

36 (3) High school information, including the following:

37 (A) Name and address, including county, of the last high
38 school attended.

39 (B) Whether the high school was a public or nonpublic school.

40 (C) Years attended.

41 (D) Year of leaving high school to begin military service.

42 (E) Year in which the veteran would have graduated if the
43 veteran had not left high school to begin military service.

44 (4) If the high school attended was a public school, whether the
45 veteran prefers receiving a diploma issued by:

46 (A) the state board; or

47 (B) the governing body of the school corporation governing
48 the high school.

49 SECTION 71. IC 21-12-13-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.11-2023,
50 SECTION 71, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE

1 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) This section applies to the following
2 scholarship and fee remission statutes:

3 (1) IC 21-12-3.

4 (2) IC 21-12-4.

5 (3) IC 21-12-6.

6 (4) IC 21-13-2.

7 (5) IC 21-13-7.

8 (6) IC 21-13-8.

9 (7) IC 21-13-4.

10 (8) IC 21-14-5.

11 (9) IC 21-12-16.

12 (b) **This subsection does not apply to a grant or reduction in fees**
13 **under IC 21-13-4.** Except as provided in subsection ~~(e)~~, **(d)**, and
14 except for a scholarship granted under IC 21-13-8 to an individual
15 described in IC 21-13-8-1(b)(2)(B), a grant or reduction in tuition or
16 fees, including all renewals and extensions, under any of the laws listed
17 in subsection (a) may not exceed the number of terms that constitutes

18 ~~(1) except as provided in subdivision (2);~~ four (4) undergraduate
19 academic years, as determined by the commission, ~~or~~

20 ~~(2) for purposes of IC 21-13-4, six (6) academic years as~~
21 ~~determined by the commission;~~

22 and must be used within eight (8) years after the date the individual
23 first applies and becomes eligible for benefits under the applicable law.

24 **(c) A grant or reduction in tuition or fees, including all renewals**
25 **and extensions, under IC 21-13-4 may not exceed the number of**
26 **terms that constitutes six (6) academic years as determined by the**
27 **commission.**

28 ~~(e)~~ **(d)** The commission may, subject to the availability of funds,
29 extend eligibility under subsection (b) for a recipient who used a grant
30 or reduction in tuition or fees under any of the statutes listed in
31 subsection (a) at a postsecondary educational institution that closed.
32 The extension of eligibility may not exceed the number of terms used
33 by the recipient at the postsecondary educational institution that closed.

34 SECTION 72. IC 22-4.1-4-3.3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,
35 SECTION 61, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
36 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3.3. (a) As used in this section, "veteran" means:

37 (1) a Hoosier veteran (as defined in IC 1-1-4-5(b)); or

38 (2) an individual who satisfies the following:

39 (A) The individual is a resident of Indiana.

40 (B) The individual has previously served ~~on active duty~~ in any
41 branch of the armed forces of the United States or their
42 reserves, in the National Guard, or in the Indiana National
43 Guard.

44 (C) The individual received a discharge from service under
45 conditions other than conditions set forth in
46 ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2).~~ **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2).**

47 (b) Unless otherwise provided by federal law, the department shall
48 give a veteran or the spouse of a veteran priority for placement in any
49 federal or state employment or training program administered by the
50 department if the veteran or the veteran's spouse:

- 1 (1) submits documentation satisfactory to the department
 2 establishing the veteran's honorable discharge from service; and
 3 (2) meets the eligibility requirements for the program.

4 SECTION 73. IC 25-8-12.1-12, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,
 5 SECTION 75, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 6 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 12. A person who:

- 7 (1) enters active military service of the United States or of this
 8 state:
 9 (A) in time of war or an emergency;
 10 (B) for or during a period of training; or
 11 (C) in connection with or under the operation of a system of
 12 selective service; and

13 (2) at the time of entry holds a valid license as a registered barber;
 14 shall be granted a similar certificate of registration or license upon
 15 presenting to the board a discharge from military service under
 16 conditions other than conditions set forth in ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~;
 17 **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)**, dated not more than six (6) months before the time
 18 of the presentation. The similar certificate or license shall be granted
 19 by the board upon payment of a fee established by the board.

20 SECTION 74. IC 25-10-1-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,
 21 SECTION 76, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 22 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. Any applicant for a license to practice
 23 chiropractic who is a graduate of a legally incorporated chiropractic
 24 school, institution or college, and who can produce satisfactory
 25 evidence to the board that the:

- 26 (1) applicant's chiropractic education was interrupted by reason
 27 of the applicant's induction or enlistment into the active armed
 28 forces of the United States; and
 29 (2) applicant received a discharge from the armed forces under
 30 conditions other than conditions set forth in ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~;
 31 **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)**;

32 is entitled to have the applicant's date of graduation determined as if
 33 the applicant had completed the applicant's course of study in
 34 chiropractic without the interruption.

35 SECTION 75. IC 25-25-2-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,
 36 SECTION 77, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 37 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. (a) This section applies to:

- 38 (1) any veteran described in IC 10-17-5-2 or IC 10-17-5-1 (before
 39 their repeal); or
 40 (2) any other veteran to whom this chapter applies because of the
 41 provisions of any other statute;

42 who received a discharge from military service under conditions other
 43 than conditions set forth in ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~ **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)**
 44 from such service issued by the proper authorities. Such a person shall
 45 be entitled to a license to vend, hawk, and peddle goods, wares, fruits,
 46 and merchandise in any county, city, or town in Indiana without the
 47 payment of any fee for the license. Upon the presentation of the
 48 person's certificate and papers of discharge, properly executed, to the
 49 auditor of any county and proving the person's identity as the person
 50 named in the person's certificate of discharge, the auditor shall issue to

1 the former soldier or sailor a free license to vend, hawk, and peddle
 2 goods, wares, fruits, and merchandise in the county and in all cities and
 3 towns in the county. A fee may not be charged to the holder of the
 4 license by the auditor, by the authorities of any city or town in the
 5 county, or by any other officer. The license shall be full and complete
 6 authority to vend, hawk, and peddle without the payment of any sum of
 7 money.

8 (b) A person who acquires a license under this section is subject to
 9 all county, city, or town regulations and ordinances concerning
 10 vendors, hawkers, or peddlers, except for those provisions requiring
 11 payment of money for obtaining a license.

12 SECTION 76. IC 25-37-1-14, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,
 13 SECTION 79, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 14 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 14. (a) This section applies to a county having a
 15 consolidated city.

16 (b) A veteran who received a discharge from the armed forces of the
 17 United States under conditions other than conditions set forth in
 18 ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~ **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)** is exempt from the payment of
 19 a fee for a transient merchant license issued under this chapter by a
 20 municipality located wholly or partially within the county.

21 (c) Upon the presentation of the veteran's certificate and papers of
 22 discharge and proof of the veteran's identity, the official designated by
 23 the municipality shall issue a transient merchant license to the veteran.
 24 A person licensed under this section shall comply with all ordinances
 25 of the county or municipality governing transient merchants.

26 SECTION 77. IC 34-13-3-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.186-2025,
 27 SECTION 182, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 28 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) A governmental entity or an
 29 employee acting within the scope of the employee's employment is not
 30 liable if a loss results from the following:

- 31 (1) The natural condition of unimproved property.
- 32 (2) The condition of a reservoir, dam, canal, conduit, drain, or
 33 similar structure when used by a person for a purpose that is not
 34 foreseeable.
- 35 (3) The temporary condition of a public thoroughfare or extreme
 36 sport area that results from weather.
- 37 (4) The condition of an unpaved road, trail, or footpath, the
 38 purpose of which is to provide access to a recreation or scenic
 39 area.
- 40 (5) The design, construction, control, operation, or normal
 41 condition of an extreme sport area, if all entrances to the extreme
 42 sport area are marked with:
 - 43 (A) a set of rules governing the use of the extreme sport area;
 - 44 (B) a warning concerning the hazards and dangers associated
 45 with the use of the extreme sport area; and
 - 46 (C) a statement that the extreme sport area may be used only
 47 by persons operating extreme sport equipment.

48 This subdivision shall not be construed to relieve a governmental
 49 entity from liability for the continuing duty to maintain extreme
 50 sports areas in a reasonably safe condition.

- 1 (6) The initiation of a judicial or an administrative proceeding.
 2 (7) The performance of a discretionary function; however, the
 3 provision of medical or optical care as provided in IC 34-6-2.1-54
 4 shall be considered as a ministerial act.
 5 (8) The adoption and enforcement of or failure to adopt or
 6 enforce:
 7 (A) a law (including rules and regulations); or
 8 (B) in the case of a public school or charter school, a policy;
 9 unless the act of enforcement constitutes false arrest or false
 10 imprisonment.
 11 (9) An act or omission performed in good faith and without
 12 malice under the apparent authority of a statute which is invalid
 13 if the employee would not have been liable had the statute been
 14 valid.
 15 (10) The act or omission of anyone other than the governmental
 16 entity or the governmental entity's employee.
 17 (11) The issuance, denial, suspension, or revocation of, or failure
 18 or refusal to issue, deny, suspend, or revoke any permit, license,
 19 certificate, approval, order, or similar authorization, where the
 20 authority is discretionary under the law.
 21 (12) Failure to make an inspection, or making an inadequate or
 22 negligent inspection, of any property, other than the property of
 23 a governmental entity, to determine whether the property
 24 complied with or violates any law or contains a hazard to health
 25 or safety.
 26 (13) Entry upon any property where the entry is expressly or
 27 impliedly authorized by law.
 28 (14) Misrepresentation if unintentional.
 29 (15) Theft by another person of money in the employee's official
 30 custody, unless the loss was sustained because of the employee's
 31 own negligent or wrongful act or omission.
 32 (16) Injury to the property of a person under the jurisdiction and
 33 control of the department of correction if the person has not
 34 exhausted the administrative remedies and procedures provided
 35 by section 7 of this chapter.
 36 (17) Injury to the person or property of a person under supervision
 37 of a governmental entity and who is:
 38 (A) on probation;
 39 (B) assigned to an alcohol and drug services program under
 40 IC 12-23, a minimum security release program under
 41 IC 11-10-8, a pretrial conditional release program under
 42 IC 35-33-8, or a community corrections program under
 43 IC 11-12; or
 44 (C) subject to a court order requiring the person to be escorted
 45 by a county police officer while on or in a government
 46 building (as defined in IC 36-9-13-3) owned by a county
 47 building authority under IC 36-9-13, unless the injury is the
 48 result of an act or omission amounting to:
 49 (i) gross negligence;
 50 (ii) willful or wanton misconduct; or

- 1 (iii) intentional misconduct.
- 2 (18) Design of a highway (as defined in IC 9-13-2-73), toll road
- 3 project (as defined in IC 8-15-2-4(4)), tollway (as defined in
- 4 IC 8-15-3-7), or project (as defined in IC 8-15.7-2-14) if the
- 5 claimed loss occurs at least twenty (20) years after the public
- 6 highway, toll road project, tollway, or project was designed or
- 7 substantially redesigned; except that this subdivision shall not be
- 8 construed to relieve a responsible governmental entity from the
- 9 continuing duty to provide and maintain public highways in a
- 10 reasonably safe condition.
- 11 (19) Development, adoption, implementation, operation,
- 12 maintenance, or use of an enhanced emergency communication
- 13 system.
- 14 (20) Injury to a student or a student's property by an employee of
- 15 a school corporation if the employee is acting reasonably under a:
- 16 (A) discipline policy adopted under IC 20-33-8-12; or
- 17 (B) restraint and seclusion plan adopted under IC 20-20-40-14.
- 18 (21) An act or omission performed in good faith under the
- 19 apparent authority of a court order described in IC 35-46-1-15.1
- 20 or IC 35-46-1-15.3 that is invalid, including an arrest or
- 21 imprisonment related to the enforcement of the court order, if the
- 22 governmental entity or employee would not have been liable had
- 23 the court order been valid.
- 24 (22) An act taken to investigate or remediate hazardous
- 25 substances, petroleum, or other pollutants associated with a
- 26 brownfield (as defined in IC 13-11-2-19.3) unless:
- 27 (A) the loss is a result of reckless conduct; or
- 28 (B) the governmental entity was responsible for the initial
- 29 placement of the hazardous substances, petroleum, or other
- 30 pollutants on the brownfield.
- 31 (23) The operation of an off-road vehicle (as defined in
- 32 IC 14-8-2-185) by a nongovernmental employee, or by a
- 33 governmental employee not acting within the scope of the
- 34 employment of the employee, on a public highway in a county
- 35 road system outside the corporate limits of a city or town, unless
- 36 the loss is the result of an act or omission amounting to:
- 37 (A) gross negligence;
- 38 (B) willful or wanton misconduct; or
- 39 (C) intentional misconduct.
- 40 This subdivision shall not be construed to relieve a governmental
- 41 entity from liability for the continuing duty to maintain highways
- 42 in a reasonably safe condition for the operation of motor vehicles
- 43 licensed by the bureau of motor vehicles for operation on public
- 44 highways.
- 45 (24) Any act or omission rendered in connection with a request,
- 46 investigation, assessment, or opinion provided under
- 47 IC 36-9-28.7.
- 48 **(25) Any act or omission rendered in connection with an**
- 49 **Indiana civilian cyber corps program deployment as provided**
- 50 **under IC 10-16-22.**
- 51 (b) This subsection applies to a cause of action that accrues during

1 a period of a state disaster emergency declared under IC 10-14-3-12 to
 2 respond to COVID-19, if the state of disaster emergency was declared
 3 after February 29, 2020, and before April 1, 2022. A governmental
 4 entity or an employee acting within the scope of the employee's
 5 employment is not liable for an act or omission arising from COVID-19
 6 unless the act or omission constitutes gross negligence, willful or
 7 wanton misconduct, or intentional misrepresentation. If a claim
 8 described in this subsection is:

9 (1) a claim for injury or death resulting from medical malpractice;
 10 and

11 (2) not barred by the immunity provided under this subsection;
 12 the claimant is required to comply with all of the provisions of
 13 IC 34-18 (medical malpractice act).

14 SECTION 78. IC 34-30-2.1-125.2 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
 15 CODE AS A **NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS**
 16 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 125.2. IC 10-16-22-3 (Concerning**
 17 **Indiana civilian cyber corps volunteers or civilian cyber corps**
 18 **advisers).**

19 SECTION 79. IC 34-30-2.1-125.3 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
 20 CODE AS A **NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS**
 21 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 125.3. IC 10-16-22-4 (Concerning**
 22 **Indiana civilian cyber corps volunteers or civilian cyber corps**
 23 **advisers).**

24 SECTION 80. IC 34-30-8-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 25 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. If a person or entity,
 26 other than a person or entity listed in subdivisions (1) through (10),
 27 enters into a written agreement to use space in an armory for a function,
 28 the following persons and entities are not liable for civil damages for
 29 any property damage or bodily injury resulting from the serving of food
 30 or beverages at the function held at the armory:

31 (1) The state.

32 (2) The Indiana army national guard.

33 (3) The Indiana air national guard.

34 (4) The army national guard of the United States.

35 (5) The air national guard of the United States.

36 (6) The adjutant general appointed under IC 10-16-2-6.

37 (7) The ~~assistant adjutants general~~ **additional general officers**
 38 appointed under IC 10-16-2-7.

39 (8) The officers and enlisted members of the Indiana army
 40 national guard and the Indiana air national guard.

41 (9) The state armory board appointed under IC 10-16-3-1 and the
 42 members of that board.

43 (10) The local armory board appointed under IC 10-16-4-1 for the
 44 armory and the members of that board.

45 SECTION 81. IC 35-31.5-2-164.4 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
 46 CODE AS A **NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS**
 47 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 164.4. "Imitation firearm", for**
 48 **purposes of IC 35-47-9-2, means an object or device that is**
 49 **substantially similar in coloration and overall appearance to a**
 50 **firearm that a reasonable person would believe the object or device**

1 **is a firearm.**

2 SECTION 82. IC 35-31.5-2-185, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,
3 SECTION 85, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
4 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 185. (a) "Law enforcement officer" means:

5 (1) a police officer (including a tribal police officer, a correctional
6 police officer, and a hospital police officer employed by a hospital
7 police department established under IC 16-18-4), sheriff,
8 constable, marshal, prosecuting attorney, special prosecuting
9 attorney, special deputy prosecuting attorney, the securities
10 commissioner, the state fire marshal, the executive director of the
11 department of homeland security, or the inspector general;

12 (2) a deputy of any of those persons;

13 (3) an investigator for a prosecuting attorney or for the inspector
14 general;

15 (4) a conservation officer;

16 (5) an enforcement officer of the alcohol and tobacco
17 commission;

18 (6) an enforcement officer of the securities division of the office
19 of the secretary of state;

20 (7) a gaming agent employed under IC 4-33-4.5 or a gaming
21 control officer employed by the gaming control division under
22 IC 4-33-20; ~~or~~

23 (8) a fire investigator of the department of homeland security; **or**

24 **(9) a member in the military police force of the Indiana**
25 **National Guard while exercising police powers in accordance**
26 **with IC 10-16-23-3.**

27 (b) "Law enforcement officer", for purposes of IC 35-42-2-1,
28 includes an alcoholic beverage enforcement officer, as set forth in
29 IC 35-42-2-1.

30 (c) "Law enforcement officer", for purposes of IC 35-45-15,
31 includes a federal enforcement officer, as set forth in IC 35-45-15-3.

32 (d) "Law enforcement officer", for purposes of IC 35-44.1-3-1 and
33 IC 35-44.1-3-2, includes a school resource officer (as defined in
34 IC 20-26-18.2-1) and a school corporation police officer appointed
35 under IC 20-26-16.

36 (e) "Law enforcement officer", for purposes of IC 35-40.5, has the
37 meaning set forth in IC 35-40.5-1-1.

38 SECTION 83. IC 35-47-9-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.218-2023,
39 SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
40 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. (a) This chapter does not apply to the following:

41 (1) A:

42 (A) federal;

43 (B) state; or

44 (C) local;

45 law enforcement officer.

46 (2) A:

47 (A) qualified law enforcement officer (as defined in 18 U.S.C.
48 926B); or

49 (B) qualified retired law enforcement officer (as defined in 18
50 U.S.C. 926C);

51 if the qualified law enforcement officer or qualified retired law

- 1 enforcement officer, as applicable, carries the photographic
 2 identification required by 18 U.S.C. 926B or 18 U.S.C. 926C.
- 3 (3) A person who may legally possess a firearm and who has been
 4 authorized by:
- 5 (A) a school board (as defined by IC 20-26-9-4); or
 6 (B) the body that administers a charter school established
 7 under IC 20-24;
 8 to carry a firearm in or on school property.
- 9 (4) Except as provided in subsection (b) or (c), a person who:
- 10 (A) may legally possess a firearm; and
 11 (B) possesses the firearm in a motor vehicle.
- 12 (5) A person who is a school resource officer, as defined in
 13 IC 20-26-18.2-1.
- 14 (6) Except as provided in subsection (b) or (c), a person who:
- 15 (A) may legally possess a firearm; and
 16 (B) possesses only a firearm that is:
- 17 (i) locked in the trunk of the person's motor vehicle;
 18 (ii) kept in the glove compartment of the person's locked
 19 motor vehicle; or
 20 (iii) stored out of plain sight in the person's locked motor
 21 vehicle.
- 22 (7) A person who:
- 23 (A) may legally possess a firearm; and
 24 (B) possesses a firearm on school property in connection with
 25 or while:
- 26 (i) attending a worship service or religious ceremony
 27 conducted at a house of worship located on the school
 28 property; or
 29 (ii) carrying out the person's official duties at a house of
 30 worship located on the school property, if the person is
 31 employed by or a volunteer at the house of worship.
- 32 This subdivision does not affect the right of a property owner to
 33 prohibit, in whole or in part, the possession of a firearm on a
 34 property where a school or house of worship is located.
- 35 (b) For purposes of subsection (a)(4) and (a)(6), a person does not
 36 include a person who is:
- 37 (1) enrolled as a student in any high school except if the person is
 38 a high school student and is a member of a shooting sports team
 39 and the school's principal has approved the person keeping a
 40 firearm concealed in the person's motor vehicle on the days the
 41 person is competing or practicing as a member of a shooting
 42 sports team; or
 43 (2) a former student of the school if the person is no longer
 44 enrolled in the school due to a disciplinary action within the
 45 previous twenty-four (24) months.
- 46 (c) For purposes of:
- 47 **(1) subsection (a)(4); and**
 48 **(2) subsection (a)(6); and**
 49 **(3) section 2(b) of this chapter;**
 50 a motor vehicle does not include a motor vehicle owned, leased, or

1 controlled by a school or school district unless the person who
 2 possesses the firearm is authorized by the school or school district to
 3 possess a firearm.

4 SECTION 84. IC 35-47-9-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.109-2015,
 5 SECTION 54, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 6 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) A person may not be charged with an
 7 offense under this subsection if the person may be charged with an
 8 offense described in subsection ~~(c)~~: **(d)**. A person who knowingly or
 9 intentionally possesses a firearm:

10 (1) in or on school property; or
 11 (2) on a school bus;
 12 commits a Level 6 felony.

13 **(b) A person who knowingly or intentionally possesses an**
 14 **imitation firearm:**

15 **(1) in or on school property; or**
 16 **(2) on a school bus;**
 17 **commits possession of an imitation firearm on a school property,**
 18 **a Class B misdemeanor.**

19 ~~(b)~~ **(c)** It is a defense to a prosecution under ~~subsection~~ **subsections**
 20 **(a) and (b)** that:

21 (1) the person is permitted to legally possess the firearm **or**
 22 **imitation firearm;** and
 23 (2) the firearm **or imitation firearm** is:
 24 (A) locked in the trunk of the person's motor vehicle;
 25 (B) kept in the glove compartment of the person's locked
 26 motor vehicle; or
 27 (C) stored out of plain sight in the person's locked motor
 28 vehicle.

29 ~~(c)~~ **(d)** A person who is permitted to legally possess a firearm and
 30 who knowingly, intentionally, or recklessly leaves the firearm in plain
 31 view in a motor vehicle that is parked in a school parking lot commits
 32 a Class A misdemeanor.

33 SECTION 85. IC 36-1-8.5-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.122-2023,
 34 SECTION 20, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 35 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. As used in this chapter, "law enforcement
 36 officer" means an individual who is employed or was formerly
 37 employed as:

38 (1) a police officer (including a tribal police officer, a correctional
 39 police officer, and a hospital police officer employed by a hospital
 40 police department established under IC 16-18-4), sheriff,
 41 constable, marshal, prosecuting attorney, special prosecuting
 42 attorney, special deputy prosecuting attorney, the securities
 43 commissioner, or the inspector general;
 44 (2) a deputy of any of the persons specified in subdivision (1);
 45 (3) an investigator for a prosecuting attorney or for the inspector
 46 general;
 47 (4) a conservation officer;
 48 (5) an enforcement officer of the alcohol and tobacco
 49 commission; ~~or~~
 50 (6) an enforcement officer of the securities division of the office

1 of the secretary of state; or
 2 **(7) a member in the military police force of the Indiana**
 3 **National Guard while exercising police powers in accordance**
 4 **with IC 10-16-23-3.**

5 SECTION 86. IC 36-8-2.1-3.1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.64-2022,
 6 SECTION 14, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 7 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3.1. As used in this chapter, "public safety officer"
 8 means the following:

9 (1) A police officer who is a full-time, paid, nonprobationary
 10 member of a police department. The term does not include a:

11 **(A) member in the military police force of the Indiana**
 12 **National Guard under IC 10-16-23;**

13 **(B) tribal police officer; or**

14 **(C) a member of the state police department.**

15 (2) A firefighter who is a full-time, paid, nonprobationary member
 16 of a fire department. The term does not include a volunteer
 17 firefighter.

18 SECTION 87. IC 36-8-4-10, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,
 19 SECTION 92, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 20 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) Subject to subsection (c), the board or
 21 persons having the authority to employ members of the fire or police
 22 department shall give a preference for employment according to the
 23 following priority:

24 (1) A war veteran who has been discharged from the armed forces
 25 of the United States under conditions other than conditions set
 26 forth in ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~: **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2).**

27 (2) A person whose mother or father was a:

28 (A) firefighter of a unit;

29 (B) municipal police officer; or

30 (C) county police officer;

31 who died in the line of duty (as defined in IC 5-10-10-2).

32 (b) Subject to subsection (c), the board or person having the
 33 authority to employ members of a fire or police department may give
 34 a preference for employment to any of the following:

35 (1) A police officer or firefighter laid off by another city under
 36 section 11 of this chapter.

37 (2) A county police officer laid off by a sheriff's department under
 38 IC 36-8-10-11.1.

39 (3) A person who:

40 (A) was employed full-time or part-time by a township to
 41 provide fire protection and emergency services; and

42 (B) has been laid off by the township.

43 (c) A person described in subsection (a) or (b) may not receive a
 44 preference for employment unless the person:

45 (1) applies; and

46 (2) meets all employment requirements prescribed:

47 (A) by law, including physical and age requirements; and

48 (B) by the fire or police department.

49 SECTION 88. IC 36-8-4.7-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,
 50 SECTION 94, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE

1 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) Notwithstanding any contrary law, an
 2 appointing authority shall waive any age restriction for a person not
 3 more than forty (40) years and six (6) months of age that applies to the
 4 appointment and hiring of an individual as:

5 (1) a member of the police department; or

6 (2) a member of the fire department;

7 if the individual meets the requirements of subsection (b).

8 (b) An individual who meets all the following requirements is
 9 entitled to the waiver described in subsection (a):

10 (1) On the date the individual applies to be appointed and hired
 11 as:

12 (A) a member of the police department; or

13 (B) a member of the fire department;

14 the individual is a veteran who has completed at least twenty (20)
 15 years of military service.

16 (2) The individual received or is eligible to receive a discharge
 17 from the armed forces of the United States under conditions other
 18 than conditions set forth in ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~.

19 **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2).**

20 (3) The individual meets all other requirements for appointment
 21 and hiring as:

22 (A) a member of the police department; or

23 (B) a member of the fire department;

24 including all physical requirements.

25 (c) An individual who is entitled to the waiver described in
 26 subsection (a) is eligible to become a member of the 1977 fund.

27 SECTION 89. IC 36-8-5-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,
 28 SECTION 95, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 29 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) A police officer or firefighter desiring to
 30 return to service in the police or fire department shall report to the
 31 person responsible for regulating and employing members of the
 32 department. This action must be taken within sixty (60) days after a
 33 discharge under conditions other than conditions set forth in
 34 ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~ **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)** from military service or
 35 government war work.

36 (b) Within fifteen (15) days after the police officer or firefighter
 37 reports to the department, the police officer or firefighter shall be
 38 placed on duty at the rank held at the time of entering military service
 39 or government war work.

40 (c) If a member of the police or fire department is refused a proper
 41 assignment under subsection (b), the member of the police or fire
 42 department may file an action in the circuit court, superior court, or
 43 probate court of the county in the manner prescribed by IC 36-8-3-4.

44 SECTION 90. IC 36-8-10-10.4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,
 45 SECTION 96, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 46 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10.4. (a) Subject to subsection (c), the board shall
 47 give a preference for employment according to the following priority:

48 (1) A war veteran who has been discharged from the armed forces
 49 of the United States under conditions other than conditions set
 50 forth in ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~. **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2).**

- 1 (2) A person whose mother or father was a:
 2 (A) firefighter of a unit;
 3 (B) municipal police officer; or
 4 (C) county police officer;
 5 who died in the line of duty (as defined in IC 5-10-10-2).
 6 (b) Subject to subsection (c), the board may give a preference for
 7 employment to any of the following:
 8 (1) A member of another department laid off under section 11.1
 9 of this chapter.
 10 (2) A police officer laid off by a city under IC 36-8-4-11.
 11 (c) A person described in subsection (a) or (b) may not receive a
 12 preference for employment unless the person:
 13 (1) applies; and
 14 (2) meets all employment requirements prescribed:
 15 (A) by law, including physical and age requirements; and
 16 (B) by the department.
- 17 SECTION 91. IC 36-8-13-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,
 18 SECTION 102, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 19 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) The executive of a township,
 20 with the approval of the legislative body, may do the following:
 21 (1) Purchase firefighting and emergency services apparatus and
 22 equipment for the township, provide for the housing, care,
 23 maintenance, operation, and use of the apparatus and equipment
 24 to provide services within the township but outside the corporate
 25 boundaries of municipalities, and employ full-time or part-time
 26 personnel to operate the apparatus and equipment and to provide
 27 services in that area. Preference in employment under this section
 28 shall be given according to the following priority:
 29 (A) A war veteran who has been discharged from the armed
 30 forces of the United States under conditions other than
 31 conditions set forth in ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~; **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)**.
 32 (B) A person whose mother or father was a:
 33 (i) firefighter of a unit;
 34 (ii) municipal police officer; or
 35 (iii) county police officer;
 36 who died in the line of duty (as defined in IC 5-10-10-2).
 37 The executive of a township may give a preference for
 38 employment under this section to a person who was employed
 39 full-time or part-time by another township to provide fire
 40 protection and emergency services and has been laid off by the
 41 township. The executive of a township may also give a preference
 42 for employment to a firefighter laid off by a city under
 43 IC 36-8-4-11. A person described in this subdivision may not
 44 receive a preference for employment unless the person applies for
 45 employment and meets all employment requirements prescribed
 46 by law, including physical and age requirements, and all
 47 employment requirements prescribed by the fire department.
 48 (2) Contract with a municipality in the township or in a
 49 contiguous township that maintains adequate firefighting or
 50 emergency services apparatus and equipment to provide fire

- 1 protection or emergency services for the township in accordance
 2 with IC 36-1-7.
- 3 (3) Cooperate with a municipality in the township or in a
 4 contiguous township in the purchase, maintenance, and upkeep of
 5 firefighting or emergency services apparatus and equipment for
 6 use in the municipality and township in accordance with
 7 IC 36-1-7.
- 8 (4) Contract with a volunteer fire department that has been
 9 organized to fight fires in the township for the use and operation
 10 of firefighting apparatus and equipment that has been purchased
 11 by the township in order to save the private and public property
 12 of the township from destruction by fire, including use of the
 13 apparatus and equipment in an adjoining township by the
 14 department if the department has made a contract with the
 15 executive of the adjoining township for the furnishing of
 16 firefighting service within the township.
- 17 (5) Contract with a volunteer fire department that maintains
 18 adequate firefighting service in accordance with IC 36-8-12.
- 19 (6) Use money in the township's rainy day fund to pay costs
 20 attributable to providing fire protection or emergency services
 21 under this chapter.
- 22 (b) This subsection applies only to townships that provide fire
 23 protection or emergency services or both under subsection (a)(1) and
 24 to municipalities that have some part of the municipal territory within
 25 a township and do not have a full-time paid fire department. A
 26 township may provide fire protection or emergency services or both
 27 without contracts inside the corporate boundaries of the municipalities
 28 if before July 1 of a year the following occur:
- 29 (1) The legislative body of the municipality adopts an ordinance
 30 to have the township provide the services without a contract.
- 31 (2) The township legislative body passes a resolution approving
 32 the township's provision of the services without contracts to the
 33 municipality.
- 34 In a township providing services to a municipality under this section,
 35 the legislative body of either the township or a municipality in the
 36 township may opt out of participation under this subsection by adopting
 37 an ordinance or a resolution, respectively, before July 1 of a year.
- 38 (c) This subsection applies only to a township that:
- 39 (1) is located in a county containing a consolidated city;
- 40 (2) has at least three (3) included towns (as defined in
 41 IC 36-3-1-7) that have all municipal territory completely within
 42 the township on January 1, 1996; and
- 43 (3) provides fire protection or emergency services, or both, under
 44 subsection (a)(1);
- 45 and to included towns (as defined in IC 36-3-1-7) that have all the
 46 included town's municipal territory completely within the township. A
 47 township may provide fire protection or emergency services, or both,
 48 without contracts inside the corporate boundaries of the municipalities
 49 if before August 1 of the year preceding the first calendar year to which
 50 this subsection applies the township legislative body passes a

1 resolution approving the township's provision of the services without
2 contracts to the municipality. The resolution must identify the included
3 towns to which the resolution applies. In a township providing services
4 to a municipality under this section, the legislative body of the
5 township may opt out of participation under this subsection by adopting
6 a resolution before July 1 of a year. A copy of a resolution adopted
7 under this subsection shall be submitted to the executive of each
8 included town covered by the resolution, the county auditor, and the
9 department of local government finance.

(Reference is to EHB 1343 as printed February 20, 2026.)

Conference Committee Report
on
Engrossed House Bill 1343

Signed by:

Representative Bartels
Chairperson

Senator Baldwin

Representative Lawson

Senator Clark

House Conferees

Senate Conferees