

Updated February 17, 2026 (3:39pm)

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**ENGROSSED**  
**HOUSE BILL No. 1343**

AM134317 has been incorporated into February 11, 2026 printing.

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**Synopsis:** Public safety matters.

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February 11, 2026

Second Regular Session of the 124th General Assembly (2026)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2025 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

# ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL No. 1343

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

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

1 SECTION 1. IC 1-1-4-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,  
 2 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 3 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) The following definitions apply to the  
 4 construction of all Indiana statutes, unless the construction is plainly  
 5 repugnant to the intent of the general assembly or of the context of the  
 6 statute:  
 7 (1) "Adult", "of full age", and "person in his majority" mean a  
 8 person at least eighteen (18) years of age.  
 9 (2) "Attorney" includes a counselor or other person authorized  
 10 to appear and represent a party in an action or special  
 11 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.

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- 1 (4) "Bond" does not necessarily imply a seal.  
 2 (5) "Clerk" means the clerk of the court or a person authorized  
 3 to perform the clerk's duties.  
 4 (6) "Health record", "hospital record", or "medical record" means  
 5 written or printed information possessed by a provider (as  
 6 defined in IC 16-18-2-295) concerning any diagnosis, treatment,  
 7 or prognosis of the patient, unless otherwise defined. Except as  
 8 otherwise provided, the terms include mental health records and  
 9 drug and alcohol abuse records.  
 10 (7) "Highway" includes county bridges and state and county  
 11 roads, unless otherwise expressly provided.  
 12 (8) "Infant" or "minor" means a person less than eighteen (18)  
 13 years of age.  
 14 (9) "Inhabitant" may be construed to mean a resident in any  
 15 place.  
 16 (10) "Judgment" means all final orders, decrees, and  
 17 determinations in an action and all orders upon which executions  
 18 may issue.  
 19 (11) "Land", "real estate", and "real property" include lands,  
 20 tenements, and hereditaments.  
 21 (12) "Mentally incompetent" means of unsound mind.  
 22 (13) "Money demands on contract", when used in reference to an  
 23 action, means an action arising out of contract when the relief  
 24 demanded is a recovery of money.  
 25 (14) "Month" means a calendar month, unless otherwise  
 26 expressed.  
 27 (15) "Noncode statute" means a statute that is not codified as  
 28 part of the Indiana Code.  
 29 (16) "Oath" includes "affirmation", and "to swear" includes to  
 30 "affirm".  
 31 (17) "Person" extends to bodies politic and corporate.  
 32 (18) "Personal property" includes goods, chattels, evidences of  
 33 debt, and things in action.  
 34 (19) "Population" has the meaning set forth in IC 1-1-3.5-3.  
 35 (20) "Preceding" and "following", referring to sections in  
 36 statutes, mean the sections next preceding or next following that  
 37 in which the words occur, unless some other section is  
 38 designated.  
 39 (21) "Property" includes personal and real property.  
 40 (22) "Sheriff" means the sheriff of the county or another person  
 41 authorized to perform sheriff's duties.  
 42 (23) "State", applied to any one (1) of the United States, includes

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1 the District of Columbia and the commonwealths, possessions,  
 2 states in free association with the United States, and the  
 3 territories. "United States" includes the District of Columbia and  
 4 the commonwealths, possessions, states in free association with  
 5 the United States, and the territories.

6 (24) "Under legal disabilities" includes persons less than  
 7 eighteen (18) years of age, mentally incompetent, or out of the  
 8 United States.

9 (25) "Verified", when applied to pleadings, means supported by  
 10 oath or affirmation in writing.

11 (26) "Will" includes a testament and codicil.

12 (27) "Without relief" in any judgment, contract, execution, or  
 13 other instrument of writing or record, means without the benefit  
 14 of valuation laws.

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

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

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

22 (b) This subsection applies to the definitions of "Hoosier veteran"  
 23 and "veteran" when used in reference to state programs for veterans.  
 24 The term "veteran" includes "Hoosier veteran", and applies to the  
 25 construction of all Indiana statutes, unless the construction is expressly  
 26 excluded by the terms of the statute, is plainly repugnant to the intent  
 27 of the general assembly or of the context of the statute, or is  
 28 inconsistent with federal law. "Hoosier veteran" means an individual  
 29 who meets the following criteria:

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

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

34 (3) The individual completed any required military occupational  
 35 specialty training and was not discharged or separated from the  
 36 armed forces or the Indiana National Guard under conditions  
 37 ~~other than conditions set forth in IC 10-17-12-7.5(2).~~  
 38 **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2).**

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

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

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

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

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

14 (1) Utilities.

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

16 (3) Rent paid for real property or payments constituting the price  
 17 of an interest in real property as a result of a real estate  
 18 transaction.

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

20 (1) contracts with a state agency; or

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

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

23 (B) enters into a contract:

24 (i) with a person or entity other than a state agency;  
 25 and

26 (ii) that is paid for in whole or in part with the state  
 27 grant funds.

28 (f) "Department" refers to the Indiana department of  
 29 administration established by IC 4-13-1-2.

30 (g) "Deputy commissioner" refers to the deputy commissioner for  
 31 supplier diversity of the department.

32 (h) "Minority business enterprise" or "minority business" means  
 33 an individual, partnership, corporation, limited liability company, or  
 34 joint venture of any kind that is owned and controlled by one (1) or  
 35 more persons who are:

36 (1) United States citizens; and

37 (2) members of a minority group or a qualified minority  
 38 nonprofit corporation.

39 (i) "NGB-22" means the National Guard Report of Separation  
 40 form or its predecessor or successor form.

41 (j) "Qualified minority or women's nonprofit corporation" means  
 42 a corporation that:

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- 1 (1) is exempt from federal income taxation under Section  
 2 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code;  
 3 (2) is headquartered in Indiana;  
 4 (3) has been in continuous existence for at least five (5) years;  
 5 (4) has a board of directors that has been in compliance with all  
 6 other requirements of this chapter for at least five (5) years;  
 7 (5) is chartered for the benefit of the minority community or  
 8 women; and  
 9 (6) provides a service that will not impede competition among  
 10 minority business enterprises or women's business enterprises at  
 11 the time a nonprofit applies for certification as a minority  
 12 business enterprise or a women's business enterprise.
- 13 (k) "Owned and controlled" means:  
 14 (1) if the business is a qualified minority nonprofit corporation,  
 15 a majority of the board of directors are minority;  
 16 (2) if the business is a qualified women's nonprofit corporation,  
 17 a majority of the members of the board of directors are women;  
 18 or  
 19 (3) if the business is a business other than a qualified minority or  
 20 women's nonprofit corporation, having:  
 21 (A) ownership of at least fifty-one percent (51%) of the  
 22 enterprise, including corporate stock of a corporation;  
 23 (B) control over the management and active in the  
 24 day-to-day operations of the business; and  
 25 (C) an interest in the capital, assets, and profits and losses  
 26 of the business proportionate to the percentage of  
 27 ownership.
- 28 (l) "Minority group" means:  
 29 (1) African Americans;  
 30 (2) Native Americans;  
 31 (3) Hispanic Americans; and  
 32 (4) Asian Americans.
- 33 (m) "Separate body corporate and politic" refers to an entity  
 34 established by the general assembly as a body corporate and politic.
- 35 (n) "State agency" refers to any authority, board, branch,  
 36 commission, committee, department, division, or other instrumentality  
 37 of the executive, including the administrative, department of state  
 38 government.
- 39 (o) "Veteran" means an individual who:  
 40 (1) has previously:  
 41 (A) served on active duty in any branch of the armed forces  
 42 of the United States or their reserves, in the national guard,

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- 1 or in the Indiana National Guard; and  
 2 (B) received a discharge from service under conditions  
 3 other than conditions set forth in ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~;  
 4 **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)**; or  
 5 (2) is currently serving in:  
 6 (A) any branch of the armed forces of the United States or  
 7 their reserves;  
 8 (B) the national guard; or  
 9 (C) the Indiana National Guard.  
 10 (p) "Veteran owned small business" refers to a small business that:  
 11 (1) is independently owned and operated;  
 12 (2) is not dominant in its field of operation; and  
 13 (3) satisfies the criteria to be a veteran owned small business  
 14 concern as specified in section 1.5 of this chapter.  
 15 (q) "Women's business enterprise" means a business that is one (1)  
 16 of the following:  
 17 (1) A sole proprietorship owned and controlled by a woman.  
 18 (2) A partnership or joint venture owned and controlled by  
 19 women in which:  
 20 (A) at least fifty-one percent (51%) of the ownership is held  
 21 by women; and  
 22 (B) the management and daily business operations are  
 23 controlled by at least one (1) of the women who owns the  
 24 business.  
 25 (3) A corporation or other entity:  
 26 (A) whose management and daily business operations are  
 27 controlled by at least one (1) of the women who owns the  
 28 business; and  
 29 (B) that is at least fifty-one percent (51%) owned by  
 30 women, or if stock is issued, at least fifty-one percent (51%)  
 31 of the stock is owned by at least one (1) of the women.  
 32 (4) A qualified women's nonprofit corporation.  
 33 SECTION 3. IC 4-15-2.2-32, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,  
 34 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 35 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 32. (a) Former members of the armed forces of the  
 36 United States who meet both of the following requirements shall  
 37 receive a preference for appointment or reemployment in the state  
 38 classified service:  
 39 (1) The veteran served ~~on active duty~~ in any branch of the armed  
 40 forces.  
 41 (2) The veteran was not discharged or separated from the armed  
 42 forces under conditions set forth in ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~.

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

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

(c) The executive director shall:

- (1) perform ~~such~~ duties as may be assigned by the board; and
- (2) ~~shall~~ be the chief administrative officer of the law enforcement academy.

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

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

(f) All ~~persons~~ **individuals** hired to fill ~~such~~ approved vacancies shall be selected on the basis of qualifications and merit based on training, education, and experience.

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

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

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

12 SECTION 5. 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  
21 in 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  
31 available for the training of railroad police, prison and industrial plant  
32 guards, tribal police, postsecondary educational institution safety and  
33 security personnel, whether public or private, for the training of any  
34 law 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.

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1 (e) The facilities of the law enforcement academy may be used for  
2 the training of firefighting personnel where the subject matter of the  
3 training relates to duties which involve law enforcement related  
4 conduct. Such training shall be conducted upon terms and conditions  
5 established by the board. However, no volunteer firefighter is required  
6 to attend training at the academy.

7 (f) The facilities of the law enforcement academy shall be used to  
8 provide the basic training under section 9(d) of this chapter of a special  
9 officer of a consolidated city who is employed full time by the  
10 consolidated city after June 30, 2023, to perform park ranger duties.

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

23 SECTION 6. IC 5-2-18.2-2, AS ADDED BY P.L.171-2011,  
24 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
25 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) As used in this chapter, "law enforcement  
26 officer" has the meaning set forth in IC 5-2-1-2.

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

30 SECTION 7. IC 5-2-20-2, AS ADDED BY P.L.171-2011,  
31 SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
32 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) As used in this chapter, "law enforcement  
33 officer" has the meaning set forth in IC 5-2-1-2.

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

37 SECTION 8. IC 5-9-3-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,  
38 SECTION 6, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
39 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. Persons discharged from the armed forces of  
40 the United States under conditions other than conditions set forth in  
41 ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~, **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)**, by reason of disability  
42 resulting from wounds or sickness incurred in the line of duty, shall be

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1 preferred for appointment to civil offices, provided they are found to  
2 possess the capacity necessary for the proper discharge of such offices.

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

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

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

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

16 (c) The provisions of this chapter are in lieu of any policy of a  
17 political subdivision allowing employment preference for veterans in  
18 effect before July 1, 1975.

19 SECTION 10. IC 5-10.3-7-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,  
20 SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
21 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) A member who:

22 (1) enters the United States armed services;

23 (2) leaves the member's contributions in the fund;

24 (3) except as provided in subsection (c), resumes service with  
25 the member's employer within one hundred twenty (120) days  
26 after the member's unconditional discharge; and

27 (4) would be entitled to service credit for military service under  
28 the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights  
29 Act (38 U.S.C. 4301 et seq.) if the member had resumed service  
30 with the member's employer within ninety (90) days after  
31 discharge;

32 is entitled to service credit for the armed service.

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

37 (1) except as provided in subsection (c), resumes service with  
38 the employer within one hundred twenty (120) days after the  
39 member's unconditional discharge; and

40 (2) would be entitled to service credit for military service under  
41 the applicable requirements of federal law in effect at the time of  
42 reemployment if the employee had resumed service with the

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- 1 employee's employer within ninety (90) days after discharge.
- 2 (c) The board shall extend the one hundred twenty (120) day  
3 reemployment requirement contained in subsection (a)(3) or (b)(1) if  
4 the board determines that an illness, an injury, or a disability related to  
5 the member's military service prevented the member from resuming  
6 employment within one hundred twenty (120) days after the member's  
7 discharge from military service. However, the board may not extend the  
8 deadline beyond thirty (30) months after the member's discharge.
- 9 (d) If a member retires and the board subsequently determines that  
10 the member is entitled to additional service credit due to the extension  
11 of a deadline under subsection (c), the board shall recompute the  
12 member's benefit. However, the additional service credit may be used  
13 only in the computation of benefits to be paid after the date of the  
14 board's determination, and the member is not entitled to a  
15 recomputation of benefits received before the date of the board's  
16 determination.
- 17 (e) Notwithstanding any provision of this section, a member is  
18 entitled to service credit and benefits in the amount and to the extent  
19 required by the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment  
20 Rights Act (38 U.S.C. 4301 et seq.).
- 21 (f) Subject to the provisions of this section, an active member may  
22 purchase and claim not more than two (2) years of service credit for the  
23 member's service on active duty in the armed services if the member  
24 meets the following conditions:
- 25 (1) The member has at least one (1) year of credited service in  
26 the fund.
  - 27 (2) The member serves on active duty in the armed services of  
28 the United States for at least six (6) months.
  - 29 (3) The member receives a discharge from the armed services  
30 under conditions other than conditions set forth in  
31 ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~. **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)**.
  - 32 (4) Before the member retires, the member makes contributions  
33 to the fund as follows:
    - 34 (A) Contributions that are equal to the product of the  
35 following:
      - 36 (i) The member's salary at the time the member  
37 actually makes a contribution for the service credit.
      - 38 (ii) A rate, determined by the actuary of the fund, that  
39 is based on the age of the member at the time the  
40 member actually makes a contribution for service  
41 credit and computed to result in a contribution amount  
42 that approximates the actuarial present value of the

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1 benefit attributable to the service credit purchased.  
 2 (iii) The number of years of service credit the member  
 3 intends to purchase.  
 4 (B) Contributions for any accrued interest, at a rate  
 5 determined by the actuary of the fund, for the period from  
 6 the member's initial membership in the fund to the date  
 7 payment is made by the member.  
 8 However, a member is entitled to purchase service credit under this  
 9 subsection only to the extent that service credit is not granted for that  
 10 time under another provision of this section. At least ten (10) years of  
 11 service in Indiana is required before a member may receive a benefit  
 12 based on service credits purchased under this section. A member who  
 13 terminates employment before satisfying the eligibility requirements  
 14 necessary to receive a monthly allowance or receives a monthly  
 15 allowance for the same service from another tax supported public  
 16 employee retirement plan other than under the federal Social Security  
 17 Act may withdraw the purchase amount plus accumulated interest after  
 18 submitting a properly completed application for a refund to the fund.  
 19 (g) The following apply to the purchase of service credit under  
 20 subsection (f):  
 21 (1) The board may allow a member to make periodic payments  
 22 of the contributions required for the purchase of the service  
 23 credit. The board shall determine the length of the period during  
 24 which the payments must be made.  
 25 (2) The board may deny an application for the purchase of  
 26 service credit if the purchase would exceed the limitations under  
 27 Section 415 of the Internal Revenue Code.  
 28 (3) A member may not claim the service credit for purposes of  
 29 determining eligibility or computing benefits unless the member  
 30 has made all payments required for the purchase of the service  
 31 credit.  
 32 SECTION 11. IC 5-10.4-4-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,  
 33 SECTION 10, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 34 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) This subsection applies to a member who  
 35 retires before July 1, 1980. A member who had completed four (4)  
 36 years of approved college teacher education before voluntary or  
 37 involuntary induction into the military services is entitled to credit for  
 38 that service as if the member had begun teaching before the induction.  
 39 A member who serves in military service is considered a teacher and  
 40 is entitled to the benefits of the fund if before or during the leave of  
 41 absence the member pays into the fund the member's contributions.  
 42 Time served by a member in military service for the duration of the

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1 hostilities or for the length of active service in the hostilities and the  
2 necessary demobilization time after the hostilities is not subject to the  
3 one-seventh rule set forth in section 7 of this chapter.

4 (b) This subsection applies to a member who retires after June 30,  
5 1980. A member who completed four (4) years of approved college  
6 teacher education before voluntary or involuntary induction into  
7 military service is entitled to credit for the member's active military  
8 service as if the member had begun teaching before the induction. A  
9 member who serves in military service is considered a teacher and is  
10 entitled to the benefits of the fund if the following conditions are met:

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

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

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

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

25 (c) This subsection applies to a member who retires after May 1,  
26 1989. A member who had begun but had not completed four (4) years  
27 of approved college teacher education before voluntary or involuntary  
28 induction into the military services is entitled to service credit in an  
29 amount equal to the duration of the member's active military service if  
30 the following conditions are met:

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

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

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

40 The time served by a member in active military service for the length  
41 of active service in the hostilities and the necessary demobilization is  
42 not subject to the one-seventh rule set forth in section 7 of this chapter.

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1 However, not more than six (6) years of military service credit may be  
2 granted under this subsection.

3 (d) This subsection applies to a member who retires after May 1,  
4 1991, and who is employed at a state educational institution. A member  
5 who had begun but had not completed baccalaureate or  
6 post-baccalaureate education before voluntary or involuntary induction  
7 into military service is entitled to the member's active military service  
8 credit for the member's active military service in an amount equal to  
9 the duration of the member's military service if the following  
10 conditions are met:

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

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

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

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

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

- 27 (1) the date on which the member signs a teacher's contract; or  
28 (2) the date on which the member is first employed in a position  
29 covered by this article.

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

- 31 (1) a teacher training program; or  
32 (2) baccalaureate or post-baccalaureate education;

33 on the date the member registers for or enrolls in classes that the  
34 member attends.

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

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1 (h) If a member retires and the board subsequently determines that  
 2 the member is entitled to additional service credit due to the extension  
 3 of a deadline under subsection (g), the board shall recompute the  
 4 member's benefit. However, the additional service credit may be used  
 5 only in the computation of benefits to be paid after the date of the  
 6 board's determination, and the member is not entitled to a  
 7 recomputation of benefits received before the date of the board's  
 8 determination.

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

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

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

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

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

25 (4) Before the member retires, the member makes contributions  
 26 to the fund as follows:

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

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

30 (ii) a rate, determined by the actuary of the fund, that  
 31 is based on the age of the member at the time the  
 32 member actually makes a contribution for service  
 33 credit and computed to result in a contribution amount  
 34 that approximates the actuarial present value of the  
 35 benefit attributable to the service credit purchased; and  
 36 (iii) the number of years of service credit the member  
 37 intends to purchase.

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

42 However, a member is entitled to purchase service credit under this

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1 subsection only to the extent that service credit is not granted for that  
2 time under another provision of this section. At least ten (10) years of  
3 service in Indiana is required before a member may receive a benefit  
4 based on service credits purchased under this section. A member who  
5 terminates employment before satisfying the eligibility requirements  
6 necessary to receive a monthly allowance or receives a monthly  
7 allowance for the same service from another tax supported public  
8 employee retirement plan other than under the federal Social Security  
9 Act may withdraw the purchase amount plus accumulated interest after  
10 submitting a properly completed application for a refund to the fund.

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

13 (1) The board may allow a member to make periodic payments  
14 of the contributions required for the purchase of the service  
15 credit. The board shall determine the length of the period during  
16 which the payments must be made.

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

20 (3) A member may not claim the service credit for purposes of  
21 determining eligibility or computing benefits unless the member  
22 has made all payments required for the purchase of the service  
23 credit.

24 (l) This subsection applies to a member who retires after June 30,  
25 2006. A member may not receive credit under this section for service  
26 for which the member receives service credit under the terms of a  
27 military or another governmental retirement plan.

28 SECTION 12. IC 6-8.1-9-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.43-2021,  
29 SECTION 32, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
30 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) Every individual (other than a nonresident)  
31 who files an individual income tax return and who is entitled to a  
32 refund from the department of state revenue because of the  
33 overpayment of income tax for a taxable year may designate on the  
34 individual's annual state income tax return that either a specific amount  
35 or all of the refund to which the individual is entitled shall be paid over  
36 to one (1) or more of the funds described in subsection (c). If the refund  
37 to which the individual is entitled is less than the total amount  
38 designated to be paid over to one (1) or more of the funds described in  
39 subsection (c), all of the refund to which the individual is entitled shall  
40 be paid over to the designated funds, but in an amount or amounts  
41 reduced proportionately for each designated fund. If an individual  
42 designates all of the refund to which the individual is entitled to be paid

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1 over to one (1) or more of the funds described in subsection (c) without  
 2 designating specific amounts, the refund to which the individual is  
 3 entitled shall be paid over to each fund described in subsection (c) in  
 4 an amount equal to the refund divided by the number of funds  
 5 described in subsection (c), rounded to the lowest cent, with any part  
 6 of the refund remaining due to the effects of rounding to be deposited  
 7 in the nongame fund.

8 (b) Every husband and wife (other than nonresidents) who file a  
 9 joint income tax return and who are entitled to a refund from the  
 10 department of state revenue because of the overpayment of income tax  
 11 for a taxable year may designate on their annual state income tax return  
 12 that either a specific amount or all of the refund to which they are  
 13 entitled shall be paid over to one (1) or more of the funds described in  
 14 subsection (c). If the refund to which a husband and wife are entitled  
 15 is less than the total amount designated to be paid over to one (1) or  
 16 more of the funds described in subsection (c), all of the refund to which  
 17 the husband and wife are entitled shall be paid over to the designated  
 18 funds, but in an amount or amounts reduced proportionately for each  
 19 designated fund. If a husband and wife designate all of the refund to  
 20 which the husband and wife are entitled to be paid over to one (1) or  
 21 more of the funds described in subsection (c) without designating  
 22 specific amounts, the refund to which the husband and wife are entitled  
 23 shall be paid over to each fund described in subsection (c) in an  
 24 amount equal to the refund divided by the number of funds described  
 25 in subsection (c), rounded to the lowest cent, with any part of the  
 26 refund remaining due to the effects of rounding to be deposited in the  
 27 nongame fund.

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

- 30 (1) The nongame fund.
- 31 (2) The state general fund for exclusive use in funding public  
 32 education for kindergarten through grade 12.
- 33 (3) The military family relief fund.

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

- 36 (1) The nongame and endangered species program. The  
 37 description of this program shall be written in cooperation with  
 38 the department of natural resources.
- 39 (2) The funding of public education for kindergarten through  
 40 grade 12. The description of this purpose shall be written in  
 41 cooperation with the secretary of education.
- 42 (3) The funding for financial assistance to ~~qualified~~ service

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1 members (as defined in ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5~~) described in  
2 **IC 10-17-12-8.1(1) and IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)**, who are **Indiana**  
3 **residents**, and their families. The description of this purpose  
4 shall be written in cooperation with the Indiana department of  
5 veterans' affairs.

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

9 SECTION 13. IC 9-18.5-7-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,  
10 SECTION 19, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
11 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) An Indiana resident who is a current or  
12 former member of the Army or Air National Guard may apply for and  
13 receive one (1) or more license plates under this chapter.

14 (b) An individual applying for a National Guard license plate  
15 under this chapter as a current member of the National Guard must  
16 demonstrate the individual's status as a current member of the Army or  
17 Air National Guard by presenting the following with the individual's  
18 application:

- 19 (1) A current United States armed forces identification card.
- 20 (2) A letter signed by the individual's commanding officer  
21 identifying the individual as a current active member.

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

- 25 (1) National Guard Bureau Form 22 or 22A showing the  
26 individual received a discharge under conditions other than  
27 conditions set forth in ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~; **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)**;  
28 or
- 29 (2) National Guard Bureau Form 23D or 23E showing the  
30 individual as retired;

31 as proof of the individual's status as a former member of the Army or  
32 Air National Guard.

33 SECTION 14. IC 10-13-8-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.122-2023,  
34 SECTION 8, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
35 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. As used in this chapter, "law enforcement  
36 officer" means any of the following:

- 37 (1) A state police officer.
- 38 (2) A county sheriff.
- 39 (3) A county police officer.
- 40 (4) A correctional officer.
- 41 (5) An excise police officer.
- 42 (6) A county police reserve officer.

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- 1 (7) A city police officer.
- 2 (8) A city police reserve officer.
- 3 (9) A conservation enforcement officer.
- 4 (10) A town marshal.
- 5 (11) A deputy town marshal.
- 6 (12) A probation officer.
- 7 (13) A state educational institution police officer appointed
- 8 under IC 21-39-4.
- 9 (14) A gaming agent of the Indiana gaming commission.
- 10 (15) A person employed by a political subdivision (as defined in
- 11 IC 36-1-2-13) and appointed as a special deputy under
- 12 IC 36-8-10-10.6.
- 13 (16) A school corporation police officer appointed under
- 14 IC 20-26-16.
- 15 (17) A police officer of a public or private postsecondary
- 16 educational institution whose board of trustees has established
- 17 a police department under IC 21-17-5-2 or IC 21-39-4-2.
- 18 (18) A tribal police officer.
- 19 (19) A hospital police officer employed by a hospital police
- 20 department established under IC 16-18-4.
- 21 (20) A conservancy district marshal.
- 22 (21) A deputy conservancy district marshal.
- 23 **(22) A member in the military police force of the Indiana**
- 24 **National Guard while exercising police powers in accordance**
- 25 **with IC 10-16-23-3.**

26 SECTION 15. IC 10-16-1-5.6 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA  
 27 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 28 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 5.6. "Civilian cyber corps" means**  
 29 **the Indiana civilian cyber corps program established by**  
 30 **IC 10-16-22.**

31 SECTION 16. IC 10-16-1-5.7 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA  
 32 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 33 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 5.7. "Civilian cyber corps**  
 34 **adviser" means an individual who serves as a nondeployable**  
 35 **member in the Indiana civilian cyber corps program for the**  
 36 **purpose of providing support and technical expertise for civilian**  
 37 **cyber corps volunteers.**

38 SECTION 17. IC 10-16-1-5.8 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA  
 39 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 40 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 5.8. "Civilian cyber corps**  
 41 **volunteer" means an individual who has entered into an agreement**  
 42 **with the adjutant general to serve as a deployable member in the**

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**Indiana civilian cyber corps program.**

SECTION 18. IC 10-16-1-8.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 8.5. "Cybersecurity client" means a:**

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

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

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

SECTION 20. IC 10-16-1-19.3 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 19.3. "State police department" refers to the state police department established by IC 10-11-2-4.**

SECTION 21. IC 10-16-2-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.15-2010, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 7. The adjutant general shall appoint ~~four (4) assistant adjutants general~~ additional general officers to serve at the will and pleasure of the adjutant general as follows:**

- (1) Excluding the adjutant general, there are six (6) general officer authorizations for the Indiana Army National Guard and two (2) general authorizations for the Indiana Air National Guard under this section.**
- (2) Included in the general officer authorizations described in subdivision (1), one (1) general officer position shall be established as the Director, Joint Staff, Indiana Joint Forces Headquarters. The position may be filled by either an Army or Air National Guard member.**
- (3) To be eligible for appointment to a general officer under subdivision (1), an individual must meet the following requirements:**
  - (A) The individual must be a federally recognized officer who has attained the rank of colonel or higher.**

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

(1) One (1) assistant adjutant general from the Indiana Army National Guard to be commander of the Indiana Army National Guard forces, except the forces described in subdivision (3): A person is not eligible for appointment as assistant adjutant general unless the person is a member of the Indiana Army National Guard and has attained the rank of major or above. The person must be a federally recognized officer and may hold the rank of major general or other rank authorized by the table of organization for the Army National Guard.

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

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

(4) One (1) assistant adjutant general from the Indiana Army National Guard to be chief of staff to the adjutant general for all Indiana Army National Guard forces assigned to the Camp

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1 Atterbury Muscatatuck Urban Training Center. This assistant  
 2 adjutant general shall perform duties assigned by the adjutant  
 3 general and is responsible for all administrative and operational  
 4 functions of Indiana Army National Guard forces assigned to the  
 5 Camp Atterbury Muscatatuck Urban Training Center. A person  
 6 is not eligible for appointment as assistant adjutant general  
 7 unless the person is a member of the Indiana Army National  
 8 Guard with at least six (6) years service in the Indiana Army  
 9 National Guard and has attained the rank of major or above. The  
 10 person must be a federally recognized officer and may hold the  
 11 rank of brigadier general or other rank authorized by the table of  
 12 organization for the Army National Guard.

13 SECTION 22. IC 10-16-3-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.38-2011,  
 14 SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 15 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. The state armory board established by section  
 16 1 of this chapter may contribute funds in support of the following  
 17 authorized duties and responsibilities of the adjutant general:

- 18 (1) The ~~military department of the~~ Indiana ceremonial unit.
- 19 (2) The Indiana guard reserve.
- 20 (3) The annual report of the adjutant general's department.
- 21 (4) The medical treatment, pensions, and funeral expenses of  
 22 officers and soldiers wounded, disabled, or killed while in the  
 23 active service of the state.
- 24 (5) Expenditures for public relations and the promotion of  
 25 morale within the adjutant general's department. ~~that are not paid~~  
 26 ~~by the United States Department of Defense.~~
- 27 (6) Recruitment and retention expenditures of the adjutant  
 28 general's department. ~~that are not paid by the United States~~  
 29 ~~Department of Defense.~~
- 30 (7) The publication of the armed forces law of Indiana in  
 31 accordance with IC 10-16-2-9(d).

32 **(8) Armory modernization and care for armories.**

33 SECTION 23. IC 10-16-3-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.38-2011,  
 34 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 35 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. (a) The state armory board may **utilize any and**  
 36 **all appropriate methods to:**

- 37 (1) lease real estate from:
  - 38 (A) the federal, the state, or a local government; ~~or~~
  - 39 (B) a federal, state, or local agency; or
  - 40 **(C) a private entity or individual; or**
- 41 (2) purchase real estate throughout the state;

42 where necessary to provide armories or other military purposes.

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

- 6 (1) A company.
- 7 (2) A battery.
- 8 (3) A troop.
- 9 (4) A battalion.
- 10 (5) A regiment.
- 11 (6) A division organization.
- 12 (7) An air ~~squadron~~ **wing**.
- 13 (8) A related group.
- 14 (9) An organization authorized by the state board.

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

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

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

23 (e) The Indiana wing of the civil air patrol and its subordinate  
 24 units may use armory facilities without charge when the officer  
 25 responsible for the armory determines the use would not interfere with  
 26 operational training requirements of the military forces concerned.

27 SECTION 24. IC 10-16-3-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.38-2011,  
 28 SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 29 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. The state armory board shall constitute a board  
 30 for the general management, care, and custody of the armories. The  
 31 state armory board may adopt ~~rules~~ **policies or procedures** for:

- 32 (1) the management and government of the armories;
- 33 (2) the guidance of the organizations occupying the armories;
- 34 and
- 35 (3) any other purpose consistent with this chapter.

36 SECTION 25. IC 10-16-3-8 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
 37 1, 2026]. Sec. 8: (a) This section applies if a contract for the  
 38 procurement of property by the state armory board or a local armory  
 39 board is awarded under this chapter by acceptance of bids, proposals,  
 40 or quotations:

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



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1           (1) beneficiary of the trust; and  
 2           (2) settlor empowered to revoke or modify the trust.  
 3           SECTION 26. IC 10-16-3-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.38-2011,  
 4           SECTION 6, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 5           JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. (a) The state armory board may receive from  
 6           any source donations of real or personal property or contributions of  
 7           money to aid in the support and assistance of:  
 8           (1) the armed forces of Indiana; and  
 9           (2) the armed forces of Indiana called or inducted into federal  
 10          service.  
 11          Property received under this subsection shall be held as other property  
 12          for the use of the state.  
 13          (b) Counties, cities, and municipalities may make donations and  
 14          contributions under subsection (a).  
 15          (c) This subsection applies to ~~real or personal~~ **any** property:  
 16          (1) donated under subsection (a); ~~and~~  
 17          (2) upon which the state of Indiana has not erected structures;  
 18          **and**  
 19          **(3) if a donation agreement has not been executed between**  
 20          **the state armory and the donor of the property.**  
 21          The state armory board may determine that ~~real any~~ property donated  
 22          under subsection (a) is no longer usable or cannot be used by the  
 23          military department. The state armory board may certify its  
 24          determination to the adjutant general. The adjutant general may  
 25          reconvey ~~the real any~~ property to the donor or to another entity or  
 26          individual that the adjutant general considers appropriate.  
 27          SECTION 27. IC 10-16-3-10 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 28          FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. All expenses  
 29          incurred in the operation of state armories shall be paid out of:  
 30          (1) the rentals;  
 31          (2) the income;  
 32          (3) the earnings;  
 33          (4) any other receipts; and  
 34          (5) any other appropriation provided by law;  
 35          to pay the expenses incurred in the operation of the armories **or other**  
 36          **matters consistent with this chapter.**  
 37          SECTION 28. IC 10-16-3-12 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 38          FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 12. (a) If the state  
 39          armory board receives from the ~~governor~~ **adjutant general** information  
 40          of the disbandment of the organization of the armed forces of Indiana  
 41          occupying and using an armory, the state armory board shall take  
 42          charge of the armory.

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

4 SECTION 29. IC 10-16-3-13, AS AMENDED BY P.L.38-2011,  
 5 SECTION 8, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 6 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 13. (a) The state armory board may:

7 (1) sell, lease, convey, or otherwise dispose of any ~~real~~ property  
 8 belonging to the state and being under the charge and in the  
 9 custody and possession of the state armory board if, in the  
 10 judgment of the state armory board:

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

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

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

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

22 (1) Each beneficiary of the trust.

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

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

28 SECTION 30. IC 10-16-3-14, AS AMENDED BY P.L.38-2011,  
 29 SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 30 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 14. (a) **Except as provided in subsection (c)**, if  
 31 the state armory board sells any real property, the value of the property  
 32 shall be determined by **an appraiser** ~~three (3) disinterested appraisers~~  
 33 appointed by the state armory board with the approval of the **adjutant**  
 34 **general.** ~~governor.~~

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

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

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

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

7 (1) the ~~governor~~ **adjutant general** approves the sale or  
8 **transfer**; 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 31. 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 32. 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.

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1 SECTION 33. IC 10-16-3-17 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 2 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 17. The **adjutant**  
 3 **general's office state examiner, personally or through the deputy**  
 4 **examiners, field examiners, or private examiners,** shall make a full and  
 5 complete examination and report of all transactions of all individuals,  
 6 persons, trustees, boards, banks, firms, corporations, and others  
 7 engaged in the acquisition of sites for and the construction of state  
 8 armories, including examination of the following:

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

23 ~~All powers conferred upon the state examiner, deputy examiner, field~~  
 24 ~~examiner, private examiner, and the attorney general under IC 5-11-6~~  
 25 ~~by petition are conferred upon these officers, examiners, and the~~  
 26 ~~department without any petition. All the powers given these officers,~~  
 27 ~~examiners, and the department under any other statute may be used for~~  
 28 ~~the purpose of carrying out this chapter.~~

29 SECTION 34. IC 10-16-3-18 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 30 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 18. ~~(a)~~ The state  
 31 **armory board examiner, with the approval of the governor,** may  
 32 employ expert engineering and architectural services when necessary  
 33 to assist the state **armory board examiner, deputy examiner, field**  
 34 **examiners, or private examiners** in making inspections and  
 35 examinations under this chapter.

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

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

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

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

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

15 SECTION 36. IC 10-16-6-12, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,  
 16 SECTION 21, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 17 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 12. (a) A commissioned officer:

- 18 (1) who serves in the Indiana national guard for at least five (5)  
 19 years; or  
 20 (2) who becomes permanently disabled from performing the  
 21 officer's duties, irrespective of length of service;

22 may, upon retirement from the military service under conditions other  
 23 than conditions set forth in ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~, **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)**,  
 24 whether by resignation or otherwise, and upon application to the  
 25 adjutant general, be carried upon a roll to be established and  
 26 maintained in the office of the adjutant general. The roll shall be  
 27 designated the Indiana national guard retired list.

28 (b) The commissioned officer may wear, on occasion of ceremony,  
 29 the uniform of the highest rank held by the officer.

30 (c) An officer carried on the Indiana national guard retired list, if  
 31 qualified, is eligible for detail or appointment on the general staff or the  
 32 staff of any commander when not physically disqualified for military  
 33 duty. However, if an officer carried on the Indiana national guard  
 34 retired list is appointed to a staff position as described in this section,  
 35 the officer shall be recommissioned in the rank to which the officer has  
 36 been appointed. The officer shall hold this rank during the time of the  
 37 staff appointment unless the officer is promoted to a higher rank.

38 (d) If the officer retires for a second time from active service, the  
 39 officer shall be entered on the Indiana national guard retired list with  
 40 the officer's highest rank.

41 (e) An officer whose name appears on the national guard retired  
 42 list is not entitled to receive any military pay or emolument from the

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1 state during the time the officer remains on the national guard retired  
 2 list unless the officer is specifically assigned to duty on orders from the  
 3 governor. If the officer is assigned to duty on orders from the governor,  
 4 the officer is entitled only to the military pay and allowance provided  
 5 by law for officers of the rank to which appointed.

6 SECTION 37. IC 10-16-18-1 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
 7 1, 2026]. ~~Sec. 4. A contract may not be entered into by the adjutant  
 8 general or the armory board that provides for the use of Stout Field,  
 9 Indianapolis, for purposes of commercial flying by transportation  
 10 companies.~~

11 SECTION 38. IC 10-16-21 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
 12 1, 2026]. (Indiana Cyber Civilian Corps Program Advisory Board).

13 SECTION 39. IC 10-16-22 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE  
 14 AS A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 15 JULY 1, 2026]:

16 **Chapter 22. Indiana Civilian Cyber Corps Program**

17 **Sec. 1. (a) The Indiana civilian cyber corps program is**  
 18 **established as a subdivision of the Indiana guard reserve organized**  
 19 **and maintained under IC 10-16-8 with the primary mission of**  
 20 **increasing cybersecurity awareness, capability, and capacity**  
 21 **throughout Indiana. The secondary mission of the civilian cyber**  
 22 **corps is to provide rapid response capabilities for cybersecurity**  
 23 **clients that would otherwise be unable to appropriately:**

- 24 (1) respond to;  
 25 (2) mitigate; or  
 26 (3) recover from;

27 **a cybersecurity incident.**

28 (b) The adjutant general shall administer the civilian cyber  
 29 corps program.

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

- 32 (1) The office of technology established by IC 4-13.1-2-1.  
 33 (2) The department of homeland security established by  
 34 IC 10-19-2-1.  
 35 (3) The state police department.

36 **Sec. 2. (a) The adjutant general may invite and appoint an**  
 37 **individual who has expertise in addressing cybersecurity incidents**  
 38 **to serve as a civilian cyber corps volunteer or civilian cyber corps**  
 39 **adviser in a manner prescribed by the adjutant general.**

40 (b) The adjutant general shall require an individual who  
 41 accepts an invitation to serve as a civilian cyber corps volunteer or  
 42 civilian cyber corps adviser under subsection (a) to submit to a

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1 criminal history check.

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

6 (b) The state of Indiana is not liable to a civilian cyber corps  
7 volunteer or civilian cyber corps adviser for personal injury or  
8 property damage suffered by the civilian cyber corps volunteer or  
9 civilian cyber corps adviser through participation in the civilian  
10 cyber corps.

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

15 (b) A civilian cyber corps volunteer or civilian cyber corps  
16 adviser is subject to the same civil and criminal immunity  
17 protections as a member of the Indiana National Guard under  
18 IC 10-16-7-7(b) and IC 10-16-7-7(d) for any act done by the civilian  
19 cyber corps volunteer or civilian cyber corps adviser in the  
20 discharge of the civilian cyber corps volunteer's or civilian cyber  
21 corps adviser's official duty under this chapter.

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

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

25 (2) critical incident training or exercises at the call of the  
26 adjutant general.

27 Sec. 6. (a) A cybersecurity client may request cybersecurity  
28 training by the civilian cyber corps by submitting a request to the  
29 civilian cyber corps in a manner prescribed by the adjutant  
30 general.

31 (b) To initiate the deployment of a civilian cyber corps  
32 volunteer to provide training to a cybersecurity client, the adjutant  
33 general shall indicate in writing that the civilian cyber corps  
34 volunteer is authorized to provide training to the cybersecurity  
35 client.

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

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

42 (e) The adjutant general shall maintain a written document

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1 initiating the deployment of a civilian cyber corps volunteer to  
2 provide training to a cybersecurity client for:

- 3 (1) six (6) years after the end of the deployment; or  
4 (2) the length of time required under the adjutant general's  
5 record retention policies;

6 whichever is longer.

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

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

11 (2) may, upon recognition of a potential security  
12 vulnerability that could lead to a cybersecurity incident,  
13 request the adjutant general to deploy one (1) or more  
14 civilian cyber corps volunteers to provide rapid response  
15 assistance to the cybersecurity client.

16 (b) The adjutant general may, at the adjutant general's  
17 discretion, initiate:

- 18 (1) the deployment of a civilian cyber corps volunteer; or  
19 (2) the nondeployment of a civilian cyber corps adviser;

20 upon recognition of a potential security vulnerability that could  
21 lead to a cybersecurity incident and at the request of the  
22 cybersecurity client.

23 (c) To initiate the deployment of a civilian cyber corps  
24 volunteer to provide assistance to a cybersecurity client, the  
25 adjutant general shall indicate in writing that the civilian cyber  
26 corps volunteer is authorized to provide assistance to the  
27 cybersecurity client. A single written document may initiate the  
28 deployment of more than one (1) civilian cyber corps volunteer.

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

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

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

- 38 (1) six (6) years after the end of the deployment; or  
39 (2) the length of time required under the adjutant general's  
40 record retention policies;

41 whichever is longer.

42 (g) At the discretion of the adjutant general, the deployment

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1 of a civilian cyber corps volunteer may be extended in writing in  
2 the same manner as the initial deployment.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

30 (1) cause the person or cybersecurity client to become a  
31 victim of a cybersecurity incident; or

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- (1) in accordance with the National Incident Management System; and**
- (2) in coordination with the Indiana state police.**

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

- (1) make an arrest;**
- (2) conduct a search or seizure of a person or property;**
- (3) carry a firearm; and**
- (4) exercise other police powers with respect to the enforcement of Indiana laws.**

**SECTION 41. IC 10-17-1-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,**



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1 SECTION 23, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
2 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 9. (a) Subject to subsection (h), a county executive  
3 shall employ a service officer and may employ service officer assistants  
4 to serve the veterans of the county. However, with the approval of the  
5 commission, two (2) or more counties may enter into an agreement to  
6 employ a service officer if each county demonstrates to the commission  
7 that the workload does not justify each county employing a separate  
8 county service officer.

9 (b) Subject to subsection (h), the mayor of a city may employ a  
10 service officer and may employ service officer assistants to serve the  
11 veterans of the city.

12 (c) The service officer shall:

13 (1) be:

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

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

21 (2) be a resident of Indiana or become a resident of Indiana not  
22 more than six (6) months after the service officer's start date.

23 (d) A service officer assistant must be a resident of Indiana or  
24 become a resident of Indiana not later than six (6) months after the  
25 service officer assistant's start date and:

26 (1) satisfy the requirements specified in subsection (c)(1); or  
27 (2) be the spouse, surviving spouse, parent, or child of a person  
28 who satisfies the requirements specified in subsection (c)(1).

29 (e) A rule contrary to subsection (c) or (d) is void.

30 (f) County and city fiscal bodies may appropriate funds necessary  
31 for the purposes described in this section.

32 (g) Every county or city official and department of the county or  
33 city shall cooperate with the service officer and shall provide the  
34 service officer with information necessary in connection with the  
35 performance of the service officer's duties. Nothing in this subsection  
36 shall be construed to require a county or city to share information that  
37 is otherwise considered confidential in accordance with law.

38 (h) After June 30, 2026, a service officer must be accredited by the  
39 department in order to provide service to veterans on behalf of the  
40 county or city.

41 SECTION 42. IC 10-17-1-11, AS AMENDED BY P.L.61-2023,  
42 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE

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1 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 11. (a) The following employees of the Indiana  
2 department of veterans' affairs must satisfy the requirements set forth  
3 in section 5(a) of this chapter:

- 4 (1) State service officers.
- 5 (2) Director of the state approving agency.
- 6 (3) Director of the Indiana state veterans' cemetery established  
7 by IC 10-17-11-4.

8 (b) An employee of the Indiana department of veterans' affairs not  
9 described in subsection (a) must **be an Indiana resident who:**

10 (1) ~~satisfy~~; **received an honorable discharge from the armed**  
11 **forces of the United States or the national guard (as defined**  
12 **in IC 5-9-4-4); or**

13 (2) ~~be is~~ the spouse, surviving spouse, parent, or child of a  
14 person who satisfies the requirements set forth in ~~section 5(a) of~~  
15 ~~this chapter~~; **subdivision (1).**

16 SECTION 43. IC 10-17-9-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,  
17 SECTION 26, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
18 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. The superintendent may not appoint or employ  
19 a person in an office or a place in the Indiana Veterans' Home because  
20 of the political views or affiliation of the appointee or employee or for  
21 a reason other than capacity and fitness for the duties to be performed  
22 by the appointee or employee. However, among applicants for  
23 appointment found capable and fit, preference shall be given to a  
24 military veteran who received a discharge from military service under  
25 conditions other than conditions set forth in ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~  
26 **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)**, and the spouse, widow, widower, mother, and  
27 child of a military veteran who received a discharge from military  
28 service under conditions other than conditions set forth in  
29 ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~; **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)**.

30 SECTION 44. IC 10-17-9-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,  
31 SECTION 27, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
32 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) As used in this section, "eligible person"  
33 refers to either of the following:

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

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

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

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- 1 (1) the eligible person is a resident of Indiana or establishes
- 2 residency in Indiana not later than six (6) months after admission
- 3 to the home; or
- 4 (2) in the case of an eligible person referred to in subsection
- 5 (a)(1), the eligible person was a resident of Indiana when the
- 6 eligible person enlisted in the uniformed services.
- 7 (c) The Indiana department of veterans' affairs shall adopt rules
- 8 concerning admission to the home.
- 9 (d) In adopting rules governing the admission, maintenance, and
- 10 discharge of members of the home, the Indiana department of veterans'
- 11 affairs may establish a fund called the veterans' home comfort and
- 12 welfare fund. The director shall deposit all money collected from the
- 13 members for the cost of their care and maintenance in the fund. The
- 14 director shall expend this money in any manner that adds to the comfort
- 15 and welfare of the members of the institutions.
- 16 (e) A part of the veterans' home comfort and welfare fund may be
- 17 withdrawn and deposited in a special fund called the veterans' home
- 18 building fund. The veterans' home building fund shall be used for the
- 19 construction, maintenance, remodeling, or repair of buildings of the
- 20 home.
- 21 (f) Preference under this section may be given to a person who
- 22 served in an Indiana military organization. Except in cases where the
- 23 surviving spouse of a veteran marries another veteran, the benefits of
- 24 this chapter extend only to a surviving spouse and the spouse of a
- 25 veteran if the contract of marriage was entered into more than five (5)
- 26 years before the date of death of the veteran. Except as otherwise
- 27 provided by law, upon the death of a person in the home, money paid
- 28 to the person or due to the person from a bank, a trust company, a
- 29 corporation, or an individual becomes an asset of the person's estate
- 30 and shall be distributed in the manner prescribed by the probate law of
- 31 the state.
- 32 SECTION 45. IC 10-17-10-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,
- 33 SECTION 29, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 34 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. (a) In order for an interested person to qualify
- 35 for an allowance under this chapter:
- 36 (1) the decedent must have been an Indiana resident at the time
- 37 of death and must have:
- 38 (A) received a discharge from the armed forces of the
- 39 United States under conditions other than conditions set
- 40 forth in ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~; **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)**; or
- 41 (B) died while serving in the armed forces of the United
- 42 States; or

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- 1 (2) the decedent must have been the spouse or surviving spouse
- 2 of a person described in subdivision (1)(A) or (1)(B) and must
- 3 have been an Indiana resident at the time of death.
- 4 (b) An interested person must file a claim for an allowance under
- 5 this chapter with the board of commissioners in the county of residence
- 6 of the decedent described in subsection (a). The claim must include:
- 7 (1) the fact of the service, death, and discharge if discharged
- 8 from service before death; and
- 9 (2) that the body has been buried in a decent and respectable
- 10 manner in a cemetery or burial ground or that the body has been
- 11 cremated and the cremains have not been interred.

12 (c) The board of commissioners shall hear and determine the claim  
 13 like other claims and, if the facts averred are found to be true, shall  
 14 allow the claim in an amount set by ordinance. However, the amount  
 15 of the allowance may not be more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000).

16 SECTION 46. IC 10-17-12-0.7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.61-2023,  
 17 SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 18 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 0.7. The purpose of the fund established in section  
 19 8 of this chapter is to provide short term financial assistance to **families**  
 20 **of qualified service members: qualifying applicants for housing,**  
 21 **utilities, medical services, basic transportation, child care,**  
 22 **education, employment, food, and other essential family support**  
 23 **expenses that qualifying applicants are not otherwise able to**  
 24 **afford.**

25 SECTION 47. IC 10-17-12-7.5 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE  
 26 JULY 1, 2026]. Sec: 7.5: As used in this chapter, "qualified service  
 27 member" means an individual who is an Indiana resident and who:

- 28 (1) is serving on active duty in:
  - 29 (A) the armed forces of the United States; or
  - 30 (B) the national guard (as defined in IC 5-9-4-4); or
- 31 (2) has served in or been discharged from the armed forces of the  
 32 United States or the national guard under conditions other than  
 33 the following:
  - 34 (A) Discharge by court martial;
  - 35 (B) Acceptance of a discharge to avoid a court martial;
  - 36 (C) Discharge for having committed any of the following:
    - 37 (i) An offense against the security of the United States;  
 38 including spying; mutiny; or treason;
    - 39 (ii) An act of willful or persistent misconduct;  
 40 including desertion;
    - 41 (iii) A sexual or violent offense against another person;  
 42 including molestation; rape; or assault;

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1 (iv) An act described on the list of disallowable  
2 separation codes adopted under section 10.5 of this  
3 chapter.

4 SECTION 48. IC 10-17-12-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.42-2020,  
5 SECTION 13, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
6 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) The military family relief fund is  
7 established. to provide short term assistance with food, housing,  
8 utilities, medical services, basic transportation, child care, education,  
9 employment or workforce, and other essential family support expenses  
10 that have become difficult to afford for qualified service members or  
11 dependents of qualified service members.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

33 SECTION 49. IC 10-17-12-8.1 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA  
34 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
35 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 8.1. To be eligible for a grant**  
36 **from the fund, an applicant must be an Indiana resident who meets**  
37 **at least one (1) of the following conditions:**

- 38 (1) **Is serving in:**  
39 (A) **the armed forces of the United States; or**  
40 (B) **the national guard (as defined in IC 5-9-4-4).**  
41 (2) **Has served in or been discharged from the armed forces**  
42 **of the United States or the national guard under conditions**

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other than the following:

- (A) Discharge by court martial.
- (B) Acceptance of a discharge to avoid a court martial.
- (C) Discharge for having committed any of the following:
  - (i) An offense against the security of the United States, including spying, mutiny, or treason.
  - (ii) An act of willful or persistent misconduct, including desertion.
  - (iii) A sexual or violent offense against another person, including molestation, rape, or assault.
  - (iv) An act described on the list of disallowable separation codes adopted under section 10.5 of this chapter.

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

SECTION 50. IC 10-17-12-8.3 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 8.3. (a) 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.**

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

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

**(d) 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 (2) times the poverty guideline unless the commission approves an income waiver under subsection (e).**

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

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1 (f) The department shall consider other income or assets  
2 available to the applicant and the applicant's spouse and determine  
3 a threshold concerning the allowable amount of available assets.  
4 The asset limits shall be posted on the department's website.

5 SECTION 51. IC 10-17-12-8.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA  
6 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
7 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8.5. (a) An applicant must  
8 establish that the applicant has incurred a genuine hardship to be  
9 eligible to receive assistance from the fund. The hardship incurred  
10 by the applicant must:

11 (1) directly impact the applicant's most central and basic  
12 living needs; and

13 (2) not be a consequence of the applicant's own actions or  
14 choices, including discretionary expenditures on nonessential  
15 goods or services.

16 (b) The department shall not make an award from the fund to  
17 cover luxury, entertainment, recreational, or other nonessential  
18 expenses.

19 SECTION 52. IC 10-17-12-8.8 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA  
20 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
21 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8.8. (a) The department or  
22 commission may impose stipulations or conditions concerning an  
23 applicant seeking an award from the fund.

24 (b) If an applicant fails to satisfy any of the stipulations or  
25 conditions set forth by the department or commission, all  
26 applications submitted by the applicant shall be denied until the  
27 stipulation or condition is satisfactorily completed.

28 (c) The stipulations or conditions may include:

29 (1) meaningful engagement with the department of  
30 workforce development established by IC 22-4.1-2-1;

31 (2) completion of a financial education course provided by  
32 the department; or

33 (3) providing receipts from previous awards from the fund  
34 that evidence the award was used in accordance with the  
35 conditions or stipulations of the previous awards.

36 (d) If the department determines that the applicant made a  
37 material misrepresentation during the application process, the  
38 application shall be denied. Any future application submitted by  
39 the applicant shall be reviewed by the commission.

40 SECTION 53. IC 10-17-12-10, AS AMENDED BY P.L.53-2021,  
41 SECTION 5, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
42 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) The commission shall adopt rules under

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1 IC 4-22-2 for the provision of grants under this chapter. Subject to  
 2 subsection (b), the rules adopted under this section must address the  
 3 following:

4 ~~(1) Uniform need determination procedures:~~

5 ~~(2) (1) Eligibility criteria, including income eligibility standards;~~  
 6 ~~asset limit eligibility standards; and other standards concerning~~  
 7 ~~when assistance may be provided.~~

8 ~~(3) (2) Application procedures.~~

9 ~~(4) Selection procedures:~~

10 ~~(5) (3) A consideration of the extent to which an individual has~~  
 11 ~~used assistance available from other assistance programs before~~  
 12 ~~assistance may be provided to the individual from the fund.~~

13 ~~(6) (4) Other areas in which the commission determines that~~  
 14 ~~rules are necessary to ensure the uniform administration of the~~  
 15 ~~grant program under this chapter.~~

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

17 ~~(1) The income eligibility standards must be based on the federal~~  
 18 ~~gross income of the qualified service member and the qualified~~  
 19 ~~service member's spouse:~~

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

24 ~~(3) (1) The maximum amount a qualified service member an~~  
 25 ~~individual may receive from the fund is two thousand five~~  
 26 ~~hundred dollars (\$2,500), unless a higher amount is approved by~~  
 27 ~~the commission.~~

28 ~~(4) (2) The commission may consider the following in its~~  
 29 ~~analysis of the applicant's request for assistance in excess of two~~  
 30 ~~thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500):~~

31 (A) The department's eligibility determination of the  
 32 applicant.

33 (B) Facts considered in the department's need  
 34 determination, ~~review and award under 915 IAC 3-6-3 and~~  
 35 ~~915 IAC 3-6-5.~~

36 (C) The circumstances surrounding the applicant's hardship,  
 37 if applicable.

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

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

42 (F) Other compelling circumstances that may justify

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1 assistance in excess of the two thousand five hundred dollar  
2 (\$2,500) threshold.

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

8 ~~(5)~~ **(4)** The commission shall approve or deny within sixty (60)  
9 days an application for a grant filed with the commission after  
10 June 30, 2019, by an employee of the department. The  
11 commission shall return an incomplete application with a  
12 notation as to omissions. The return of an incomplete application  
13 shall be without prejudice.

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

17 SECTION 54. IC 10-17-12-12, AS AMENDED BY THE  
18 TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS BILL OF THE 2026 GENERAL  
19 ASSEMBLY, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
20 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 12. The director shall establish the capability to  
21 receive donations to the fund from the public on the department's  
22 ~~Internet site:~~ **website.**

23 SECTION 55. IC 10-17-12-14, AS ADDED BY P.L.132-2019,  
24 SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
25 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 14. (a) Except as provided in section 15 of this  
26 chapter, the department shall approve or deny an application for a grant  
27 filed with the department ~~after June 30, 2019;~~ within sixty (60) days.

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

31 SECTION 56. IC 10-17-12-16 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA  
32 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
33 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 16. (a) **An applicant whose**  
34 **request for short term financial assistance from the fund is denied**  
35 **may appeal the determination by submitting an appeal letter to the**  
36 **department.**

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

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

41 SECTION 57. IC 10-17-13-10, AS AMENDED BY P.L.7-2014,  
42 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE

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1 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) The commission shall manage and develop  
 2 the fund and the assets of the fund.  
 3 (b) The commission shall do the following:  
 4 (1) Carry out the duties of the commission set forth in  
 5 IC 10-17-1.  
 6 (2) Establish written guidelines that specify the criteria for  
 7 determining priority of applications for the purpose of providing  
 8 financial assistance to ~~qualified service members or dependents~~  
 9 ~~of qualified service members~~ **applicants** as described under  
 10 IC 10-17-12-8(c).  
 11 (3) Establish a policy to determine annually the maximum total  
 12 dollar amount that may be expended for each state fiscal year  
 13 from the military family relief fund established by  
 14 IC 10-17-12-8.  
 15 (4) Establish a policy for the investment of the assets of the fund.  
 16 In establishing a policy under this subdivision, the commission  
 17 shall:  
 18 (A) establish adequate long term financial goals for the  
 19 fund; and  
 20 (B) provide adequate funding for the military family relief  
 21 fund established by IC 10-17-12-8.  
 22 (5) Acquire money for the fund through the solicitation of  
 23 private or public donations and other revenue producing  
 24 activities.  
 25 (6) Perform other tasks consistent with prudent management and  
 26 development of the fund.  
 27 SECTION 58. IC 10-17-13.5-3, AS AMENDED BY  
 28 P.L.238-2025, SECTION 36, IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 29 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. As used in this  
 30 chapter, "veteran" means an individual residing in Indiana who:  
 31 (1) has served in any branch of the armed forces of the United  
 32 States or their reserves, in the national guard, or in the Indiana  
 33 National Guard; and  
 34 (2) received a discharge from military service under conditions  
 35 other than conditions set forth in ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~.  
 36 **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)**.  
 37 SECTION 59. IC 10-18-1-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.149-2016,  
 38 SECTION 39, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 39 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) The Indiana war memorials commission is  
 40 established.  
 41 (b) The commission consists of nine (9) members. Each Indiana  
 42 congressional district must be represented by at least one (1) member

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- 1 who is:
- 2 (1) a resident of that congressional district;
- 3 (2) a veteran of service in the armed forces of the United States
- 4 of America in time of war;
- 5 (3) a citizen of Indiana at the time of the service; and
- 6 (4) appointed:
- 7 (A) in the manner;
- 8 (B) for the terms;
- 9 (C) to have the powers; and
- 10 (D) to perform the duties;
- 11 as provided in this chapter.
- 12 (c) The commission:
- 13 (1) as the commission and in the commission's name, may
- 14 prosecute and defend suits; and
- 15 (2) has all other duties, rights, and powers that are:
- 16 (A) necessary to implement this chapter; and
- 17 (B) not inconsistent with this chapter.
- 18 (d) The members of the commission are not liable in their
- 19 individual capacity, except to the state, for any act done or omitted in
- 20 connection with the performance of their duties under this chapter.
- 21 (e) A suit against the commission must be brought in a court with
- 22 jurisdiction in Marion County. Notice or summons of the suit shall be
- 23 served upon the president, vice president, or secretary of the
- 24 commission. In a suit against the commission, it is not necessary to
- 25 name the individual members of the commission as either plaintiff or
- 26 defendant. Commission members may sue and be sued in the name of
- 27 the Indiana war memorials commission.
- 28 (f) The commission shall
- 29 ~~(1) report to the governor in a manner prescribed by the~~
- 30 ~~governor. through the adjutant general; and~~
- 31 ~~(2) be under the adjutant general for administrative supervision.~~
- 32 SECTION 60. IC 11-12-5-5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
- 33 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) This section does
- 34 not apply to a person confined to a county jail who:
- 35 (1) maintains a policy of insurance from a private company
- 36 covering:
- 37 (A) medical care;
- 38 (B) dental care;
- 39 (C) eye care; or
- 40 (D) any other health care related service; or
- 41 (2) is willing to pay for the person's own medical care.
- 42 (b) Except as provided in subsection (c), a person confined to a

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1 county jail may be required to make a copayment in an amount of not  
 2 more than ~~fifteen dollars (\$15)~~ **thirty dollars (\$30)** for each provision  
 3 of any of the following services:

- 4 (1) Medical care.  
 5 (2) Dental care.  
 6 (3) Eye care.  
 7 (4) Any other health care related service.

8 (c) A person confined to a county jail is not required to make the  
 9 copayment under subsection (b) if:

- 10 (1) the person does not have funds in the person's commissary  
 11 account or trust account at the time the service is provided;  
 12 (2) the person does not have funds in the person's commissary  
 13 account or trust account within ~~sixty (60) days~~ **one hundred**  
 14 **eighty (180) days** after the service is provided;  
 15 (3) the service is provided in an emergency;  
 16 (4) the service is provided as a result of an injury received in the  
 17 county jail; or  
 18 (5) the service is provided at the request of the sheriff or jail  
 19 administrator.

20 (d) Money collected must be deposited into the county medical  
 21 care for inmates fund.

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

24 SECTION 61. IC 14-15-2-4 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
 25 1, 2026]. Sec. 4: (a) This section does not apply to a motorboat  
 26 competing in and during a motorboat race for which a permit has been  
 27 issued by the department.

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

- 30 (1) a muffler;  
 31 (2) an underwater exhaust; or  
 32 (3) other device;

33 that muffles or suppresses the sound of the exhaust.

34 SECTION 62. IC 14-15-2-5 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY  
 35 1, 2026]. Sec. 5: (a) This section does not apply to a motorboat  
 36 competing in and during a motorboat race for which a permit has been  
 37 issued by the department.

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

- 40 (1) A muffler cutout.  
 41 (2) A bypass.  
 42 (3) Any device similar to a muffler cutout or bypass.

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1 SECTION 63. IC 14-15-2-13 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 2 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 13. (a) **Except as**  
 3 **provided in subsection (c)**, this section applies to **sailing vessels at**  
 4 **least seven (7) meters in length. the following:**

5 (1) Nonpowered boats including canoes and kayaks.

6 (2) Sailboats not more than twenty-two (22) feet in length under  
 7 sail alone.

8 (3) Boats powered only by electric motor on lakes restricted to  
 9 propulsion solely by oars, paddles, or electric motors.

10 (4) Any boat using an electric motor for positioning purposes  
 11 only.

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

19 (c) A sailing vessel:

20 (1) less than seven (7) meters in length; or

21 (2) powered by oars;

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

23 SECTION 64. IC 14-15-2-13.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA  
 24 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 25 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 13.5. As required by the United  
 26 States Coast Guard under 46 U.S.C. 4312, a vessel must be  
 27 equipped with an engine cut-off switch.

28 SECTION 65. IC 14-15-3-14, AS AMENDED BY P.L.69-2009,  
 29 SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 30 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 14. A person operating a boat shall observe the  
 31 following all traffic rules under 33 CFR 83, if applicable. when  
 32 applicable:

33 (1) When two (2) boats are approaching each other "head and  
 34 head", or nearly so, each boat shall bear to the right and pass the  
 35 other boat on the boat's left side.

36 (2) When two (2) boats are approaching each other obliquely or  
 37 at right angles, the boat on the right has the right-of-way.  
 38 However, when:

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

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

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- 1 (3) A boat operated on a river or a channel shall bear to the right.
- 2 (4) A boat may overtake and pass another boat on either side if
- 3 the passing can be done with safety and within the assured clear
- 4 distance ahead; but the boat overtaken has the right-of-way.
- 5 (5) A boat leaving a dock, a pier, a wharf, or the shore has the
- 6 right-of-way over all boats approaching the dock, pier, wharf, or
- 7 shore.

8 SECTION 66. IC 14-15-2-15, AS AMENDED BY P.L.127-2022,  
 9 SECTION 21, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 10 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 15. (a) A person who violates section 1, 2, 3, 4, 5,  
 11 6, 7(b), 9, 10, or 13 of this chapter commits a Class C infraction.

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

16 SECTION 67. IC 16-33-4-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,  
 17 SECTION 52, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 18 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), the  
 19 superintendent of the home shall be appointed in the manner prescribed  
 20 by law and must meet all of the following conditions:

- 21 (1) Be a teacher licensed by the state or have at least a
- 22 baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university in
- 23 a field related to education or child growth and development.
- 24 (2) Have experience working with children.
- 25 (3) At the time of appointment, be a resident and citizen of
- 26 Indiana.
- 27 (4) Have other qualifications as required by the state health
- 28 commissioner.

29 (b) When at least two (2) candidates meet the conditions listed in  
 30 subsection (a), the state health commissioner shall give preference to  
 31 individuals who have been discharged from the armed forces of the  
 32 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) in appointing a candidate to the  
 34 position of superintendent of the home.

35 SECTION 68. IC 20-20-7-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,  
 36 SECTION 54, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 37 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "eligible veteran" refers  
 38 to an individual who has the following qualifications:

- 39 (1) Served as a member of the armed forces of the United States
- 40 at any time during at least one (1) of the following periods:
- 41 (A) Beginning April 6, 1917, and ending November 11,
- 42 1918 (World War I).

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- 1 (B) Beginning December 7, 1941, and ending December 31,
- 2 1946 (World War II).
- 3 (C) Beginning June 27, 1950, and ending January 31, 1955
- 4 (Korean Conflict).
- 5 (D) Beginning August 5, 1964, and ending May 7, 1975
- 6 (Vietnam Conflict).
- 7 (2) Before the military service described in subdivision (1):
- 8 (A) attended a public or nonpublic high school in Indiana;
- 9 and
- 10 (B) was a student in good standing at the high school
- 11 described in clause (A), to the satisfaction of the department
- 12 of veterans' affairs.
- 13 (3) Did not graduate or receive a diploma because of leaving the
- 14 high school described in subdivision (2) for the military service
- 15 described in subdivision (1).
- 16 (4) Was discharged from the armed forces of the United States
- 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 SECTION 69. IC 20-20-7-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,
- 20 SECTION 55, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 21 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) The department and the department of
- 22 veterans' affairs shall jointly design a form for the application for
- 23 issuance of a diploma under the program.
- 24 (b) The application form must require at least the following
- 25 information about an eligible veteran:
- 26 (1) Personal identification information.
- 27 (2) Military service information, including a copy of the eligible
- 28 veteran's discharge from military service under conditions other
- 29 than conditions set forth in ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~.
- 30 **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)**.
- 31 (3) High school information, including the following:
- 32 (A) Name and address, including county, of the last high
- 33 school attended.
- 34 (B) Whether the high school was a public or nonpublic
- 35 school.
- 36 (C) Years attended.
- 37 (D) Year of leaving high school to begin military service.
- 38 (E) Year in which the veteran would have graduated if the
- 39 veteran had not left high school to begin military service.
- 40 (4) If the high school attended was a public school, whether the
- 41 veteran prefers receiving a diploma issued by:
- 42 (A) the state board; or

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1 (B) the governing body of the school corporation governing  
2 the high school.

3 SECTION 70. IC 21-12-13-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.11-2023,  
4 SECTION 71, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
5 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) This section applies to the following  
6 scholarship and fee remission statutes:

- 7 (1) IC 21-12-3.  
8 (2) IC 21-12-4.  
9 (3) IC 21-12-6.  
10 (4) IC 21-13-2.  
11 (5) IC 21-13-7.  
12 (6) IC 21-13-8.  
13 (7) IC 21-13-4.  
14 (8) IC 21-14-5.  
15 (9) IC 21-12-16.

16 (b) **This subsection does not apply to a grant or reduction in**  
17 **fees under IC 21-13-4.** Except as provided in subsection ~~(e)~~, **(d)**, and  
18 except for a scholarship granted under IC 21-13-8 to an individual  
19 described in IC 21-13-8-1(b)(2)(B), a grant or reduction in tuition or  
20 fees, including all renewals and extensions, under any of the laws listed  
21 in subsection (a) may not exceed the number of terms that constitutes  
22 ~~(1) except as provided in subdivision (2);~~ four (4) undergraduate  
23 academic years, as determined by the commission, ~~or~~  
24 ~~(2) for purposes of IC 21-13-4;~~ six (6) academic years as  
25 determined by the commission;

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

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

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

38 SECTION 71. IC 22-4.1-4-3.3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,  
39 SECTION 61, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
40 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3.3. (a) As used in this section, "veteran" means:

- 41 (1) a Hoosier veteran (as defined in IC 1-1-4-5(b)); or  
42 (2) an individual who satisfies the following:

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- 1 (A) The individual is a resident of Indiana.
- 2 (B) The individual has previously served ~~on active duty~~ in
- 3 any branch of the armed forces of the United States or their
- 4 reserves, in the National Guard, or in the Indiana National
- 5 Guard.
- 6 (C) The individual received a discharge from service under
- 7 conditions other than conditions set forth in
- 8 ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2); IC 10-17-12-8.1(2).~~

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

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

16 SECTION 72. IC 25-8-12.1-12, AS AMENDED BY  
 17 P.L.238-2025, SECTION 75, IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 18 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 12. A person who:

- 19 (1) enters active military service of the United States or of this
- 20 state:
- 21 (A) in time of war or an emergency;
- 22 (B) for or during a period of training; or
- 23 (C) in connection with or under the operation of a system of
- 24 selective service; and

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

33 SECTION 73. IC 25-10-1-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,  
 34 SECTION 76, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 35 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. Any applicant for a license to practice  
 36 chiropractic who is a graduate of a legally incorporated chiropractic  
 37 school, institution or college, and who can produce satisfactory  
 38 evidence to the board that the:

- 39 (1) applicant's chiropractic education was interrupted by reason
- 40 of the applicant's induction or enlistment into the active armed
- 41 forces of the United States; and
- 42 (2) applicant received a discharge from the armed forces under

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1 conditions other than conditions set forth in ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~;  
 2 **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)**;  
 3 is entitled to have the applicant's date of graduation determined as if  
 4 the applicant had completed the applicant's course of study in  
 5 chiropractic without the interruption.

6 SECTION 74. IC 25-25-2-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,  
 7 SECTION 77, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 8 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. (a) This section applies to:

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

13 who received a discharge from military service under conditions other  
 14 than conditions set forth in ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~ **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)**  
 15 from such service issued by the proper authorities. Such a person shall  
 16 be entitled to a license to vend, hawk, and peddle goods, wares, fruits,  
 17 and merchandise in any county, city, or town in Indiana without the  
 18 payment of any fee for the license. Upon the presentation of the  
 19 person's certificate and papers of discharge, properly executed, to the  
 20 auditor of any county and proving the person's identity as the person  
 21 named in the person's certificate of discharge, the auditor shall issue to  
 22 the former soldier or sailor a free license to vend, hawk, and peddle  
 23 goods, wares, fruits, and merchandise in the county and in all cities and  
 24 towns in the county. A fee may not be charged to the holder of the  
 25 license by the auditor, by the authorities of any city or town in the  
 26 county, or by any other officer. The license shall be full and complete  
 27 authority to vend, hawk, and peddle without the payment of any sum of  
 28 money.

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

33 SECTION 75. IC 25-37-1-14, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,  
 34 SECTION 79, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 35 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 14. (a) This section applies to a county having a  
 36 consolidated city.

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

42 (c) Upon the presentation of the veteran's certificate and papers of

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1 discharge and proof of the veteran's identity, the official designated by  
 2 the municipality shall issue a transient merchant license to the veteran.  
 3 A person licensed under this section shall comply with all ordinances  
 4 of the county or municipality governing transient merchants.

5 SECTION 76. IC 34-13-3-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.186-2025,  
 6 SECTION 182, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 7 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) A governmental entity or an  
 8 employee acting within the scope of the employee's employment is not  
 9 liable if a loss results from the following:

10 (1) The natural condition of unimproved property.

11 (2) The condition of a reservoir, dam, canal, conduit, drain, or  
 12 similar structure when used by a person for a purpose that is not  
 13 foreseeable.

14 (3) The temporary condition of a public thoroughfare or extreme  
 15 sport area that results from weather.

16 (4) The condition of an unpaved road, trail, or footpath, the  
 17 purpose of which is to provide access to a recreation or scenic  
 18 area.

19 (5) The design, construction, control, operation, or normal  
 20 condition of an extreme sport area, if all entrances to the extreme  
 21 sport area are marked with:

22 (A) a set of rules governing the use of the extreme sport  
 23 area;

24 (B) a warning concerning the hazards and dangers  
 25 associated with the use of the extreme sport area; and

26 (C) a statement that the extreme sport area may be used  
 27 only by persons operating extreme sport equipment.

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

31 (6) The initiation of a judicial or an administrative proceeding.

32 (7) The performance of a discretionary function; however, the  
 33 provision of medical or optical care as provided in  
 34 IC 34-6-2.1-54 shall be considered as a ministerial act.

35 (8) The adoption and enforcement of or failure to adopt or  
 36 enforce:

37 (A) a law (including rules and regulations); or

38 (B) in the case of a public school or charter school, a policy;  
 39 unless the act of enforcement constitutes false arrest or false  
 40 imprisonment.

41 (9) An act or omission performed in good faith and without  
 42 malice under the apparent authority of a statute which is invalid

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- 1 if the employee would not have been liable had the statute been  
 2 valid.  
 3 (10) The act or omission of anyone other than the governmental  
 4 entity or the governmental entity's employee.  
 5 (11) The issuance, denial, suspension, or revocation of, or failure  
 6 or refusal to issue, deny, suspend, or revoke any permit, license,  
 7 certificate, approval, order, or similar authorization, where the  
 8 authority is discretionary under the law.  
 9 (12) Failure to make an inspection, or making an inadequate or  
 10 negligent inspection, of any property, other than the property of  
 11 a governmental entity, to determine whether the property  
 12 complied with or violates any law or contains a hazard to health  
 13 or safety.  
 14 (13) Entry upon any property where the entry is expressly or  
 15 impliedly authorized by law.  
 16 (14) Misrepresentation if unintentional.  
 17 (15) Theft by another person of money in the employee's official  
 18 custody, unless the loss was sustained because of the employee's  
 19 own negligent or wrongful act or omission.  
 20 (16) Injury to the property of a person under the jurisdiction and  
 21 control of the department of correction if the person has not  
 22 exhausted the administrative remedies and procedures provided  
 23 by section 7 of this chapter.  
 24 (17) Injury to the person or property of a person under  
 25 supervision of a governmental entity and who is:  
 26 (A) on probation;  
 27 (B) assigned to an alcohol and drug services program under  
 28 IC 12-23, a minimum security release program under  
 29 IC 11-10-8, a pretrial conditional release program under  
 30 IC 35-33-8, or a community corrections program under  
 31 IC 11-12; or  
 32 (C) subject to a court order requiring the person to be  
 33 escorted by a county police officer while on or in a  
 34 government building (as defined in IC 36-9-13-3) owned by  
 35 a county building authority under IC 36-9-13, unless the  
 36 injury is the result of an act or omission amounting to:  
 37 (i) gross negligence;  
 38 (ii) willful or wanton misconduct; or  
 39 (iii) intentional misconduct.  
 40 (18) Design of a highway (as defined in IC 9-13-2-73), toll road  
 41 project (as defined in IC 8-15-2-4(4)), tollway (as defined in  
 42 IC 8-15-3-7), or project (as defined in IC 8-15.7-2-14) if the

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1 claimed loss occurs at least twenty (20) years after the public  
 2 highway, toll road project, tollway, or project was designed or  
 3 substantially redesigned; except that this subdivision shall not be  
 4 construed to relieve a responsible governmental entity from the  
 5 continuing duty to provide and maintain public highways in a  
 6 reasonably safe condition.

7 (19) Development, adoption, implementation, operation,  
 8 maintenance, or use of an enhanced emergency communication  
 9 system.

10 (20) Injury to a student or a student's property by an employee of  
 11 a school corporation if the employee is acting reasonably under  
 12 a:

13 (A) discipline policy adopted under IC 20-33-8-12; or

14 (B) restraint and seclusion plan adopted under  
 15 IC 20-20-40-14.

16 (21) An act or omission performed in good faith under the  
 17 apparent authority of a court order described in IC 35-46-1-15.1  
 18 or IC 35-46-1-15.3 that is invalid, including an arrest or  
 19 imprisonment related to the enforcement of the court order, if the  
 20 governmental entity or employee would not have been liable had  
 21 the court order been valid.

22 (22) An act taken to investigate or remediate hazardous  
 23 substances, petroleum, or other pollutants associated with a  
 24 brownfield (as defined in IC 13-11-2-19.3) unless:

25 (A) the loss is a result of reckless conduct; or

26 (B) the governmental entity was responsible for the initial  
 27 placement of the hazardous substances, petroleum, or other  
 28 pollutants on the brownfield.

29 (23) The operation of an off-road vehicle (as defined in  
 30 IC 14-8-2-185) by a nongovernmental employee, or by a  
 31 governmental employee not acting within the scope of the  
 32 employment of the employee, on a public highway in a county  
 33 road system outside the corporate limits of a city or town, unless  
 34 the loss is the result of an act or omission amounting to:

35 (A) gross negligence;

36 (B) willful or wanton misconduct; or

37 (C) intentional misconduct.

38 This subdivision shall not be construed to relieve a governmental  
 39 entity from liability for the continuing duty to maintain highways  
 40 in a reasonably safe condition for the operation of motor vehicles  
 41 licensed by the bureau of motor vehicles for operation on public  
 42 highways.

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1 (24) Any act or omission rendered in connection with a request,  
 2 investigation, assessment, or opinion provided under  
 3 IC 36-9-28.7.

4 **(25) Any act or omission rendered in connection with an**  
 5 **Indiana civilian cyber corps program deployment as**  
 6 **provided under IC 10-16-22.**

7 (b) This subsection applies to a cause of action that accrues during  
 8 a period of a state disaster emergency declared under IC 10-14-3-12 to  
 9 respond to COVID-19, if the state of disaster emergency was declared  
 10 after February 29, 2020, and before April 1, 2022. A governmental  
 11 entity or an employee acting within the scope of the employee's  
 12 employment is not liable for an act or omission arising from COVID-19  
 13 unless the act or omission constitutes gross negligence, willful or  
 14 wanton misconduct, or intentional misrepresentation. If a claim  
 15 described in this subsection is:

16 (1) a claim for injury or death resulting from medical  
 17 malpractice; and

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

21 SECTION 77. IC 34-30-2.1-125.2 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA  
 22 CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 23 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 125.2. IC 10-16-22-3 (Concerning**  
 24 **Indiana civilian cyber corps volunteers or civilian cyber corps**  
 25 **advisers).**

26 SECTION 78. IC 34-30-2.1-125.3 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA  
 27 CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 28 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 125.3. IC 10-16-22-4 (Concerning**  
 29 **Indiana civilian cyber corps volunteers or civilian cyber corps**  
 30 **advisers).**

31 SECTION 79. IC 34-30-8-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 32 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. If a person or entity,  
 33 other than a person or entity listed in subdivisions (1) through (10),  
 34 enters into a written agreement to use space in an armory for a function,  
 35 the following persons and entities are not liable for civil damages for  
 36 any property damage or bodily injury resulting from the serving of food  
 37 or beverages at the function held at the armory:

38 (1) The state.

39 (2) The Indiana army national guard.

40 (3) The Indiana air national guard.

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

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

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- 1 (6) The adjutant general appointed under IC 10-16-2-6.  
 2 (7) The ~~assistant adjutants general~~ **additional general officers**  
 3 appointed under IC 10-16-2-7.  
 4 (8) The officers and enlisted members of the Indiana army  
 5 national guard and the Indiana air national guard.  
 6 (9) The state armory board appointed under IC 10-16-3-1 and the  
 7 members of that board.  
 8 (10) The local armory board appointed under IC 10-16-4-1 for  
 9 the armory and the members of that board.  
 10 SECTION 80. IC 35-31.5-2-164.4 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA  
 11 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 12 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: **Sec. 164.4. "Imitation firearm", for**  
 13 **purposes of IC 35-47-9-2, means an object or device that is**  
 14 **substantially similar in coloration and overall appearance to a**  
 15 **firearm that a reasonable person would believe the object or device**  
 16 **is a firearm.**  
 17 SECTION 81. IC 35-31.5-2-185, AS AMENDED BY  
 18 P.L.238-2025, SECTION 85, IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 19 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 185. (a) "Law  
 20 enforcement officer" means:  
 21 (1) a police officer (including a tribal police officer, a  
 22 correctional police officer, and a hospital police officer  
 23 employed by a hospital police department established under  
 24 IC 16-18-4), sheriff, constable, marshal, prosecuting attorney,  
 25 special prosecuting attorney, special deputy prosecuting  
 26 attorney, the securities commissioner, the state fire marshal, the  
 27 executive director of the department of homeland security, or the  
 28 inspector general;  
 29 (2) a deputy of any of those persons;  
 30 (3) an investigator for a prosecuting attorney or for the inspector  
 31 general;  
 32 (4) a conservation officer;  
 33 (5) an enforcement officer of the alcohol and tobacco  
 34 commission;  
 35 (6) an enforcement officer of the securities division of the office  
 36 of the secretary of state;  
 37 (7) a gaming agent employed under IC 4-33-4.5 or a gaming  
 38 control officer employed by the gaming control division under  
 39 IC 4-33-20; ~~or~~  
 40 (8) a fire investigator of the department of homeland security; **or**  
 41 **(9) a member in the military police force of the Indiana**  
 42 **National Guard while exercising police powers in accordance**

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- 1           **with IC 10-16-23-3.**
- 2           (b) "Law enforcement officer", for purposes of IC 35-42-2-1,  
3 includes an alcoholic beverage enforcement officer, as set forth in  
4 IC 35-42-2-1.
- 5           (c) "Law enforcement officer", for purposes of IC 35-45-15,  
6 includes a federal enforcement officer, as set forth in IC 35-45-15-3.
- 7           (d) "Law enforcement officer", for purposes of IC 35-44.1-3-1 and  
8 IC 35-44.1-3-2, includes a school resource officer (as defined in  
9 IC 20-26-18.2-1) and a school corporation police officer appointed  
10 under IC 20-26-16.
- 11           (e) "Law enforcement officer", for purposes of IC 35-40.5, has the  
12 meaning set forth in IC 35-40.5-1-1.
- 13           SECTION 82. IC 35-47-9-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.218-2023,  
14 SECTION 7, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
15 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. (a) This chapter does not apply to the following:
- 16           (1) A:
- 17               (A) federal;  
18               (B) state; or  
19               (C) local;  
20 law enforcement officer.
- 21           (2) A:
- 22               (A) qualified law enforcement officer (as defined in 18  
23 U.S.C. 926B); or  
24               (B) qualified retired law enforcement officer (as defined in  
25 18 U.S.C. 926C);  
26 if the qualified law enforcement officer or qualified retired law  
27 enforcement officer, as applicable, carries the photographic  
28 identification required by 18 U.S.C. 926B or 18 U.S.C. 926C.
- 29           (3) A person who may legally possess a firearm and who has  
30 been authorized by:
- 31               (A) a school board (as defined by IC 20-26-9-4); or  
32               (B) the body that administers a charter school established  
33 under IC 20-24;  
34 to carry a firearm in or on school property.
- 35           (4) Except as provided in subsection (b) or (c), a person who:  
36               (A) may legally possess a firearm; and  
37               (B) possesses the firearm in a motor vehicle.
- 38           (5) A person who is a school resource officer, as defined in  
39 IC 20-26-18.2-1.
- 40           (6) Except as provided in subsection (b) or (c), a person who:  
41               (A) may legally possess a firearm; and  
42               (B) possesses only a firearm that is:

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- 1 (i) locked in the trunk of the person's motor vehicle;
- 2 (ii) kept in the glove compartment of the person's
- 3 locked motor vehicle; or
- 4 (iii) stored out of plain sight in the person's locked
- 5 motor vehicle.

6 (7) A person who:

7 (A) may legally possess a firearm; and

8 (B) possesses a firearm on school property in connection

9 with or while:

10 (i) attending a worship service or religious ceremony

11 conducted at a house of worship located on the school

12 property; or

13 (ii) carrying out the person's official duties at a house

14 of worship located on the school property, if the person

15 is employed by or a volunteer at the house of worship.

16 This subdivision does not affect the right of a property owner to

17 prohibit, in whole or in part, the possession of a firearm on a

18 property where a school or house of worship is located.

19 (b) For purposes of subsection (a)(4) and (a)(6), a person does not

20 include a person who is:

21 (1) enrolled as a student in any high school except if the person

22 is a high school student and is a member of a shooting sports

23 team and the school's principal has approved the person keeping

24 a firearm concealed in the person's motor vehicle on the days the

25 person is competing or practicing as a member of a shooting

26 sports team; or

27 (2) a former student of the school if the person is no longer

28 enrolled in the school due to a disciplinary action within the

29 previous twenty-four (24) months.

30 (c) For purposes of:

31 (1) subsection (a)(4); ~~and~~

32 (2) subsection (a)(6); ~~and~~

33 (3) **section 2(b) of this chapter;**

34 a motor vehicle does not include a motor vehicle owned, leased, or

35 controlled by a school or school district unless the person who

36 possesses the firearm is authorized by the school or school district to

37 possess a firearm.

38 SECTION 83. IC 35-47-9-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.109-2015,

39 SECTION 54, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE

40 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. (a) A person may not be charged with an

41 offense under this subsection if the person may be charged with an

42 offense described in subsection ~~(c)~~: **(d)**. A person who knowingly or

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1 intentionally possesses a firearm:  
 2 (1) in or on school property; or  
 3 (2) on a school bus;  
 4 commits a Level 6 felony.  
 5 **(b) A person who knowingly or intentionally possesses an**  
 6 **imitation firearm:**  
 7 **(1) in or on school property; or**  
 8 **(2) on a school bus;**  
 9 **commits possession of an imitation firearm on a school property,**  
 10 **a Class B misdemeanor.**  
 11 ~~(b)~~ **(c)** It is a defense to a prosecution under ~~subsection~~  
 12 ~~subsections~~ **(a) and (b)** that:  
 13 (1) the person is permitted to legally possess the firearm **or**  
 14 **imitation firearm;** and  
 15 (2) the firearm **or imitation firearm** is:  
 16 (A) locked in the trunk of the person's motor vehicle;  
 17 (B) kept in the glove compartment of the person's locked  
 18 motor vehicle; or  
 19 (C) stored out of plain sight in the person's locked motor  
 20 vehicle.  
 21 ~~(c)~~ **(d)** A person who is permitted to legally possess a firearm and  
 22 who knowingly, intentionally, or recklessly leaves the firearm in plain  
 23 view in a motor vehicle that is parked in a school parking lot commits  
 24 a Class A misdemeanor.  
 25 SECTION 84. IC 36-1-8.5-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.122-2023,  
 26 SECTION 20, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 27 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. As used in this chapter, "law enforcement  
 28 officer" means an individual who is employed or was formerly  
 29 employed as:  
 30 (1) a police officer (including a tribal police officer, a  
 31 correctional police officer, and a hospital police officer  
 32 employed by a hospital police department established under  
 33 IC 16-18-4), sheriff, constable, marshal, prosecuting attorney,  
 34 special prosecuting attorney, special deputy prosecuting  
 35 attorney, the securities commissioner, or the inspector general;  
 36 (2) a deputy of any of the persons specified in subdivision (1);  
 37 (3) an investigator for a prosecuting attorney or for the inspector  
 38 general;  
 39 (4) a conservation officer;  
 40 (5) an enforcement officer of the alcohol and tobacco  
 41 commission; ~~or~~  
 42 (6) an enforcement officer of the securities division of the office

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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 85. 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  
16 member of a fire department. The term does not include a  
17 volunteer firefighter.

18 SECTION 86. 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  
25 forces of the United States under conditions other than  
26 conditions set 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  
38 under 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.

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

3 (1) applies; and

4 (2) meets all employment requirements prescribed:

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

6 (B) by the fire or police department.

7 SECTION 87. IC 36-8-4.7-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,  
8 SECTION 94, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
9 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) Notwithstanding any contrary law, an  
10 appointing authority shall waive any age restriction for a person not  
11 more than forty (40) years and six (6) months of age that applies to the  
12 appointment and hiring of an individual as:

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

14 (2) a member of the fire department;

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

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

18 (1) On the date the individual applies to be appointed and hired  
19 as:

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

21 (B) a member of the fire department;

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

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

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

28 (3) The individual meets all other requirements for appointment  
29 and hiring as:

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

31 (B) a member of the fire department;

32 including all physical requirements.

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

35 SECTION 88. IC 36-8-5-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,  
36 SECTION 95, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
37 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) A police officer or firefighter desiring to  
38 return to service in the police or fire department shall report to the  
39 person responsible for regulating and employing members of the  
40 department. This action must be taken within sixty (60) days after a  
41 discharge under conditions other than conditions set forth in  
42 ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~ **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)** from military service or

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1 government war work.  
 2 (b) Within fifteen (15) days after the police officer or firefighter  
 3 reports to the department, the police officer or firefighter shall be  
 4 placed on duty at the rank held at the time of entering military service  
 5 or government war work.  
 6 (c) If a member of the police or fire department is refused a proper  
 7 assignment under subsection (b), the member of the police or fire  
 8 department may file an action in the circuit court, superior court, or  
 9 probate court of the county in the manner prescribed by IC 36-8-3-4.  
 10 SECTION 89. IC 36-8-10-10.4, AS AMENDED BY  
 11 P.L.238-2025, SECTION 96, IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 12 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10.4. (a) Subject to  
 13 subsection (c), the board shall give a preference for employment  
 14 according to the following priority:  
 15 (1) A war veteran who has been discharged from the armed  
 16 forces of the United States under conditions other than  
 17 conditions set forth in ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~. **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)**.  
 18 (2) A person whose mother or father was a:  
 19 (A) firefighter of a unit;  
 20 (B) municipal police officer; or  
 21 (C) county police officer;  
 22 who died in the line of duty (as defined in IC 5-10-10-2).  
 23 (b) Subject to subsection (c), the board may give a preference for  
 24 employment to any of the following:  
 25 (1) A member of another department laid off under section 11.1  
 26 of this chapter.  
 27 (2) A police officer laid off by a city under IC 36-8-4-11.  
 28 (c) A person described in subsection (a) or (b) may not receive a  
 29 preference for employment unless the person:  
 30 (1) applies; and  
 31 (2) meets all employment requirements prescribed:  
 32 (A) by law, including physical and age requirements; and  
 33 (B) by the department.  
 34 SECTION 90. IC 36-8-13-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,  
 35 SECTION 102, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 36 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) The executive of a township,  
 37 with the approval of the legislative body, may do the following:  
 38 (1) Purchase firefighting and emergency services apparatus and  
 39 equipment for the township, provide for the housing, care,  
 40 maintenance, operation, and use of the apparatus and equipment  
 41 to provide services within the township but outside the corporate  
 42 boundaries of municipalities, and employ full-time or part-time

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1 personnel to operate the apparatus and equipment and to provide  
 2 services in that area. Preference in employment under this  
 3 section shall be given according to the following priority:  
 4 (A) A war veteran who has been discharged from the armed  
 5 forces of the United States under conditions other than  
 6 conditions set forth in ~~IC 10-17-12-7.5(2)~~.  
 7 **IC 10-17-12-8.1(2)**.  
 8 (B) A person whose mother or father was a:  
 9 (i) firefighter of a unit;  
 10 (ii) municipal police officer; or  
 11 (iii) county police officer;  
 12 who died in the line of duty (as defined in IC 5-10-10-2).  
 13 The executive of a township may give a preference for  
 14 employment under this section to a person who was employed  
 15 full-time or part-time by another township to provide fire  
 16 protection and emergency services and has been laid off by the  
 17 township. The executive of a township may also give a  
 18 preference for employment to a firefighter laid off by a city  
 19 under IC 36-8-4-11. A person described in this subdivision may  
 20 not receive a preference for employment unless the person  
 21 applies for employment and meets all employment requirements  
 22 prescribed by law, including physical and age requirements, and  
 23 all employment requirements prescribed by the fire department.  
 24 (2) Contract with a municipality in the township or in a  
 25 contiguous township that maintains adequate firefighting or  
 26 emergency services apparatus and equipment to provide fire  
 27 protection or emergency services for the township in accordance  
 28 with IC 36-1-7.  
 29 (3) Cooperate with a municipality in the township or in a  
 30 contiguous township in the purchase, maintenance, and upkeep  
 31 of firefighting or emergency services apparatus and equipment  
 32 for use in the municipality and township in accordance with  
 33 IC 36-1-7.  
 34 (4) Contract with a volunteer fire department that has been  
 35 organized to fight fires in the township for the use and operation  
 36 of firefighting apparatus and equipment that has been purchased  
 37 by the township in order to save the private and public property  
 38 of the township from destruction by fire, including use of the  
 39 apparatus and equipment in an adjoining township by the  
 40 department if the department has made a contract with the  
 41 executive of the adjoining township for the furnishing of  
 42 firefighting service within the township.

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1 (5) Contract with a volunteer fire department that maintains  
 2 adequate firefighting service in accordance with IC 36-8-12.  
 3 (6) Use money in the township's rainy day fund to pay costs  
 4 attributable to providing fire protection or emergency services  
 5 under this chapter.  
 6 (b) This subsection applies only to townships that provide fire  
 7 protection or emergency services or both under subsection (a)(1) and  
 8 to municipalities that have some part of the municipal territory within  
 9 a township and do not have a full-time paid fire department. A  
 10 township may provide fire protection or emergency services or both  
 11 without contracts inside the corporate boundaries of the municipalities  
 12 if before July 1 of a year the following occur:  
 13 (1) The legislative body of the municipality adopts an ordinance  
 14 to have the township provide the services without a contract.  
 15 (2) The township legislative body passes a resolution approving  
 16 the township's provision of the services without contracts to the  
 17 municipality.  
 18 In a township providing services to a municipality under this section,  
 19 the legislative body of either the township or a municipality in the  
 20 township may opt out of participation under this subsection by adopting  
 21 an ordinance or a resolution, respectively, before July 1 of a year.  
 22 (c) This subsection applies only to a township that:  
 23 (1) is located in a county containing a consolidated city;  
 24 (2) has at least three (3) included towns (as defined in  
 25 IC 36-3-1-7) that have all municipal territory completely within  
 26 the township on January 1, 1996; and  
 27 (3) provides fire protection or emergency services, or both, under  
 28 subsection (a)(1);  
 29 and to included towns (as defined in IC 36-3-1-7) that have all the  
 30 included town's municipal territory completely within the township. A  
 31 township may provide fire protection or emergency services, or both,  
 32 without contracts inside the corporate boundaries of the municipalities  
 33 if before August 1 of the year preceding the first calendar year to which  
 34 this subsection applies the township legislative body passes a  
 35 resolution approving the township's provision of the services without  
 36 contracts to the municipality. The resolution must identify the included  
 37 towns to which the resolution applies. In a township providing services  
 38 to a municipality under this section, the legislative body of the  
 39 township may opt out of participation under this subsection by adopting  
 40 a resolution before July 1 of a year. A copy of a resolution adopted  
 41 under this subsection shall be submitted to the executive of each  
 42 included town covered by the resolution, the county auditor, and the

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