



Introduced Version

HOUSE RESOLUTION No.

Introduced by: DeLaney

1 A HOUSE RESOLUTION establishing a House Select
2 Committee on Accountability and Handling of Economic
3 Development Appropriations to investigate the financial,
4 administrative, and procedural practices of the Indiana
5 Economic Development Corporation and its affiliated entities,
6 and to make findings and recommendations for improved
7 transparency and stewardship of public funds.

8 *Whereas, The Indiana Economic Development Corporation
9 (IEDC) was established as a public instrumentality of the State
10 of Indiana to advance economic prosperity, attract investment,
11 and promote job creation across the state;*

12 *Whereas, The IEDC operates in connection with the Indiana
13 Economic Development Foundation, Inc. (IEDF), a nonprofit
14 subsidiary corporation created by Indiana Code 5-28-5-13 to
15 solicit and administer private donations to support the IEDC's*

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1 *mission;*

2 *Whereas, A forensic review of the IEDC and its affiliated
3 entities, covering the period from January 1, 2022, through
4 December 31, 2024, identified deficiencies in governance,
5 oversight, and fiscal control;*

6 *Whereas, The audit report cited instances of noncompetitive
7 or no-bid contracts, insufficient documentation of expenses, and
8 inadequate internal review processes;*

9 *Whereas, The report also found donor relationships between
10 contributors to the IEDF and entities receiving financial
11 incentives, contracts, or payments from the IEDC, creating the
12 appearance of conflicts of interest;*

13 *Whereas, The same review identified the LEAP District
14 development project as comprising nearly one-third of all
15 IEDC expenditures during the audit period, with incomplete
16 appraisals and limited environmental due diligence;*

17 *Whereas, Subsequent news reports reflected public concern
18 about transparency, accountability, and oversight within the
19 IEDC's contracting and financial practices;*

20 *Whereas, Article 4, Section 17 of the Constitution of the
21 State of Indiana provides the Indiana House of Representatives
22 with the sole authority to raise revenue, and therefore, the
23 Indiana House of Representatives bears a key responsibility to
24 safeguard the integrity of public funds and ensure their lawful,
25 efficient, and ethical expenditure;*

26 *Whereas, IC 2-4 empowers the House of Representatives to
27 conduct investigations, issue subpoenas, compel testimony, and
28 obtain records in aid of its legislative functions; and*

29 *Whereas, It is in the public interest for the House of
30 Representatives to establish a select committee to investigate
31 the financial and administrative operations of the IEDC and its
32 affiliates and to recommend statutory and procedural reforms
33 to prevent misuse or mishandling of taxpayer dollars:
34 Therefore,*

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1 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the*
2 *General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

3 SECTION 1. That there is hereby established the House
4 Select Committee on Accountability and Handling of Economic
5 Development Appropriations (hereinafter referred to as the
6 Committee).

7 SECTION 2. That the Committee shall consist of eleven (11)
8 members of the House of Representatives. Seven (7) members
9 shall be appointed by the Speaker. Four (4) members shall be
10 appointed by the Minority Leader. The Speaker shall designate
11 one (1) member as Chair and one (1) member as Vice Chair.
12 Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as the original
13 appointment.

14 SECTION 3. That (a) For purposes of this resolution,
15 "affiliated entity" refers to:

- 16 (1) a foundation or other entity established to benefit the
17 IEDC;
- 18 (2) a person engaged to assist the IEDC in the
19 administration of programs under IC 5-28;
- 20 (3) a person, other than the Treasurer of State, the State
21 Comptroller, or the IEDC, engaged in investing, lending,
22 granting, or otherwise exerting administrative control over
23 public money; or
- 24 (4) a corporation or similar entity in which the Secretary of
25 Commerce, the IEDC president, or a member of the IEDC
26 board of directors serves on the governing body of the
27 corporation or other entity.

28 (b) The term includes any of the following:

- 29 (1) A nonprofit subsidiary corporation established under
30 IC 5-28-5-13.
- 31 (2) A local economic development organization described
32 in IC 5-28-8-4(6)(C) or IC 5-28-8-4(6)(F).
- 33 (3) A corporation that establishes a local opportunity pool
34 under IC 5-28-18-13.

35 SECTION 4. That the Committee shall investigate, review,
36 and report upon: (1) the policies, procedures, and financial
37 practices of the IEDC and affiliated entities; (2) the use and
38 oversight of taxpayer funds by the IEDC and affiliated entities;
39 (3) compliance with procurement and ethics laws by the IEDC
40 and affiliated entities; (4) transparency in IEDC and affiliated
41 entity operations; (5) prevention of fraud, waste, and abuse of



1 public resources by the IEDC and their affiliated entities; and
2 (6) the LEAP District including: (a) the IEDC and affiliated
3 entities' financing of the LEAP District and associated projects;
4 (b) the IEDC and affiliated entities' purchase and sale of real
5 property for the LEAP District and associated projects; and (c)
6 the IEDC and affiliated entities' acquisition of and planning for
7 the use of water and other natural resources and the LEAP
8 District's impact on the regional water supply.

9 SECTION 5. That the Committee shall have all powers
10 granted by IC 2-4-1-1 through IC 2-4-1-4, and IC 2-4-2-1,
11 including the power to subpoena witnesses, compel the
12 production of records, administer oaths, and take sworn
13 testimony. Subpoenas shall be signed by the Speaker and served
14 by the Chief Doorkeeper or an individual designated by the
15 Speaker. Failure to comply may constitute a Class A
16 misdemeanor under IC 2-4-1-4.

17 SECTION 6. That the Legislative Services Agency shall
18 provide staff and technical assistance. Members shall serve
19 without additional compensation but may be reimbursed for
20 expenses. The Committee may, with approval of the Speaker,
21 retain consultants or auditors to assist in its review.

22 SECTION 7. That the Committee shall issue a final report no
23 later than June 30, 2026, with findings and legislative
24 recommendations, including statutory and procedural reforms
25 to: (1) prevent the misuse or mishandling of taxpayer money;
26 (2) improve the structure of Indiana's economic development
27 system; and (3) require the general assembly's approval before
28 the IEDC and its affiliated entities are authorized to spend
29 money appropriated for economic development purposes. All
30 reports shall be public records.

31 SECTION 8. That the Committee shall terminate ninety (90)
32 days after submission of its final report, and all records shall be
33 transferred to the Legislative Services Agency for preservation.

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