



February 10, 2026

ENGROSSED SENATE BILL No. 59

DIGEST OF SB 59 (Updated February 10, 2026 9:16 am - DI 140)

Citations Affected: IC 36-4.

Synopsis: Notice of annexation outreach meetings. Requires a municipality to mail notice of the date, time, and location of annexation outreach meetings to: (1) the county executive of each county; (2) the township executive of each township; and (3) any plan commission; in which the annexation territory is located.

Effective: July 1, 2026.

Niemeyer, Dernulc, Schmitt

(HOUSE SPONSORS — SLAGER, OLTHOFF, AYLESWORTH)

December 8, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on Local Government.
January 8, 2026, reported favorably — Do Pass.
January 12, 2026, read second time, amended, ordered engrossed.
January 13, 2026, engrossed. Read third time, passed. Yeas 49, nays 0.

HOUSE ACTION

January 20, 2026, read first time and referred to Committee on Local Government.
February 10, 2026, reported — Do Pass.

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February 10, 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 SENATE BILL No. 59

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning local government.

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

1 SECTION 1. IC 36-4-3-1.7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.70-2022,
2 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1.7. (a) This section applies only to an annexation
4 ordinance adopted after June 30, 2015. This section does not apply to
5 an annexation under section 5.1 of this chapter.

6 (b) Not earlier than six (6) months before a municipality introduces
7 an annexation ordinance, the municipality shall conduct an outreach
8 program to inform citizens regarding the proposed annexation. For an
9 annexation under section 3 or 4 of this chapter, the outreach program
10 must conduct at least six (6) public information meetings regarding the
11 proposed annexation. For an annexation under section 5 or 5.2 of this
12 chapter, the outreach program must conduct at least three (3) public
13 information meetings regarding the proposed annexation. The public
14 information meetings must provide citizens with the following
15 information:

16 (1) Maps showing the proposed boundaries of the annexation
17 territory.

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1 (2) Proposed plans for extension of capital and noncapital
 2 services in the annexation territory, including proposed dates of
 3 extension. In the case of an annexation under section 5.2 of this
 4 chapter, a copy of the preliminary written fiscal plan.

5 (3) Expected fiscal impact on taxpayers in the annexation
 6 territory, including any increase in taxes and fees.

7 (c) The municipality shall provide notice of the dates, times, and
 8 locations of the outreach program meetings. The municipality shall **do**
 9 **all of the following:**

10 (1) Publish the notice of the meetings under IC 5-3-1, including
 11 the date, time, and location of the meetings, except that notice
 12 must be published not later than thirty (30) days before the date
 13 of each meeting.

14 ~~(2) The municipality shall also~~ Send notice **under subsection (d)**
 15 to each owner of land within the annexation territory not later
 16 than thirty (30) days before the date of the first meeting of the
 17 outreach program.

18 **(3) Send notice by first class mail, certified mail with return**
 19 **receipt requested, or any other means of delivery that**
 20 **includes a return receipt not later than thirty (30) days before**
 21 **the date of the first meeting of the outreach program to:**

22 **(A) the county executive body of each county;**

23 **(B) the township executive of each township; and**

24 **(C) any plan commission;**

25 **in which the annexation territory is located. The notice must**
 26 **provide the date, time, and location of the meetings to be**
 27 **conducted under the outreach program.**

28 **(d)** The notice to landowners shall be sent by first class mail,
 29 certified mail with return receipt requested, or any other means of
 30 delivery that includes a return receipt and must include the following
 31 information:

32 (1) The notice must inform the landowner that the municipality is
 33 proposing to annex territory that includes the landowner's
 34 property.

35 (2) The municipality is conducting an outreach program for the
 36 purpose of providing information to landowners and the public
 37 regarding the proposed annexation.

38 (3) The date, time, and location of the meetings to be conducted
 39 under the outreach program.

40 ~~(d)~~ **(e)** The notice shall be sent to the address of the landowner as
 41 listed on the tax duplicate. If the municipality provides evidence that
 42 the notice was sent:



1 (1) by certified mail, with return receipt requested or any other
2 means of delivery that includes a return receipt; and
3 (2) in accordance with this section;
4 it is not necessary that the landowner accept receipt of the notice. If a
5 remonstrance is filed under section 11 of this chapter, the municipality
6 shall file with the court proof that notices were sent to landowners
7 under this section and proof of publication.
8 ~~(e)~~ **(f)** The notice required under this section is in addition to any
9 notice required under sections 2.1 and 2.2 of this chapter.



COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. President: The Senate Committee on Local Government, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 59, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that said bill DO PASS.

(Reference is to SB 59 as introduced.)

BUCK, Chairperson

Committee Vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0

SENATE MOTION

Mr. President: I move that Senate Bill 59 be amended to read as follows:

Page 2, line 22, delete "and".

Page 2, line 23, delete "any plan commission;" and insert "**the township executive of each township; and**

(C) any plan commission;".

(Reference is to SB 59 as printed January 9, 2026.)

NIEMEYER

COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Speaker: Your Committee on Local Government, to which was referred Senate Bill 59, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the House with the recommendation that said bill do pass.

(Reference is to SB 59 as reprinted January 13, 2026.)

MAY

Committee Vote: Yeas 12, Nays 0

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