



Adopted	Rejected
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COMMITTEE REPORT

YES:	9
NO:	0

MR. SPEAKER:

*Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred Senate Bill 71, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the House with the recommendation that said bill **be amended** as follows:*

- 1 Page 1, between the enacting clause and line 1, begin a new
- 2 paragraph and insert:
- 3 "SECTION 1. IC 2-5-1.3-13, AS AMENDED BY P.L.186-2025,
- 4 SECTION 270, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
- 5 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 13. (a) A study committee shall
- 6 study the issues assigned by the legislative council that are within the
- 7 subject matter for the study committee, as described in section 4 of this
- 8 chapter.
- 9 (b) In addition to the issues assigned under subsection (a), the
- 10 interim study committee on roads and transportation shall advise the
- 11 bureau of motor vehicles regarding the suitability of a special group (as
- 12 defined in IC 9-13-2-170) to receive a special group recognition license
- 13 plate for the special group (as defined in IC 9-13-2-170) for the first

1 time under IC 9-18.5-12-4 and the suitability of a special group (as
 2 defined in IC 9-13-2-170) to continue participating in the special group
 3 recognition license plate program under IC 9-18.5-12-5.

4 (c) In addition to the issues assigned under subsection (a), the
 5 interim study committee on corrections and criminal code shall review
 6 current trends with respect to criminal behavior, sentencing,
 7 incarceration, and treatment and may:

8 (1) identify particular needs of the criminal justice system that can
 9 be addressed by legislation; and

10 (2) prepare legislation to address the particular needs found by the
 11 committee.

12 (d) In each even-numbered year, in addition to the issues assigned
 13 under subsection (a), the interim study committee on courts and the
 14 judiciary shall review, consider, and make recommendations
 15 concerning all requests for new courts, new judicial officers, and
 16 changes in jurisdiction of existing courts. A request under this
 17 subsection must include at least the following information to receive
 18 full consideration by the committee:

19 (1) The level of community support for the change, including
 20 support from the local fiscal body.

21 (2) The results of a survey that shall be conducted by the county
 22 requesting the change, sampling members of the bar, members of
 23 the judiciary, and local officials to determine needs and concerns
 24 of existing courts.

25 (3) Whether the county is already using a judge or magistrate
 26 from an overserved area of the judicial district.

27 (4) The relative severity of need based on the most recent
 28 weighted caseload measurement system report published by the
 29 office of judicial administration.

30 (5) Whether the county is using any problem solving court as
 31 described in IC 33-23-16-11, and, if so, the list of problem solving
 32 courts established in the county, and any evaluation of the impact
 33 of the problem solving courts on the overall judicial caseload.

34 (6) A description of the:

35 (A) county's population growth in the ten (10) years before the
 36 date of the request; and

37 (B) projected population growth in the county for the ten (10)
 38 years after the date of the request, to the extent available;

1 and any documentation to support the information provided under
2 this subdivision.

3 (7) A description of the county's use of pre-incarceration
4 diversion services and post-incarceration reentry services in an
5 effort to decrease recidivism.

6 (8) If the request is a request for a new court or new courts, an
7 acknowledgment from the county fiscal body (as defined in
8 IC 36-1-2-6) with the funding sources and estimated costs the
9 county intends to pay toward the county's part of the operating
10 costs associated with the new court or new courts.

11 The office of judicial administration shall post the list of required
12 information provided under this subsection on its website.

13 (e) In each even-numbered year, in addition to the issues assigned
14 under subsection (a), the interim study committee on courts and the
15 judiciary shall **do the following:**

16 (1) Review the most recent weighted caseload measurement
17 system report published by the office of judicial administration
18 and do the following:

19 (1) (A) Identify each county in which the number of courts or
20 judicial officers exceeds the number used by the county in that
21 report year.

22 (2) (B) Determine the number of previous report years in
23 which the number of courts or judicial officers in a county
24 identified in ~~subdivision (1)~~ **clause (A)** exceeded the number
25 used by the county in that particular report year.

26 (3) (C) Make a recommendation on whether the number of
27 courts or judicial officers in the county should be decreased.

28 The office of judicial administration shall post a list of the number
29 of courts or judicial officers used in each county for each report
30 year, and the number of years in which the number of courts or
31 judicial officers in the county has exceeded the number used by
32 the county, on its website.

33 (2) **Study and recommend to the general assembly needed**
34 **changes to the following:**

35 (A) **The probate code (IC 29-1).**

36 (B) **The trust code (IC 30-4).**

37 (C) **Any other statute affecting the administration of a**
38 **decendent's estate, guardianship, probate jurisdiction, trust,**

1 **or fiduciary.**

2 (f) In addition to studying the issues assigned under subsection (a),
3 the interim study committee on child services shall:

- 4 (1) review the annual reports submitted by:
- 5 (A) each local child fatality review team under IC 16-49-3-7;
- 6 (B) the statewide child fatality review committee under
7 IC 16-49-4-11; and
- 8 (C) the department of child services under IC 31-25-2-24;
- 9 during the immediately preceding twelve (12) month period, and
10 may make recommendations regarding changes in policies or
11 statutes to improve child safety; and
- 12 (2) report to the legislative council before November 1 of each
13 interim, in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6, the results of:
- 14 (A) the committee's review under subdivision (1); and
- 15 (B) the committee's study of any issue assigned to the
16 committee under subsection (a).

17 (g) In each even-numbered year, in addition to the issues assigned
18 under subsection (a), the interim study committee on government shall
19 do the following:

- 20 (1) Determine whether a group has met in the immediately
21 preceding two (2) years.
- 22 (2) Review reports submitted to the committee in accordance with
23 IC 1-1-15.5-4.
- 24 (3) Identify all interstate compacts that have been fully
25 operational for at least two (2) years to which the state is a party.
- 26 (4) Consider whether to:
- 27 (A) remain a party to; or
- 28 (B) withdraw from;
- 29 each interstate compact.
- 30 (5) If the committee determines that the state should withdraw
31 from an interstate compact, identify the steps needed to withdraw.
- 32 (6) Report before November 1 to the legislative council, in an
33 electronic format under IC 5-14-6 the committee's:
- 34 (A) recommendations for proposed legislation to repeal
35 groups:
- 36 (i) that have not met during the immediately preceding two
37 (2) years; and
- 38 (ii) after reviewing a group's report under subdivision (2);

1 and
2 (B) findings and recommendations regarding the interstate
3 compacts.

4 As used in this subsection, "group" refers to an authority, a board, a
5 commission, a committee, a council, a delegate, a foundation, a panel,
6 or a task force that is established by statute, has at least one (1)
7 legislator assigned to it, and is not staffed by the legislative services
8 agency.

9 (h) In 2026 and 2027, in addition to the issues assigned under
10 subsections (a) and (f), the interim study committee on child services
11 shall review the report submitted by the child welfare task force under
12 IC 2-5-55.7-8. This subsection expires December 31, 2027.

13 SECTION 2. IC 2-5-16.1 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
14 2026]. (Probate Code Study Committee)."

15 Renumber all SECTIONS consecutively.
 (Reference is to SB 71 as reprinted January 9, 2026.)

and when so amended that said bill do pass.

Representative Jeter