

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS
FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

LS 6614
BILL NUMBER: SB 174

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 22, 2025
BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Various Health Matters.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Johnson T
FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
X DEDICATED
X FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: *Public Water Supply:* This bill prohibits a person from adding a chemical to a public water supply in certain circumstances.

Medical Intervention: This bill defines "medical intervention" and provides that a person may not require an individual to accept, undergo, or engage in a medical intervention in or on the individual's body as a condition of employment, entrance, admission, compensation, benefits, or participation. It provides that a person may not take a punitive measure against an individual because the individual refused to accept, undergo, or engage in a medical intervention in or on the individual's body. It allows an individual who suffers bodily injury as a result of a violation of these provisions to file an action. It provides that a person who knowingly or intentionally causes bodily injury to another person by violating these provisions commits battery, a class B misdemeanor, enhanced to a level 5 felony if the offense constitutes a violation of the right to bodily integrity. It repeals certain superseded laws, including provisions concerning immunizations, communicable diseases, potentially disease transmitting offenses, quarantine, medical testing, disqualification for unemployment benefits, and COVID-19 immunization requirements.

Meat Sales: This bill allows an individual to sell certain meat products from the individual's primary residence. It establishes various requirements for an individual to sell certain meat products from the individual's primary residence. It exempts a stand or another retail building used only for the sale of certain food products or meat products from the definition of a Class 1 structure.

Committee Reports: This bill amends the information that the Statewide Child Fatality Review Committee and Statewide Maternal Mortality Review Committee must include in each committee's annual report.

School Based Health Centers: This bill allows a school corporation to contract with a health care provider, health system, or community partner to establish a school based health center (center). It sets forth requirements to establish a center.

Student Health Assessment and Treatment: This bill provides that, notwithstanding state or federal law, a school may not conduct a physical or mental assessment or treatment of a student unless the physical or

mental assessment or treatment is related to an illness or accident that occurred during school hours or on or near school property.

Immunization: This bill provides that a student enrolled in a health profession education program may not be required to receive an immunization as a condition of: (1) participating in; or (2) obtaining; clinical training or clinical experience required by the program if receiving the immunization is against the student's conscience. It provides that a physician may not be required to receive an immunization if receiving the immunization is against the physician's conscience.

Freedom of Conscience: This bill provides that a health care provider, health care entity, and a health carrier may not be required to provide or refer an individual for a health care service that violates the conscience of the health care provider, health care entity, or health carrier. It establishes an exception for a health carrier. It specifies that a health care provider, health care entity, or a health carrier may not be subject to discrimination and certain other acts and liability for declining to provide the health care service. It establishes a civil action for a violation of these provisions. It provides that a person who prevails in a civil action is entitled to certain relief.

Child Nutrition: This bill requires a licensed child care center, school, and person that operates a before or after school program to report the ingredients of each food product provided to a child or student. It requires the Division of Family Resources and the Department of Education to publish the information on each agency's website.

The bill also makes conforming amendments.

Effective Date: July 1, 2026.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Medical Intervention:* The bill may reduce expenditures to the State Employee Health Plan and the state Medicaid Program if fewer tests and screenings for certain communicable diseases and fewer physical examinations are conducted. Also, expenses for IDOH may decrease to pay the remaining costs for hospitalization and travel for individuals with a communicable disease that cannot pay the full cost of their care, as prescribed in the bill. Any reduction in state expenditures is indeterminable.

Civil Actions: If a state-owned hospital or the State Employee Health Plan is subject to a civil action, expenses would increase if the plaintiff prevails.

Penalty Provisions: The bill establishes a Class B misdemeanor, which may be enhanced to a Level 5 felony, for violations of the bill's medical intervention requirements that result in bodily injury. A Level 5 felony is punishable by a prison term ranging from 1 to 6 years, with an advisory sentence of 3 years. The sentence depends on mitigating and aggravating circumstances. Assuming offenders can be housed in existing facilities with no additional staff, the marginal cost for medical care, food, and clothing is approximately \$4,825 annually, or \$13.22 daily, per prisoner. However, any additional expenditures are likely to be small.

Workload: The bill will increase workload for the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), Department of Education, Department of Insurance (DOI), Department of Workforce Development, Attorney General; state educational institutions (SEIs), Statewide Child Fatality Review Committee, and Statewide Maternal Mortality Review Committee. These requirements should be able to be implemented using existing staffing and resources. *[The DOI is funded through a dedicated agency fund. Both committees*

are administered and staffed by the Indiana Department of Health (IDOH) funded by federal grants.]

The bill will have an indeterminate impact on workload for the IDOH. Any net increase in workload that may occur should be able to be implemented using existing staffing and resources. *[The IDOH's administrative expenditures are currently paid from the Tobacco Master Settlement Fund, a dedicated fund.]*

The bill eliminates the eyesight test for driver's license applicants which will decrease workload for the Bureau of Motor Vehicles.

Explanation of State Revenues: *Summary:* The bill establishes two new civil penalties, a new criminal penalty, and provisions that may result in additional civil actions, which will increase state revenue. The bill also repeals certain civil and criminal penalties which will reduce revenue to the state General Fund and the Lead Trust Fund. The net impact to the state is indeterminate and will depend on the change in overall penalty and fee revenue collected.

Additional Information:

New Civil Penalties: Violations of product labeling requirements for meat products, as prescribed in the bill, are subject to a civil penalty of up to \$500. The bill also allows the IDEM Commissioner to assess a civil penalty of up to \$1,000 per day for failing to prevent or correct the contamination of a public water supply.

Civil Actions: Violations of several of the bill's provisions allow for civil action to be taken. If additional civil cases occur and court fees are collected, revenue to the state General Fund will increase. The total revenue per case would range between \$100 and \$122. The amount deposited will vary depending on whether the case is filed in a court of record or a municipal court. The following linked document describes the fees and distribution of the revenue: [Court fees imposed in civil, probate, and small claims cases.](#)

Penalty Provisions: The bill will have an indeterminate net impact regarding penalty revenue. The following linked document describes the fees and distribution of the revenue: [Court fees imposed in criminal, juvenile, and civil violation cases.](#)

The bill the bill establishes a Class B misdemeanor, which may be enhanced to a Level 5 felony, for violations of the bill's medical intervention requirements that result in bodily injury. However, the bill repeals certain penalty provisions regarding isolation and quarantine orders that are punishable as a Class A misdemeanor. It repeals certain penalty provisions regarding investigations of individuals with a communicable disease and confidentiality of screenings for certain diseases conducted on defendants that are punishable as a Class B misdemeanor. It also may reduce the number of Class C infractions resulting from Class 1 structure violations due to the bill's provisions on meat sales.

Repeal of Penalties: The bill repeals certain civil penalties of up to \$1,000 that may be assessed by IDOH. Any resulting decrease in state General Fund expenditures is expected to be minor. The bill also repeals penalty provisions regarding violations of lead based paint investigations which will reduce revenue to the Lead Trust Fund.

Explanation of Local Expenditures: *Student Health Assessment and Treatment:* Public schools are currently required to administer hearing and vision tests and are allowed to administer other tests in certain circumstances. Under the bill, public schools would not be allowed to administer these tests. This would likely decrease expenditures for public schools.

Medical Intervention: The bill may reduce costs to counties regarding court ordered care and treatment for individuals with communicable diseases.

Penalty Provisions: The bill's provisions regarding misdemeanors will have an indeterminate impact on net local expenditures. A Class B misdemeanor is punishable by up to 180 days in jail while a Class A misdemeanor is punishable by up to one year in jail.

Civil Actions: Locally owned hospitals named as a defendant in civil cases, as a result of the bill, could be liable for court awarded damages.

Public Water Supply: Local units that fail to prevent or correct the contamination of a public water supply may be issued a civil penalty of up to \$1,000 per day.

Workload: The bill will increase workload for local units to ensure compliance with the bill's public water supply requirements and for public schools to report the ingredients in each food product they provide to children and to modify certain requirements regarding clinical experiences within health profession education programs.

The bill will decrease workload for trial, circuit, and superior courts regarding petitions for screenings to test certain defendants for disease, as well as for emergency orders and petitions regarding serious disease or the isolation or quarantine of certain individuals, as prescribed in the bill.

The bill will have an indeterminate workload impact for local health departments as they will no longer be required to partner with schools regarding health screenings but will be required to enforce the product labeling requirements for individuals selling meat products.

The bill will also have an indeterminate workload impact for locally owned child care centers as they will no longer be required to maintain an updated list of immunizations for children enrolled in their facility but will be required to report the ingredients in each food product that they provide to children.

Explanation of Local Revenues: *Penalty Provision:* The bill's provisions regarding misdemeanors will have an indeterminate impact on net local revenue. If additional court actions result in a guilty verdict, certain local units will collect more revenue. The following linked document describes the fees and distribution of the revenue: [Court fees imposed in criminal, juvenile, and civil violation cases.](#)

Civil Actions: If additional cases occur, revenue will be collected by certain local units. If the case is filed in a court of record, the county will receive \$32 and qualifying municipalities will receive a share of \$3. If the case is filed in a municipal court, the county receives \$20, and the municipality will receive \$37. The following linked document describes the fees and distribution of the revenue: [Court fees imposed in civil, probate, and small claims cases.](#)

State Agencies Affected: Indiana Department of Health; Department of Education; Indiana Department of Environmental Management; State Personnel Department; Department of Insurance; Bureau of Motor Vehicles; Department of Workforce Development; Attorney General; Department of Correction; state educational institutions; state owned hospitals; Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority..

Local Agencies Affected: Trial courts, city and town courts, circuit courts, superior courts; local law enforcement agencies; school corporations; locally owned hospitals; locally owned child care centers;

regional water districts; municipally-owned water utilities.

Information Sources: Indiana Sheriffs' Association, Indiana Supreme Court, Indiana Trial Court Fee Manual; Department of Corrections; Indiana Gateway for Government Units, 2023 Annual Financial Reports, gateway.ifionline.org/public/download.aspx; Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2023 Annual Survey of Jails Data Series, www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/NACJD/series/7; www.in.gov/health/food-protection/food-protection-manager-certification; www.in.gov/health/files/GPHC-Report-FINAL-2022-08-01.pdf; IC 13-18-16; IC 22-12-8-2; 410 IAC 7-23-1; 410 IAC 7-26-155.

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