

SENATE BILL No. 230

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 14-32; IC 15-11; IC 15-12-5.

Synopsis: Department of agriculture. Makes various amendments to the role of supervisors on soil and conservation boards. Removes a requirement that an individual who conducted an inspection of a landfill in a soil and conservation district (district) submit a copy of the report to the division of soil conservation. Provides that a district that fails to provide a copy of each annual financial statement of the district to the soil conservation board by March 31 shall have its funding withheld until the requirements are satisfied. Repeals the Indiana land resource council. Requires the state department of agriculture to support, staff, and aid the Indiana FFA.

Effective: July 1, 2026.

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January 8, 2026, read first time and referred to Committee on Agriculture.



Introduced

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.

SENATE BILL No. 230

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning agriculture and animals.

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

1 SECTION 1. IC 14-32-4-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.129-2011,
2 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. (a) The governing body of a district consists of
4 five (5) supervisors as follows:
5 (1) Two (2) who are appointed.
6 (2) Three (3) who are elected.
7 (b) To hold the position of elected supervisor, an individual:
8 (1) must be an occupier of a tract of land that is located within the
9 district; ~~and~~
10 (2) must maintain the individual's permanent residence within the
11 district; ~~and~~
12 (3) must be qualified by training and experience to perform the
13 duties that this article imposes on supervisors; ~~and~~
14 (4) **must complete training provided by the division of soil**
15 **conservation within a year of being placed on the governing**
16 **body of a district.**
17 (c) To hold the position of appointed supervisor, an individual:



- (1) must be of voting age;
- (2) must maintain the individual's permanent residence within the district; **and**
- (3) must be qualified by training and experience to perform the duties that this article imposes on supervisors; **and**
- (4) must complete training provided by the division of soil conservation within a year of being placed on the governing body of a district.**

9 SECTION 2. IC 14-32-4-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.129-2011,
10 SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
11 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 6. (a) During the first quarter of each calendar
12 year, each district shall hold an annual meeting of all land occupiers in
13 the district. The meeting shall be held on a date designated by the
14 supervisors. The supervisors shall give due notice of the time and place
15 of the meeting.

(b) At the meeting:

(1) the supervisors shall make a full and an accurate report of the activities and financial affairs of the district since the previous annual meeting; and

(2) an election shall be conducted by the land occupiers present to elect one (1) supervisor to a three (3) year term of office beginning on the date of the meeting.

(c) The supervisors shall provide a copy of the annual report presented at the meeting to the board and, Each district shall provide a copy of its annual report to the local governing body, the public, and the division of soil conservation at the district's annual meeting. A district shall also make the report available, upon request, to:

(1) other cooperating agencies;

(2) residents of the district; and

(3) any other individual or entity that requests a copy of the annual report.

SECTION 3. IC 14-32-4-7 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) The election held at the annual meeting of land occupiers shall be conducted by an election committee appointed under this section.

(b) ~~In~~ Not later than October 31, the district chairman shall do the following:

(1) Appoint an election committee made up of a supervisor as chairman and two (2) ~~interested~~ citizens **who reside in the county**.

(2) Submit the names of the committee members to the board by



November 1.
Associate supervisors and staff of the division of soil conservation shall not serve on the election committee.

SECTION 4. IC 14-32-4-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.129-2011, SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. **(a)** The election committee appointed under section 7 of this chapter shall do the following:

(1) Select qualified individuals as prospective nominees to fill any vacancies that exist among the elected supervisors of the district.

(2) Contact and ascertain the willingness and ability of each individual to serve if elected.

(3) Submit the list of nominees with the qualifications for certification and printing of a sample ballot to the board by December 1.

(4) Place the names of the prospective nominees selected under subdivisions (1) and (2) in nomination at the meeting and provide an opportunity for additional nominations to be made from the floor.

(5) After nominations are closed:

(A) if only one (1) candidate is nominated, allow for the election of the sole candidate by the land occupiers by a show of hands; and

(B) if more than one (1) candidate is nominated, distribute a ballot to each land occupier present at the meeting.

(6) If a ballot is distributed, collect and count the ballots after each land occupier present at the meeting has had an opportunity to vote.

(7) Report the results of the election to the chairman.

(b) If an election committee does not fulfill the requirements of subsection (a):

(1) no election shall be held; and

(2) the governing body of a district shall fill the positions in the manner described by section 13 of this chapter.

SECTION 5. IC 14-32-4-10.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.175-2006, SECTION 12, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10.5. (a) The **board governing body of a district** may appoint associate supervisors to assist in performing duties in each district.

(b) Associate supervisors are nonvoting members of the **board governing body of a district** and may not hold officer positions on the **board, governing body of a district**.

(c) Associate supervisors may be reimbursed for approved expenses



1 but are not entitled to per diem.

2 SECTION 6. IC 14-32-4-13 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
3 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 13. (a) If a vacancy in
4 the position of elected supervisor occurs during the district's operating
5 year:

6 (1) the district supervisors shall, within thirty (30) days after the
7 vacancy occurs, recommend to the board in writing one (1) or
8 more individuals qualified to fill the position;

9 (2) at the first board meeting held after the board receives a
10 recommendation under subdivision (1), the board shall act upon
11 the recommendation and appoint an individual to temporarily fill
12 the vacancy; and

13 (3) the board shall notify the supervisors of the appointment made
14 by the board.

15 (b) The individual appointed to temporarily fill a vacancy under
16 subsection (a) shall serve until the district's next annual meeting.

17 (c) At the annual meeting immediately following the appointment
18 of an individual to temporarily fill a vacant elected supervisor's
19 position, the position shall be filled through the regular election
20 procedure set forth in sections 6 through 9 of this chapter.

21 (d) **If three (3) or more vacant unexpired terms occur
22 simultaneously in the district, the board shall make appointments
23 to fill the vacancies.**

24 SECTION 7. IC 14-32-5-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.120-2008,
25 SECTION 15, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
26 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. (a) As used in this section, "landfill" means a
27 facility where solid waste is to be disposed of through placement on or
28 beneath the surface of the ground. However, the term does not include
29 any of the following:

30 (1) A land application operation regulated under 327 IAC 6.

31 (2) A surface impoundment.

32 (3) An injection well.

33 (4) A facility for the disposal of solid waste other than sludge
34 from a municipal wastewater treatment plant that is:

35 (A) generated at the site of the facility; or

36 (B) generated by the owner or operator of the facility.

37 (5) An operation permitted under IC 14-34.

38 (b) As used in this section, "underground injection" means the
39 subsurface emplacement of fluids through:

40 (1) a bored, drilled, or driven shaft; or

41 (2) a dug hole, the depth of which is greater than the hole's largest
42 surface dimension.



6 (1) One (1) time before July 1.

7 (2) One (1) time after June 30 and before December 31.

8 (d) Not later than ten (10) days after an inspection of a landfill under
9 this section, the individual who conducted the inspection on behalf of
10 the district shall prepare a written report on the results of the inspection
11 and send the report to the following:

12 (1) The executive of the county.

13 (2) The commissioner of the department of environmental
14 management.

18 SECTION 8. IC 14-32-8-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.95-2016,
19 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
20 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 8. (a) In addition to funds provided to a district
21 under section 7 of this chapter or from any other source, the division of
22 soil conservation shall pay to the district one dollar (\$1) for every one
23 dollar (\$1) the district receives:

(1) from a political subdivision; or
(2) if a district receives no funding from a political subdivision,
from any other funding source.

27 The board shall consider funds received from a source referred to in
28 subdivision (2) as qualifying for matching payments under this
29 subsection.

(b) Except as provided in section 8.2 of this chapter, the state is not obligated to match more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) under this section.

42 (d) Before making distributions under this section, the division of



1 soil conservation shall determine the total amount of money that has
 2 been certified by all districts as having been provided by sources
 3 described in subsection (a)(1) or (a)(2). If the cumulative amount to be
 4 distributed to all districts exceeds the amount appropriated to the fund,
 5 the division of soil conservation shall reduce the distribution to each
 6 district proportionately.

7 (e) A district must spend money received under this section for the
 8 purposes of the district.

9 (f) **If a district fails to provide a copy of its annual financial
 10 statement to the board by March 1, the district's funding shall be
 11 withheld until the financial statement is received by the board.**

12 SECTION 9. IC 15-11-2-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.9-2018,
 13 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 14 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) As used in this section, "biomass" means
 15 agriculturally based sources of renewable energy, including the
 16 following:

- 17 (1) Agricultural crops.
- 18 (2) Agricultural wastes and residues.
- 19 (3) Wood and wood byproducts, including the following:
 - 20 (A) Wood residue.
 - 21 (B) Forest thinning.
 - 22 (C) Mill residue wood.
- 23 (4) Animal wastes.
- 24 (5) Animal byproducts.
- 25 (6) Aquatic plants.
- 26 (7) Algae.

27 The term does not include waste from construction and demolition.

28 (b) The department shall do the following:

- 29 (1) Provide administrative and staff support for the following:
 - 30 (A) The state fair board for purposes of carrying out the
 director's duties under IC 15-13-5.
 - 31 (B) The Indiana corn marketing council for purposes of
 administering the duties of the director under IC 15-15-12.
 - 32 (C) The Indiana dairy industry development board for
 purposes of administering the duties of the director under
 IC 15-18-5.
 - 33 (D) **The Indiana land resources council under IC 15-12-5. The
 Indiana FFA under IC 15-11-17.**
 - 34 (E) The Indiana grain buyers and warehouse licensing agency
 under IC 26-3-7.
 - 35 (F) The Indiana grain indemnity corporation under IC 26-4-3.
 - 36 (G) The division.



- 1 (2) Administer the election of state fair board members under
2 IC 15-13-5.
3 (3) Administer state programs and laws promoting agricultural
4 trade.
5 (4) Administer state livestock or agriculture marketing grant
6 programs.
7 (5) Administer economic development efforts for agriculture by
8 doing the following:
9 (A) Promoting value added agricultural resources.
10 (B) Marketing Indiana agriculture to businesses
11 internationally.
12 (C) Assisting Indiana agricultural businesses with developing
13 partnerships with the Indiana economic development
14 corporation.
15 (D) Soliciting private funding for selective economic
16 development and trade initiatives.
17 (E) Providing for the orderly economic development and
18 growth of Indiana's agricultural economy.
19 (F) Facilitating the use of biomass and algae production
20 systems to generate renewable energy.
21 (6) Carry out the department's duties under IC 23-15-12.

SECTION 10. IC 15-11-17 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]:

Chapter 17. School Based Agricultural Education

Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "Indiana FFA" is:

- (1) a nonprofit organization established to provide resources and programming in school based agricultural education; and
 - (2) a state recognized career and technical student organization.

Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "Indiana FFA Foundation" is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to:

- (1) support;
 - (2) fund; and
 - (3) promote;

the programs and objectives of the Indiana FFA.

Sec. 3. (a) The general assembly declares that it is the policy of the state to encourage the development and growth of school based agricultural education and to provide support for the Indiana FFA.

(b) The department shall promote the development and growth of school based agricultural education in Indiana by doing the following:



- 1 **(1) Provide staff and administrative support for the Indiana**
2 **FFA.**
3 **(2) Work collaboratively, including entering into grant**
4 **agreements, with:**
5 **(A) the Indiana FFA; and**
6 **(B) the Indiana FFA Foundation;**
7 **to promote, support, and develop the Indiana FFA and its**
8 **local chapters.**
9 **(3) Serve as a liaison with the:**
10 **(A) Indiana FFA;**
11 **(B) Indiana FFA Foundation;**
12 **(C) department of education;**
13 **(D) department of workforce development; and**
14 **(E) commission for higher education;**
15 **to promote, support, and develop school based agricultural**
16 **education in Indiana.**
- 17 SECTION 11. IC 15-12-5 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
18 2026]. (Indiana Land Resources Council).

