



INCPAS Legislative Update: Week 3

INCPAS Bill Track

- INCPAS: <https://tinyurl.com/INCPAS2023>
- INCPAS Priority: <https://tinyurl.com/INCPAS-Priority2023>
- INCPAS-TAX: <https://tinyurl.com/INCPAS-TAX2023>

Now that all the bills have been filed and assigned to committees, there are no significant licensure threats to the profession.

The Indiana Tax and Fiscal Policy Committee heard Senate Bill 2: Taxation of Pass-Through Entities (SB2) and with a unanimous 12-0 vote moved it out of committee. The full Senate is expected to vote on the bill later this week.

See below for other updates from the 3rd week of Session.

Budget Hearings

For the third week state agencies appeared before the House Ways and Means Committee to present their budget requests for fiscal years 2024 and 2025. The committee will decide how to fund the agencies and then release its version of the budget bill in February.

- **Department of Workforce Development (DWD):** DWD is seeking \$56.1 million in fiscal year 2024 and \$60.9 million in fiscal year 2025. The request would fund adult education and dropout prevention, the Workforce Ready Grant, the Unemployment Insurance Incentive Program, and provide for administrative costs.
- **Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC):** IDEC is seeking \$300 million for the IDEC closing fund per year, \$500 million READI 2.0 fund, \$300 million per year for tax credit flexibility, \$150 million for site acquisition, and \$40 million for manufacturing modernization.
- **Department of Natural Resources (DNR):** DNR is seeking \$174,767,676 in fiscal year 2024 and \$174,524,906 in fiscal year 2025 for upgrades and repairs, Next Level Trails, a Prophetstown visitor center, the Lincoln Amphitheater, and headquarters for law enforcement at district six.
- **Board of Animal Health (BOAH):** BOAH requested funding to establish a poultry health group and to create an epidemiologist position within the Animal Health Program Division.
- **Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA):** ISDA is requesting a total of \$9,202,017 for fiscal years 2024 and 2025 for conservation, Clean Water Indiana Program, the Indiana Grain Buyers and Warehouse Licensing Agency, Indiana Grown, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and food banks.
- **Indiana Destination Development Corporation (IDDC):** IDDC seeks an increase of \$888,372 for salary adjustments, \$942,878 for the Historic Preservation Grant Fund, and \$1 million a year for the Stellar Communities program.

- **Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC):** IURC is requesting \$3,259,930 over the biennium for salary, benefits, contracts, and rates.
- **Office of the Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC):** OUCC is seeking \$7,559,583 for salary costs, \$821,825 for operating expenses, and \$787,988 for their expert witness fund.
- **Indiana Finance Authority (IFA):** IFA is requesting an increase of \$4 million each year for their appropriations.
- **State Auditor:** The Auditor is asking for \$550,000 for accounting and reporting financial compliance, \$100,000 for a statewide financial management training program, and \$300,000 for a supplemental timekeeping system support.
- **State Treasurer:** The Treasurer is seeking \$29,617,110 in fiscal year 2024 and \$29,655,692 in fiscal year 2025.
- **Secretary of State (SOS):** SOS is requesting a 12.5% increase in the administration general fund and \$3,180,000 for cybersecurity, funding for the voter education outreach fund, and the State's Election Division.

Indiana, the Crossroads of America

Several weeks into session it is not uncommon to see themes developing based on lawmakers' focus and the bills that have quickly passed through their first chamber. This year, Indiana's place as the Crossroad of America is highlighted by several bills that address the multitudes of issues that a state that sees an influx of traffic and travelers each year faces.

House Bill 1196

In the last several years, Indiana legislators have expanded their focus on public safety to include preventing human trafficking. [House Bill \(HB\) 1196](#) requires the BMV to include training on how to recognize, prevent, and report human trafficking as part of the curriculum required for a Commercial Driver's License (CDL). CLD holders would also be required to update their training annually. HB 1196 passed out of the House on Tuesday and was sent to the Senate.

Senate Bill 236

[Senate Bill \(SB\) 236](#) has been referred to the House of Representatives this week after passing out of the Senate. SB 236 is in response to a tragic accident that happened this summer in Anderson, Indiana. Four minors were hit by a car and two of them were killed. The coroner came to Senator Andy Zay (R- Huntington) with the idea of linking an emergency contact with driver's licenses and learner's permits of minors. The bill creates a database of emergency contacts and seeks to streamline the processes for notifying guardians in the event of an accident.

House Bill 1209, Destination Donations

Aside from its funding request, the Indiana Destination Development Corporation (IDDC) is seeking legislative action that will codify the way the agency raises capital aside from state funding. [House Bill 1209](#) allows the corporation to establish a nonprofit subsidiary corporation to fundraise and accept donations from private sources.

The IDDC was incorporated on July 1, 2020, and initially saw a slow start due to COVID-19. The infusion of private donations allows the fund to operate more efficiently and use taxpayer dollars on proven programs first trialed with donations. The bill passed out of committee unanimously and was sent to the Senate after a 96-1 floor vote in the House.

Unique Bills

Entering the 2023 Legislative Session, a few bills have caught the eye as unique. [SB 77](#) authored by Senator Liz Brown (R-Fort Wayne) and Senator Linda Rogers (R-Granger) allows a person who is at least 12 years old to possess a throwing star for recreational purposes. SB 77 has been referred to Senate Corrections and Criminal Law and is awaiting a hearing.

[SB 322](#) authored by Senator Andy Zay (R-Huntington) designates the breaded tenderloin as the official state sandwich of Indiana. SB 322 has been referred to the Senate Commerce and Technology committee.

[HB 1143](#) authored by Representative J.D. Prescott (R- Union City) designates a state nickname for Indiana. Although the source of “Hoosier” remains uncertain, the bill honors Harry Hoosier and his legacy by officially recognizing Indiana as “The Hoosier State”. HB 1143 has been referred to House Government and Regulatory Reform.