January 31, 2020

Valentine’s Day at the Statehouse

Our annual Valentine’s Day at the Statehouse is scheduled for Thursday, February 13th beginning at 9:30 a.m.

This year’s theme is Ability is the Heart of The Arc.

Schedule of events:

- 9:30 a.m. Meet at the Indiana Government Center South
  Conference Room A
- 9:30 a.m. Voting Rights- Indiana Disability Rights
- 10 a.m. House of Representatives goes into session
- 10:30 a.m. Why Your Vote Matters with
  Secretary of State Connie Lawson
- 11 a.m. Indiana ABLE Program with
  Treasurer of State Kelly Mitchel
- 11:30 a.m. Waiver Redesign Update with
  FSSA - DDRS
- Noon Lunch Break (lunch is on your own)
- 1:15 p.m. Meet in the Statehouse Rotunda
- 1:30 p.m. Senate goes into session

Please create valentines for your state representative, state senator, Governor Eric Holcomb, Lt. Governor Suzanne Crouch, Secretary of State Connie Lawson, State Treasurer Kelly Mitchell, FSSA Secretary Dr. Jennifer Sullivan and DDRS Director Kylee Hope.

To find out who your state representative is, visit Indiana General Assembly – Find Your Legislator.
First Steps bill unanimously passes House

House Bill 1176 is one of the key bills The Arc of Indiana is working on this legislative session. Reps. Ed Clere, Dale DeVon, Ann Vermillion and Vanessa Summers authored this bill for us in the House.

On Monday, the House passed this bill out unanimously. This legislation now moves to the Senate where Sens. John Ruckelshaus, Ron Grooms, Erin Houchin and Jean Breaux will help navigate this bill through the Senate.

This bill provides:

- Clarification to the Interagency Coordinating Council of who makes up the council and how their per diem can be used.
- Tightens up language in the First Steps statute regarding third party insurers and the coverage they provide for First Step therapies.
  - We hope this language will lead to less denials by insurance providers for the services within the First Steps Program
- Requires insurance companies, upon new issuance of cards, to have an indicator on insurance cards of whether your personal plan is fully funded or self-funded. Their websites will also be updated with this information.
  - We see this small indicator helping lighten the administrative burden so that insurance claims or issues can be processed more quickly.

Data Collection Workforce passes unanimously through the House

On Tuesday, the House voted unanimously to pass House Bill 1341 along in the legislative process. The Speaker of the House – who conducts the votes on bills and rarely votes on bills himself – voted on this piece of legislative following with a thunderous applause to Rep. Pfaff and The Arc of Indiana.


Over the past few years, the General Assembly has made great strides in making diplomas more accessible to special education students. This bill is tasking the State Advisory Council on the Education of Students with Disabilities to collect data and provide a plan to the state legislature on how many students left since 2000 with an IEP or a certificate of completion. An alternate diploma was not available to the students when they left or graduated high school, so we want to make sure they have all the information and resources possible.

Hopefully the State Advisory Council will come up with a plan to get these Hoosiers into better paying jobs.
Other Bills The Arc of Indiana is following

**HB 1001- School Accountability- Authored by Reps. DeVon, Carbaugh, Kirchhofer and Smith**
Sponsored by Sens. Raatz, Bray, Kruse and Rogers
This bill decouples school ratings from being connected to ILEARN test scores. It passed the House unanimously and has been sent to the Senate Education Committee.

**HB 1002- Teacher Evaluations- Reps. Cook, McNamara, Barteis, Smith**
Sponsored by Sen. Raatz
This decouples teacher evaluations from ILEARN test scores. This bill passed the House unanimously.

**HB 1003- Education Matters- Reps. Jordan, Thompson, Cook, DeLaney**
Sponsored by Sens. Raatz, Buchanan
There is a lot in this bill about the trainings teachers have to go through. This bill passed the House unanimously.

**HB 1056- Parental notice of juvenile arrests at schools- Rep. Pat Boy**
This requires the law enforcement officer who arrests a child on school property or at a school-sponsored event must make a reasonable attempt to contact the child’s parent, guardian or custodian before the child can be taken to a different location. This bill died in committee.

**HB 1149- Dental Screenings and Services in Schools- Rep. Woody Burton**
Requires schools to enter into agreements with dentists to provide free, annual dental screenings from everyone enrolled in K-12 and make comprehensive dental services available at each school. There will be no costs to the schools and if comprehensive work is needed the parents will work with the dentists to cover the costs. This bill died in committee.

**HB 1153- Governor’s Workforce Cabinet- Reps. Goodrich, Behning, Klinker, Lucas**
Sponsored by Sen. Raatz
The Governor’s Workforce Cabinet would have to create a comprehensive strategic plan to ensure alignment of primary, secondary and post-secondary education systems with Indiana’s workforce training programs and employer needs. This bill passed the House HB-1.

**HB 1237- Medicaid Reimbursement for Schools- Rep. Karickhoff**
Specifies services for which a school corporation may seek Medicaid reimbursement. Adds physical therapy to the list of services to which a school psychologist may refer a student. This bill died in committee.

**HB 1283- Trauma response instruction for teachers- Reps. DeVon, McNamara, Thompson, Pfaff**
Sponsored by: Sens. Rogers, Raatz
Applicants for a teacher’s license must prove they have completed education and trauma training. The training program must instruct on recognition of social, emotional and behavioral reactions to trauma. This bill passed the House unanimously.
HB 1354- School Mental Health funding- Rep. Lisa Beck
Allows grants from the Indiana Safe Schools Fund, the Indiana Secured School Fund and the school corporation and charter school safety advance program to be used to provide funding for school based mental health services and social emotional wellness services. This bill died in committee.

HB 1361- Education Matters- Rep. Chris Judy
A school corporation must conduct at least 900 hours of instructional time for students grades 1 through 6, 1050 hours of instruction time for students grades 7 through 12. This bill died in committee.

Requires all students in their senior year to complete the FAFSA except when a parent, custodian or an emancipated minor student signs a waiver certifying that the student understands what the FAFSA is and declines to complete it or the principal of the student’s high school waives the requirement due to extenuating circumstances. This bill died in committee.

SB 2- School Accountability- Sens. Raatz, Bray, Kruse, Rogers, Melton, Doriot
Sponsored- Rep. DeVon
Decouples school ratings from being connected to ILEARN test scores. This passed the Senate unanimously this week and is now in House Education.

SB 141- School-based health clinics and Medicaid- Sens. Zay, Charbonneau, Stoops
Medicaid reimbursement for health care services and school-based services to specified individuals provided by a school-based health clinic. This bill died in committee.

SB 142- Medicaid Reimbursement for Schools- Sens. Zay, Charbonneau, Jon Ford, J.D. Ford, Grooms, Becker, Breaux, Ruckelshau, Crider, Leising, Melton, Rogers
Sponsored- Sens. Karickhoff, Barrett, Davisson
Specifies services for which a school corporation may seek Medicaid reimbursement. Adds physical therapy to the list of services to which a school psychologist may refer a student. Passed the Senate 45-5.

SB 143- State Board of Education- Sens. Zay, Kruse, Stoops
Amends the membership of the State Board of Education. This bill died in committee.

SB 220- School employee safety- Sen. Atling
Schools may not adopt rules to limit or restrict teachers or staff from removing students from class for a certain period of time, requiring a teacher or staff to physically touch a student under certain conditions. This bill died in committee.

SB 223- High School Graduation Requirements- Sens. Leising, Kruse, Niezgodski
Sponsored- Rep. Behning
Requires all students in their senior year to complete the FAFSA except when a parent, custodian, or an emancipated minor student signs a waiver certifying that the student understands what the FAFSA is and declines to complete it or the principal of the student’s high school waives the requirement due to extenuating
circumstances. This bill passed out of the Senate 38-12.

SB 261- School Deregulation- Sen. Spartz
Makes changes to training requirements for teachers including seclusion and restraint. This bill died in committee.

SB 295- Various Education Matters- Sens. Raatz, Crane, Zay
Directs the State Board of Education to establish the Indiana Innovation Council and to define the membership and their various duties. This bill passed through the Senate Education Committee and will be considered by the Senate on Monday.

SB 348- Students with Disabilities- Sens. Houchin, Rogers, Stoops
Provides that a member of the TAC of the State Board of Education must have expertise in special education. Requires text-to-speech, screen reader and human reader accommodations laid out within a student’s IEP be used on the statewide assessment. The Arc testified in favor of this bill and it passed out of the Senate Education Committee unanimously.

SB 369- Regional Transportation Expansion- Sens. Alting, Holdman, Stoops, Becker, Lanane, Grooms, Jon Ford, Niezgodski
This bill allows for local city and county councils to decided whether they want to increase local taxes to put those funds toward better public transportation accommodations. The Arc testified in support of this bill and it unanimously passed the Senate Tax and Fiscal Policy Committee.

HB 1008- Occupational Licensure Reciprocity- Reps. Carbaugh, Morris, Wesco
Sponsored- Sens. Messmer, Busch
Requires PLA to issue a license to a person from out-of-state to practice in the same field they hold a license in from another state. Passed the House 85-6.

Sponsored- Sen. Charbonneau
Requires by July 1, 2020 FSSA must amend the state Medicaid plan to include certain reimbursements. Passed out of the House unanimously.

HB 1116- Drug Information Reporting- Reps. Shackleford, Austin, Clere, Davission
Requires manufacturers, insurers, PBMs and wholesale drug distributors report to the department of insurance increases in wholesale acquisition costs of drugs, introduced into the U.S. of a new drug. Died in committee.

HB 1129- Infant Screenings- Reps. Lauer, Barrett, Fleming, Gutwein
Sponsored: Sens. Brown, Walker, Bohacek, Tomes
Requires infants to be screened for ALD. Passed unanimously out of the House this week.
HB 1136 - Managed Care - Rep. Barrett
Managed care needs to cover and pay for claims from an emergency department for an individual’s medical condition in compliance with federal law. **Died in committee.**

HB 1139 - Education Attainment Pilot Program - Reps. Bartlett, Miller
Establishes the parent education assistance pilot program through FSSA. Helps pay for childcare costs for individuals to achieve their education goals. **Died in committee.**

HB 1146 - Health Care Service Costs - Rep. Hostettler
Requires provider facilities and certain health care practitioners to provide to patients the costs of their scheduled health care services. **Died in committee.**

HB 1183 - Mental Health Diagnosis - Rep. Ziemke
Provides that if a clinical addiction counselor, clinical social worker, marriage and family therapist or mental health counselor’s evaluation suggests the possibility of a physical condition that requires medical attention, the individual shall promptly refer the patient to a physician. **Died in committee.**

Requires hospitals or ambulatory outpatient surgery centers to provide a patient written notice before a service is provided if the provider is outside the patient’s health plan network. The patient can either approve or deny the service. **Died in committee.**

HB 1231 - Prescription Price - Reps. Baird, Austin
Requires a retail pharmacy to inform an insured patient the cost of the drug or device without insurance or an applicable discount, if the cost of the drug or device is less than the copayment cost to the patient using the insurance or applicable discount before dispensing the drug. **Died in committee.**

HB 1236 - Managed Care - Rep. Karickhoff
Extends the prohibition against the inclusion of certain Medicaid recipients in risk based managed care programs or capitated managed care programs from June 30, 2020 through June 30, 2021. **Died in committee.**

HB 1242 - Parents with a disability - Rep. Porter
Provides the right of a person with a disability to parent their children. Establishes procedures in regards to custody, parenting time, adoption, foster care and guardianship. **Died in committee.**

HB 1322 - Mental and behavioral health matters - Reps. McNamara, Cook
Requires FSSA to provide support to schools regarding screening tools for identifying students who are at risk or in need of intervention related to mental and behavioral health disorders. **This died in committee.**

SB 3 - Health Care Provider Billing - Sens. Charbonneau, Garten, Jon Ford, Melton, Stoops
Prohibits billing a patient who receives services from an out of network provider and at specified facilities within network for amounts that exceed the cost paid by the insurance plus any deductibles, copays and coinsurance amounts. Passed out of Senate Health Committee this week.
SB 4- All Payers Claim Database- Sens. Charbonneau, Melton, Stoops, Ruckelshaus
Sponsored- Reps. Schaibley, Kirchhofer
Establishes an advisory committee to perform duties to assist the Dept. of Insurance with the creation and implementation of an all payers claim database. This bill passed out of the Senate 47-3.

SB 5- Health Providers Contracts and Pricing- Sens. Charbonneau, Stoops, Ruckelshaus
Health provider contracts may not prohibit the disclosing of health care services prices. Will be voted on by the Senate next week.

SB 21- Out-of-State Prescriptions- Sens. Rogers, Grooms, Charbonneau, Brown, Leising, Becker, Busch, Mrvan, Niezgodski, Crider, Doriot, J.D. Ford, Mishler, Randolph
Sponsored: Reps. Davisson, Kirchhofer, Stutzman
Pharmacists have a duty to honor all prescriptions issued by an advanced practiced registered nurse and a physician’s assistant licensed under the laws of a different state. Passed out of the Senate 46-3.

SB 139- Adult Guardianship- Sens. Lanane, Stoops, Becker, Koch, Buck, Freeman, Rogers, Glick, Randolph
Combines the volunteer advocates for seniors’ programs and the volunteer advocates for incapacitated adults’ program into one program. This bill passed unanimously out of the Senate Judiciary Committee.

SB 172- ABA Licensure- Sens. Charbonneau, Randolph, Houchin
Requires ABA Therapist to be licensed. Died in committee.

SB 192- Inpatient Mental Health Care for Medicaid Children- Sens. Grooms, Jon Ford, Breaux, Walker, Becker, Buck, Randolph, Stoops
Sponsored: Reps. DeVon, Davisson, Fleming, Clerc
Requires a managed care organization to allow a child Medicaid recipient who has been admitted into a psychiatric hospital to be provided services determined by the physician for five days before the managed care organization require a review. Passed the Senate unanimously.

SB 238- Human Service Matters- Sen. Brown
Amends the definition of early-intervention services within First Steps. Requires child-care ministries to have one individual to maintain CPR certification. Will be voted on by the Senate next week.

SB 249- Exploitation of Dependents Endangered Adults- Sens. Young, Koch, J.D. Ford, Randolph
Sponsored- Rep. McNamara
Prohibits person in position of trust to not use the property of the dependent and endangered adult to benefit themselves. The Senate passed this out unanimously.

SB 282- Health Insurance Reimbursement Rates- Sens. Breaux, Stoops, Bohacek
Requires health insurance providers to notify the Dept. of Insurance of any rate changes and to hold a public hearing to explain the upcoming rate changes. This bill died in committee.
**SB 312- Parents with a Disability- Sens. Niezgodsni, Stoops, Jon Ford, Donato, Houchin, Randolph**
Provides the right of a person with a disability to parent their children. Establishes procedures in regard to custody, parenting time, adoption, foster care and guardianship. The Arc testified in favor of this bill and it passed unanimously out of committee.

**SB 353- Managed Care- Sens. Becker, Charbonneau**
Extends the prohibition against the inclusion of certain Medicaid recipients in risk based managed care programs or capitated managed care programs from June 30, 2020 through June 30, 2021. Died in committee.

**SB 379- State Issued ID- Sen. Mrvan**
Provide an identifying symbol on a driver’s license, ID or permit to indicate the autism spectrum disorder. This bill died in committee.